

West Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 1, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Amy Flinn, West Elementary Principal, at 6:00 p.m.

Those individuals attending the meeting included: Jody Fowles, Becky Cowan, Trina McCarty, Amy Schwein, Marjory Artzer, Sherry Helus, Susan Huddleston, Kelly Nordberg, Sherry Voth, Amy Flinn, Cathy Woodyard, Laura Fails, Karla Rosell, Doug Conwell, Lori and Kylee Rice, and Tina Long.

Minutes from the October 4th meeting were presented and copies were distributed to the individuals in attendance.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Karla Rosell. The checking account balance as of November 1, 2007 was \$11,718.92. The balance reflected debits paid out for Community Day Lunches, Birthday and Community Day treats, Scholastic Book Fair, West Elementary Library Fund, Janet Vance (Fundraiser Reimbursement), Returned Checks, and a Transfer to Savings. The savings account balance as of November 1, 2007 was \$14,005.92. Bills to be paid include money that will be paid out to Club's Choice upon the delivery of Fundraiser goods. No additional bills were presented at the meeting.

Old Business:

Doug Conwell, USD #320 Superintendent, presented an update for all of the attendees regarding TV's for every classroom. We are currently in the process of receiving bids for class systems that would allow teachers to use the TV's for instructional purchases other than to watch a video – i.e. computer demonstrations, Internet demonstrations, virtual field trips, etc. Mr. Conwell presented information on several options in order to inform the PTO as to what they may wish to pursue for the students at West Elementary. It was stated by Mr. Conwell that anything smaller than 42" in a television would be difficult for an entire classroom of students to see clearly. Therefore, in order to have a 50" Plasma TV and Computer Set-up (where information could be called up or played directly from the computer onto the television set with all parts and installation) the price tag would be around \$3,700 per room setup. To have a 58" Plasma TV and the same capabilities as listed with the 50" television set, the price tag would be around \$4,500 per room setup. The average life span of a plasma television is listed around 11-13 years and even though there would be more upfront costs, maintenance would be very minor compared to the other option presented.

The second option presented included a ceiling mounted projector with 3,000 Lumens. This would cost around \$2,000 for the projectors only (installation and special equipment required for mounting was not mentioned in the price quote). One down side to having projectors verses televisions noted by the group was the price tag for the projector bulbs. Each bulb can last for anywhere between 1,000 to 1,200 hours and the replacement cost

is somewhere between \$400-600 per bulb. If this option is selected, a plan for replacing bulbs would need to be implemented – since the project is set to occur in stages.

New Business:

Amy Schwein presented information about prepackaged school supply kits that Central Elementary offered their students for the 2007-2008 school year. The kits are developed from the materials that are requested on grade level supply lists and the School Kidz Company locates the materials the teachers are requesting (name brands included – no generic materials) and prepackages all of the materials that are needed for the entire school supply list for a flat price. Mrs. Schwein stated that 25% of the student body at Central ordered a school supply kit for their child(ren). They discovered that families with multiple students at the elementary school level had a tendency to order kits for their children. Amy Schwein volunteered to work with all of the prepackaged school supply kits for students in grades Kindergarten to Fifth Grade for the 2008-2009 school year. The motion was made by Laura Fails and seconded by Marjory Artzer to proceed with the kits for the 2008-2009 school year. The motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Box Tops and Labels – The meeting did not include enough time for the monthly report. More information will be given out at the December meeting.

Thank You Notes – Were read from teachers for the dinner provided during Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Fundraiser – Total Profit (excluding late orders) \$8,450.15

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the West Library.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.