

12/16/11 PTO Meeting

Student Leaders were the PTO's special guests, led by advisor Jim Moiles. The 3 attending leaders took turns explaining the activities of the organization to make the school and community a better place, in addition to providing fun social events for the student body.

Examples include the annual talent show in March that has become a highlight of the school year; a blood drive; the holiday Angel Tree; School parties; help with the 8th grade party and 6th grade orientation; Donuts for Dollars with donations of donuts by Harding's; Canned food drive (this year 1200 cans collected for can drive), Black history month, Red ribbon week, Student announcements (daily), Updates on Sports, and 6th grade track and field.

PTO Teacher Liaison Stephanie Wagner and fellow teacher Andy Blackman, made a special point of thanking the PTO for its donation of meals for teacher conferences. They remarked that it was the first time in many years that the teachers were able to sit together as a group for a meal, and how important that was for staff morale and camaraderie. Special thanks to Jodi VanderWeele for coordinating this project, and to the 50+ parents who donated meals and money.

Principal's Report

Dr. Celeste Harris discussed the following:

*Reading center: Attended an early morning meeting to look at student progress. Some students have jumped right in and have benefited from the program. This program is providing another level of support to help students in organization skills.

***Safety Concerns for Student drop off:**

Parents stopping to let kids out in the driving lane instead of the drop off lane. Some parents are parking in spaces and the kids are walking across the lot in between cars. Vice Principal Craig Medd added that the district is conducting an extensive Tower/Pinkster evaluation and solution and understands the urgency of the situation.

***CIC-Tim Brown and Teacher Stephanie Wagner**

IB Program: Restructuring for Science curriculum--students taking this class can get college credit in High School even if science isn't their target for career. Kids can test out in High School and get the credit.

Info Session for Parents: A meeting is scheduled so parents can provide more input, January 12th 4:45 at administration

building. The meeting involves more information on the science curriculum where it is going for future courses

*Donna Dillon-Penny Wars

Reported \$489.92 collected, more to count at the end of the day for a final report.

Points so far:

7th grade 2611, 6th grade 2496, 8th grade 2209

*Barnes and Noble-Janet Ingersoll

Totals are not in yet, hard to tell if as good of a turn out.

Didn't see as many teachers at the event, choir was terrific.

*Sherri Sims: media specialist

Reported on the final purchases from last year's Barnes & Noble profits-- More Non Fiction, Fiction and Biography books have been brought into the library.

\$500 cash was raised from the Scholastic book fair...With the PEF/PTO matching grant of \$1,000, It has been a great year for the large donations and books are coming in.

*Hustkie Den – Julie Brown speaking for Heidi/Joel

There was a delay by the clothing manufacturer for holiday apparel orders; the Den leaders are aware and are doing their best to make sure clothing arrives before Christmas.

Presidents Report: Julie Brown

*Directory- Julie Brown speaking for Renee

We hope it will be available in January, still working out the new computer program. Parents will get money back they paid if we can't complete the books.

*Locker Works organizers still available

*Email clarification- Julie had sent out an email appeal for PTO donations in November, shortly after the magazine drive had wrapped up. She has become aware of some confusion that parents were concerned about the email, when they had just supported the magazine drive. Julie explained that the PTO does not sponsor or derive any income from the magazine drive—it is entirely a school project—and in hindsight should

have clarified that in her email, or waited for timing to be better. She urged all parents in attendance to 'get the word out' that the PTO relies only on contributions, the Barnes & Noble event and the Huskie Den for income to meet its obligations, and apologized for any confusion, and thanked all those families who have sent in contributions. The PTO is truly grateful.

*All Stars Academic Award:

Good feedback from the students about ice cream and bracelets. If parents have any thoughts email Julie Brown. The next celebration will be in late January.

*Jan 26th last day of marking period

*Thank you to Barb Marquis- putting up paw prints on the hallway near the PTO display recognized parents who have donated 2 Hours toward the Two Hour Power Pledge-if you don't see one for you, and you know you've donated your time, let her know at julie@easyonhold.com.

5th grade parent orientation will be held after winter break for parents and students. Feedback from PNM parents about the

school is welcomed. 8th grade orientation soon to be scheduled. Check the News letter that went out to parents on High Lights of these.