

Oak Park Elementary

PTA Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, September 5, 2006 / 7:00 pm

I. Approved Budget Proposal for the 2006/2007 school year.

- Yearbook - Request for additional \$500.00 was approved.
- Cultural Arts Committee – Request for additional \$1,500 approved. Shobha Gardi and Elizabeth Schutte requested the additional funds after attending the Cultural Arts presentation at Shawnee Mission West High School. They are interested in providing two cultural art activities for the school year. They are considering choosing two activities from the following:
 - Chinese Acrobats – event would be 1-2 hours in length and would fit in w/ the 2nd grade curriculum of studying China.
 - Operation Wildlife – Since this will be our last year as Oak Park Eagles they are considering a presentation from Operation Wildlife where they would bring two bald eagles to show the kids.
 - International Fair – This would a food and other cultural things from various countries around the world. Oak Park has a very diverse population of students and so many countries could be represented. It was stressed that there would have to be a lot of parent involvement on this activity. It was also mentioned that this could be a Oak Park / Carpenter combined event.
- Chat ‘N Chew – Request for additional \$100 was approved.
- Teacher’s Luncheon – An additional \$100 was added to the budget to offset out-of-pocket expenses in previous years.

II. Board Reports (only PTA board members that had something to report are listed)

- **Kelley Ahrens (Co-President)** –
 - PTA Babysitting - We are still in need of a volunteer parent to coordinate and oversee the babysitting during the monthly PTA meetings.
 - Treats Sign-Up – Passed out a Treats Sign-up sheet for the upcoming school year PTA meetings.
 - 93rd Annual Kansas PTA State Convention – Kelley handed out a flyer to the PTA Board about this event on April 20 to April 22, 2007. It will held at the Overland Park Holiday Inn West. There will be workshops, idea sharing, leadership training, networking, key note speakers and exhibitors. The board can decide who will attend this event.
- **Melisa Vick (Co-President)** –
 - Oak Park Elementary PTA Awards
 - 100% Membership by early cut-off date
 - 100% Teacher Award – All Oak Park teachers a member of PTA

- 60% Member Award – 60% of Oak Park families are members of PTA
 - 5% Member Increase Award
- **Patty Jo Carter (1st Vice President - Programs)** – Patty Jo is considering a couple options for parent school programs. They include:
 - Birth Order Discussion – This program was well attended in 2004 at Oak Park
 - Sunflower House – program on the internet and other sites such as MySpace.com and Zanga.com, etc.
- **Jessica VanTassel (2nd Vice President – Membership)** – Jessica mentioned that 268 members joined the PTA and 226 parents paid the room fees. She will be sending out reminder letters in backpack mail to parents who have paid yet.
- **Tracy Reynolds (3rd Vice President - Fundraising)** – she gave a reports on the following
 - Donation Drive - \$4,790 has been collected so far towards our goal of \$5,000.
 - Trash Bags Sale – Trash bags and forms went out in backpack mail on Friday, Sept 1st. The cut off date for selling trash bags is Wednesday, Sept 20th.
 - School Prints – Mrs. Post painting of Oak Park is still available for \$3.00.
- **Holly Hatfield (Secretary)** – Holly read some thank yous from the staff to the Teacher Appreciation committee for the breakfast they provided them on the their first day back to Oak Park.
- **Peggy (Teacher Rep)** –
 - Breakfast – Peggy, on behalf of all Oak Park teachers extended a big thank you to the Teacher Appreciation committee for the wonderful and delicious breakfast they provided them on the their first day back to Oak Park.
 - 1st Grade – They will be going to Weston Red Barn Farm on Thursday, October 12th. They appreciate the PTA in helping defray the costs for the students.
 - 2nd Grade – They are now studying Australia. They will be going to the zoo on Wednesday, September 6th.
 - Back to School Night – Thanks to the PTA for all they did for helping the staff get ready for school and for the success of the Back to School night.

III. Principal's Report (Jennifer Gill)

- School Picture Day – Thursday, September 7th, is picture day at Oak Park. Classroom pictures will remain the traditional picture of the entire class standing with their teacher.
- Shawnee Mission Board of Education Meeting- will be held Monday, Sept 11th.
- Reading Assessment – Dibbles Testing will begin to assess where students are on their reading.
- MAP Test – The MAP tests will begin in a few weeks, grades are tested on a particular subject.
- School of Excellence Award - Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) should be sending us the School of Excellence award any day now.
- First Quarter Mid-term – is 17th of September.
- No School Days – There will no school held on Thursday, September 21st and Monday, October 2nd.
- Compassion in Action – There has been a request...a child needs a ride to school everyday. They live at 97th Terr. I will get exact address.
- Alumni Open House – Scheduled for Saturday, October 7th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm
- Bricks – When the old building is knocked down the construction crew has agreed to make a pile of bricks for anyone to pick up. There is no cost. However, the construction foreman did say they may be a mess with mortar, etc.
- Art Tiles for the new building – This will need to be coordinated with Katherine Carpenter through Mrs. Post, the art teacher. Holly asked if the new kindergarteners in August '07 will also be making a tile since they are the first full-year kindergarten classes in the new school. Mrs. Gill said that will need to be further discussed??
- Wildwood Team Building Activity – Mrs. Gill is still looking a team building activity in the spring for the 5th graders of both Oak Park and KC. Wildwood would come to the school for this event. More information to follow.
- School Move to New Building – She has a confirmed date for the move but cannot reveal the date yet. But, it is after the Thanksgiving Holiday.
- Question: Will Mr. Andrews be available to watch the kids during the three days of moving? Mrs. Gill will get to everyone with an answer on that soon.

IV. Committee Reports

- ADEPT – Craig Herrmann introduced himself as the Chairman of the ADEPT program at Oak Park. He has been a DARE officer for 11 years. He stated that we participate in the district wide “Red Ribbon” program. He is considering several programs for the ADEPT programs that will mainly target 5th and 6th graders. He would also like to have a parent program as well. He would like to recruit some student council members to assist.
- Block Parent – Linda Featherston is getting ready to send out paperwork in backpack mail for additional volunteers for Block Parents.
- Chat ‘N Chew – Stacia Harvey mentioned that we have to find a new vendor for the Chat ‘N Chew books. She suggested Borders Express. This vendor was approved.

- Clothing Drive – Renee Hodges noted the upcoming Oak Park clothing drive campaign will be from October 23rd to 27th. She also mentioned finding a way to get clothes to some Oak Park parents in need and having them remain anonymous.
- Compassion in Action – This committee prepares meals and other services to Oak Park families during times of crisis or other needs. She mentioned that this committee has been busy preparing meals for a few families and they would welcome any extra volunteers to assist with the rotation of preparing meals.
- Cultural Arts – See notes on this under Budget Proposal above
- Dad's Club – Ken Neaderhiser will be sending out an interest/survey form to let Dads, Granddads, Uncles, etc. know about the club and find out what activities they would be interested in. He emphasized that he needed dads work email addresses because the forms and information were not reaching a lot of dads. He mentioned that instead of monthly meetings that it might be moved to once a quarter meetings/activity events. The club will still host the cars event in the spring. They may host the game night activity as well.
- Emergency Calling Tree – Shawn Fowler mentioned that everyone except approximately 20 families have turned in their blue form. She'll be contacting them for the information.
- Family Fun Day – Terra Hasker mentioned that on Friday night, November 3rd, there will be a family fun night and the movie being shown will be the original ET.
- Historian – Jennifer Herrmann asked at the meeting how the PTA and parents wanted a historical book made of Oak Park? She wasn't really sure what was expected of this position. It was mentioned that at the Alumni Open House on Saturday, October 7th, a table with paper could be set out for people to write a quick note of their favorite memories at Oak Park. This could be put into a book and would be a fun thing to read in remembrance of Oak Park Elementary.
- Legislative – Mark is ready to send out emails if anyone has anything they want him to send in regards to legislative issues. Just send the information to Mark via email.
- Publicity – Brenda Donnelly will get with Mrs. Gill to verify what to send to the papers and when.
- Reflections – Holly, the Chairman, asked the committee if the Reflections campaign could possibly be combined with the classroom curriculum? No one thought that would be an issue. It was suggested that she get with the Art teacher, Mrs. Post, who is the Art teacher at both Oak Park and Carpenter to see if she wanted to include this activity in her classroom. The theme this year is "My Favorite Place....."
- Refund Drive – Jennifer Reynolds stated that on the Campbell's soup labels all they want now is the UPC code part of the label, not the entire label. She said they have a nice amount of box tops and labels to turn in. She would like to send emails out as a reminder instead of backpack mail.
- Room Parent & Class Volunteers Coordinators – Shelly Minton send in an email saying that all room parents have been filled except for Mrs. Bales' class. Room parent meeting was held on today, Tuesday, Sept 6th, so each room parent could get the class notebook which shows what activities and parties have been done in the past.
- School Directory – Shawn Fowler said it was coming along fine. There was no final date when they would be ready.

- School Picture Day – Flyers went home in Friday’s backpack mail about school pictures on Thursday, Sept 7th. Parents must pay up front for the pictures. If they are not happy with the pictures, retakes can be taken at a later date. Classroom pictures will remain as last year...a picture of the class standing w/ their teacher.
- Service Committee – Jenny Ling mentioned that Rake of the Fall will be announced soon. The Service Committee is going to forgo doing some of the past activities such as Ronald MacDonald House and Harvesters due to the travel expenses and problems coordinating transportation to all these events.
- Skating Parties – Janet Maxey emailed her report and said that at the first skate party there were 137 Oak Park students and 117 Katherine Carpenter students. The prize was Back to School key chains, picture frames and rubix cubes to hang from their backpacks. The committee made \$115.00 from Skate City.
- Spirit Wear – Joyce Peterson said that 210 shirts/sweat shirts have been sold for a profit of \$1,200. Only the gray t-shirts, sweat shirts and baseball t-shirts will be available to sell at the Alumni Open House on Oct 7th. It was discussed that if the garments needed to be shipped that the cost would need to be added onto the cost of the shirt. Out of town checks will be accepted because they will have cleared the bank before the shirts will be sent out.
- Staff Appreciation – Debbie Landes mentioned that a breakfast was hosted on August 14th for the teachers first day back to school.
- Teacher Luncheons – Andrea Carter mentioned that there will be a teachers luncheon on Thursday, October 26th.
- Yearbook & Photographer Coordinator – Laura Bauer requested an additional \$500 for the yearbook in case of the need for an additional page or two. She also mentioned to everyone to please get her pictures of school events to her for the yearbook. She will accept standard photos but digital pictures are the easiest.

The PTA meeting will be held Tuesday, October 3rd at 7:00 pm in the Oak Park school library. Please attend and bring a friend! 😊