

Proposed Springman Attea PTA Minutes
June 1, 2010 at Springman Middle School

In Attendance: Mary Alonzi, Melinda Boustakakis, Kathy Cameranesi, Kristi Carroll, Ana Cassorla, Kristin Daus, Susie Feldstein, Mary Hershey, Laura Jortberg, Cheryl Kasner, Karen Krug, Tammy Langas, Kay Laurie, Gretch Meek, Annie Nimz, Meg Phelan, Liz Price, Jen Roberts, Dianna Sirakides, Liz Skweres, Marcy Sotirchos, Kaki Voss, Jim Woell

Call to Order: Candy Pullano called the meeting to order.

Springman Presentation: Deb Faermark thanked the PTA for funding Springman's publication of Paws and Reflect. Several students read passages and poetry from the book. Deb explained a club was formed to develop, edit and publish the book, but all students could submit writing and artwork for the book. She feels that all segments of the Springman students is represented in the book and this was a great learning experience for all students involved. This is Springman's first year publishing a book and Attea's third year.

Secretary's Report: The May minutes were approved. Attendees were reminded to sign in and to submit items for the last email blast of the school year.

Treasurer's Report: Susie Feldstein reported PTA finances are right on budget. Outstanding expenses are approximately \$5400 for graduation plus the book publication fees. PTA contributes \$500 for each school's graduation party. (Karen Krug discussed graduation party fees later in the meeting.)

Gifted/Enrichment Program Changes: Phil Collins spoke for Debbie Lubek, District 34's Special Services coordinator, who could not attend. Phil reported the Board of Education approved changes to the program due to the efforts of the Gifted/Enrichment Program Review Committee. He thanked Jen Roberts, PTA member, for her work on the committee. These changes will be phased in over the next few years. The biggest change is in screening: the parent teacher forms will now be more systematic. Also, the program will be a single tier model, identifying 10% of the children for services. The district's goal is to have an extremely transparent with the program. Melinda Boustakakis asked if the program can be phased in for current 6th graders. Phil feels these kids are currently being served.

What is the Gifted/Enrichment program supposed to do? Children who learn in a different way are going to be taught in different way to allow them to take learning to the next introspective level. Heather Hopkins reported that language arts is the only pull out program. Math is also taught at different levels. Staff will be looking at differentiated teaching for science and social studies also.

Parents with questions should contact Debbie Lubek at District 34.

President's Report: Candy Pullano explained changes to the slate positions for the 2010 2011 school year. Cultural Arts has been changed to Educational Explorations. Parent Education chairs Mary Garvey and Mary Freidinger were also added. The motion to approve the slate was passed.

If not done already, chairpersons should prepare their committee reports/time lines and give them to their successor and Liz Price. Liz has only received 10 reports.

The Debra Gelfand Fund committee is looking for 4 kids per cluster to walk in Glenview's 4th of July Parade to celebrate the anniversary of the Debra Gelfand Fund.

Lost and Found at Springman: Officer Dan Marsh from Springman reported on the burgeoning problem of lost and found. Officer Marsh showed pictures of the large amount of items in the lost and found areas. In addition, he keeps expensive items in a lost and found area in his office: calculators, glasses and high end clothing such as North Face, Abercrombie and Hollister. PTA will help with this problem by sending photos of Springman's lost and found in email blasts when requested by Officer Marsh.

Principals' Reports

Heather Hopkins reported the following items:

- The TI Inspire calculator will be used in algebra and geometry classes. Phil Collins was able to purchase these calculators for \$125. When parents get their child's math placement this summer, they can then order the calculator online via District 34's website. Students will also have the option to check out a calculator for the year. District 34 staff will have each calculator engraved and teachers will have serial numbers for each student's calculator to help with keeping track of these expensive items.
- The Fine Arts rotation poses logistical issues since double language arts has been added to the curriculum. Staff has been discussing the best way to handle timing of fine arts. Currently some Fine Arts teachers travel between schools. A

change has been proposed to have 7th graders get only one trimester of Fine Arts. Those students will get their other Fine Art during 8th grade. With this change, only music staff would have to travel between schools. All kids will have the same amount of Fine Arts, just not at the same time.

Escrip: Mary Hershey asks parents who've been unsuccessful registering for Escrip to contact her. She also encouraged the group to access Amazon through the PTA's website. Amazon sharing percentage is generous and a very simple way to raise funds.

Spiritwear: Spiritwear will be available for sale at the 6th grade open houses at both schools on August 15th. Parents will also be able to buy spiritwear at Curriculum nights in the fall.

Graduation: Karen Krug reported graduation plans for both schools are going well. PTA contributed \$500 to each school's party, with a \$20 fee collected from each child. The Debra Gelfand Fund pays the fee for free and reduced lunch kids. Historically, friends of the chairpeople contribute to cover costs of the event. Karen requests the PTA contribute \$1000 to each school's party. The chairs will continue to keep costs down and also keep the parties environmentally friendly by re-using decorations and reducing waste. Chairs for next year are Dilnaz Waraich and Eleanor Aquino for Attea and Laura Berquist and Jackie Castelli for Springman.

Adjournment: The next meeting will be held September 7th at 9:15am at Attea Middle School