

PTA Meeting Minutes

Thoreau Middle School

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Attendees: Principal Hood, Anne-Stuart Kirkhorn, Alex Keam, Kari Govan, Reza Razian, Carol Ann Garner, Xiomara Rooks, Rossana Ciunciolo-Carney, Joan Lee, Mark Keam, Sarah Elkaban, Mike Parker, Tracey Albert, Elaine Cudney, Susannah Plante (Frazier), David Schultz, Monica Cramer, Heather Phillips, Sue Sheehan, Amy Masters, Sue Giacinto, Kathy Webster, David Becker, Ed Liskey, Maria Liskey, Kambiz Faris, Tania Faris, Susan Monaco, Sean Sinclair, Mary Ann Rashid, Karen Belles Mitchell and Corinne Bowen.

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 a.m.

President's Report – Anne-Stuart Kirkhorn

Thoreau recently had the **Health Screening** where all 7th graders had their hearing and vision checked. Thanks for the volunteers who helped. The 7th **Grade Dinner** is coming up and all are encouraged to attend. **PTA Membership Dues** are ahead of schedule. **Pie Sales** for the Music Department earned \$11,000.00. The Hospitality Committee still needs **pie donations** to give to the entire staff for Thanksgiving.

The minutes from the September Meeting were reviewed and approved.

A motion was made to move forward on scheduling some dinner fundraisers (No Drama Dinners) to raise money for the Drama Department. The motion was seconded and approved.

The next formal PTA Meeting will be a Principal's Coffee on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. There are a couple of Parent Program speakers in the interim.

Principal's Report – Mr. Hood

Thoreau had an entry in this year's **Halloween Parade** and it was a great success involving students and community. Plans are being made (with the help of Navy Federal Credit Union) to give students who earned **All A's** for the first term Thoreau Bucks to spend at the school store instead of the usual pizza party. The staff loves the pies, so thank you to the PTA for the effort that goes into making that happen. The gyms are complete. There are currently 40 masons a day doing brick work in the back.

Mr. Hood then talked briefly on the role of counselors in a school and the stiff requirements that need to be met to become a **school counselor**. He called them the "heart and soul of the school." The remainder of the meeting was presented by Mike Parker, his Student Services team and the School Counselors. Their contact information is on the school website and they would love to be in contact with parents and students and they work toward improving study skills, screening for mental wellness, mentoring and dealing with bullying to name a few things.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m.