



Cottage Street School PTO Membership Meeting Minutes from October 6th, 2011

Meeting began at 7:03 p.m. adjourned at 8:10 p.m.
36 members present

Introductions

Approved September 14th minutes by voice

Committee / Program reports:

We need several committee Chairs for this year please help out by joining our committees.

- a) Membership – We are still low on membership. 155 Families and 26 staff members to date. This brings us to \$4,110 (last year \$5,000) so we are under budget by roughly \$900.
- b) New family Welcome – This new program was well received this year. They spread the calls around to the committee so it wasn't a lot of work on anyone.
- c) Directory Proof – Passed around a proof of the upcoming directory. The printer can turn this around rather quickly so we can get it out to all PTO members.
- d) Fun fair – **Mark your calendar now FUN FAIR March 25th!!!**
Event description for new parents and reminder to start putting aside items for the General Store. We are looking for someone to work with this years chair so that they can take over for next year. We also are looking for help with a logo. We have a few new games this year and are looking for someone to help build them.
- e) Box Tops – is up and running. There was a question about the General Mills online site and whether or not it will be included in our box tops program.
- f) Programming – Jeremy Rheiner the weather man from Channel 7 will be coming in for the 3rd graders.
All school assembly: The Roots collective will be presenting
Field day – emails will be going out to teachers to coordinate
1st Graders will have Harriet Tubman
- g) Website – Still undergoing “Fall Cleaning”. If you notice something missing or are looking for more please contact Eric.
- h) Mainspring – Wednesdays – two classrooms (different grades) come together to put together lunches for the Mainspring house. We are looking for more volunteers.
- i) Bookfair – Great job this year. We surpassed our budget. We are currently at \$1,400.
- j) Nstar – Due date is tomorrow and they will be delivered in 2-3 weeks. Currently we have 43 orders for 1,114 bulbs at \$2,044.
- k) Brick Fundraising – the company that we are working with has been slow to get the order fulfillment website up. But that should be up soon so that we can start sales within a month or so. Need to determine the ground breaking date.



- l) Popcorn Fridays – starts tomorrow. Free on the first day!!
- m) Walking Wednesdays – Our goal this year is to get 5 to 6 days in this year.
- n) National Spelling Bee – Cottage will be entered into it this year.

Principal's report:

Heather Cunningham needs supplies for Cougar Publishing. This is a budget line item in which we have allocated \$100.

Garden Grant – \$2,000 for maintaining inner courtyard and external garden. We are going to contact Ward's Berry farm to see if they will work with us.

YMCA – will be coming in to talk to us about healthy eating habits. We will setup different food colors and pick a different color for each month.

There are a number of ways parents can help Cottage by making purchases at various stores. These are all listed on the front cover of the directory as well as on the PTO website.

Open houses were all well attended.

On Halloween grades K-1 will be allowed to dress up and parade around the school.

Exploring setting up a weekly email out to parents that rolls up all the events for the coming week.

Green team will kick off next week. Look for sign up in class next week.

Treasurer's report:

Income:

Book fair	\$1,400 (budget \$800)
Membership	\$5,500 (we are under)
Nstar	\$2,044 (budget \$1,000)

Expenses:

Field Trips	Paid for two trips so far
Kohls	\$500 received

New Business:

Literacy teacher is looking for a volunteer to organize the books in the closet and decorate it. Time needed is roughly once per month.

Family Nights – We have a volunteer to chair it. So far we are looking at a Halloween costume event and some sort of dance.

Coupon Book fundraiser—This year we are sending each kid home with a coupon book. Each book costs \$25 of which 50% comes back to the school. The book is filled with a large collection of coupons for restaurants and stores from the area.

Yearbook – We are negotiating the price at the moment. It will have the same format as last year. Please take lots of pictures through out the coming months and start sending them in now. A good idea is try to take group photos so that we can get more kids in.