

Oak Park Elementary

PTA Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, February 7, 2006 / 7:00 pm

I. Approved 01/10/06 Minutes

II. Board Reports

- Kelley (President) – Contributing \$50 for project graduation at Shawnee Mission South (alcohol free/supervised grad night activities).
- Patty Jo (Program) – she has scheduled Cindy James to present a “Food Choices” program for Wednesday, March 8th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm (right before PTA meeting). Childcare will be available. Note: This was rescheduled from Tuesday, March 7th due to the South Band Festival that evening.
- Kay (Fundraising) – Trash bags still on sale. Need to add trash bag signage back onto the Oak Pak marquee.
- Tracy (Parliamentarian) – Reviewing the Bylaws will be tabled until Tracy looks at Katherine Carpenter’s Bylaws and merges the two. She will hand out the merged Bylaws for review and for a vote of approval at the March PTA meeting. Once approved they will be loaded to our website.
- Peggy (Teacher Rep) –
 - **First Grade** –
 - Ken Neiderhiser was our DOGS in first grade on Tuesday, Feb 7th. Thank You!
 - First grade also celebrated an early Mardi Gras and the kings were Bryce Lantz and Quenten Quelle.
 - We finished our unit on Kansas and had a program on the Kansas Symbols presented by Ernie Miller Park. Thank you PTA for paying for the program. We will be going to Indian Woods on March 2nd for a Read Across America party honoring Dr. Seuss’ birthday.
 - **Fourth Grade** has been busy with book reports, studying the Plains Indians and practicing for the Math Basic Skills test and State assessments. They are also getting ready for Open House next Thursday, Feb 16th.
 - **Fifth Graders** are going to their annual Celebrate American Hero Program on Friday, February 17th. Open House is the night before so it will be a very busy week. We hope to see all parents at Open House to show off our various projects and papers. Thank you Laura Kelley this year for coordinating all our fifth grade parties and to Mrs. Harvey for teacher appreciation.
 - **Sixth Graders** - We have some exciting times ahead for our combo class! Sixth graders are going to the Nelson Art Gallery on Wednesday, Feb 15th to see the Ancient Civilization Exhibits on Egypt and China.
 - The staff appreciates the January Soup ‘n Chili luncheon. It warmed our hearts as well as our stomachs. Received thank you’s from Jane Croskey

for both the holiday cookies and the soup luncheon, from Mrs. Weidling for the holiday cookies and from Peggy Andra for the soup luncheon.

III. Principal's Report (Jennifer Gill)

- Mandy Conley (Student Ambassador)- students collecting for pennies for patients.
- DIBELS Testing – a second round of DIBELS testing is complete and there were significant improvements in student performance. We use this information to diagnosis areas that students may need extra time and assistance to be fluent and comprehensive readers. Fluency directly correlates to comprehension.
- K Pals Program – The K Pals program that Mrs. D. and Mrs. T team up 5th and 6th graders with kindergarteners has shown tremendous results. Mrs. Palmer's ability to teach and effectively reach her students helped the students achieve the best progress on the DIBELS test since we began doing it three years ago.
- 2nd / 3rd Grade Musicals – This concert was wonderful as always. The gym was full of spectators. It is a true testament to the family values at this school to see so many extended families at our school events.
- Band and Strings Concert – This was a wonderful concert. The district has one of the best fine arts programs in the area. Please encourage your child to give it a try or continue to participate into their middle school years. That is where the benefits and camaraderie can really be seen.
- PTA Potluck Dinner @ Katherine Carpenter's – Several members of the PTA board along with Mrs. Dimmel, Mrs. Andra and I attended a potluck dinner at Katherine Carpenter's on Tuesday, January 31st. We were able to meet and chat with members of their school community. It was a great way to just get to know each other before we begin to make plans for our consolidation in the next several years. Their PTA handed out a list of school events that we might want to consider coordinating on for next year. They have been put in the PTA Secretary notebook to refer too.
- Family Fun Night – Another fun night for the family was had by all. We had approximately 140 people in attendance. It is good to see families so comfortable and eager to be a part and share the evening with their Oak Park family.
- Carpet – New School – The carpet has been chosen for the classrooms in the new school. Progress continues at a rapid rate.
- Mismatch Day – Thursday, March 9th...each student must wear school appropriate clothing.
- School Book Drop-Off – Starts Monday, Feb 27th and runs through that Friday, March 3rd. For every five books dropped off, students can pick one book.
- Naming of New School – The Board of Education for the Shawnee Mission School District has asked that the school communities of Katherine Carpenter and Oak Park submit suggestions for the name of the new school that will combine these two communities. The school board has all naming rights to district buildings and facilities, but would like to have input from student, staff and parents.
 - Each school will submit one name suggestion from each grade level.
 - Parents and community members with suggestions will need to get a form from the school office and submit it back to the offices by February 20th.

- Wish List –
 - \$500 for map mountings - Approved.....(geographical maps for the classrooms)
 - Memory Sticks for each teacher to download their files so they have them to move to the new school.....Mrs. Gill will get price.....

IV. Committee Reports

- Baking – Francine Lipoff - The Hospitality and Baking Committees will be baking, preparing, setting-up, serving and cleaning up baked goods and refreshments for the OPEN HOUSE on Thursday, February 16th. Anyone who would like to help set up cookie trays after school, set up tables and refreshments at 5:30, serve between 6:00-8:00 pm can contact Francine Lipoff at franlipoff48@msn.com and/or call 438-4014. Approximately 1000 people attend Open House so it takes a lot of people to make this evening a success!
- Carnival – Kay Erickson - The Country Fair carnival is scheduled for Friday, April 28th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. We have begun our search for carnival volunteers. All families will be contacted to help. If you would like to volunteer in anyway before or at the Fair, please contact me. Peggy Andra has already turned in a list of 14 staff members who will be volunteering at the carnival. This year our silent auction promises to be bigger and more exciting. Back by popular demand will be Pizza Maker pizza and the famous band to entertain us. For the 3rd year in a row we will be making class-themed baskets to auction off as well. We've added an assortment of new games, and promise to make it a great family fun night!
- Family Fun Day – Krista Hall - We had a fabulous turnout at our last Family Fun night. The movie was a big success. We made a total of \$175.92.
- Nominating Committee – The following people will be on the nominating committee:
 - Kelley Ahrens
 - Jeanette Brethour
 - Patty Jo Carter
 - Diana Seamon
 - Melisa Vick
 - Holly Hatfield
 - Tracy Reynolds
 - Laura Bauer
- Preschool Fun Time – Jessica VanTasell - There were eighteen preschool kids at the Preschool Fun Time held on Thursday, Jan 19th. Ms. Chen planned an activity in the music room for the kids. - - - The next Preschool Fun Time will be this Friday, February 10, 1006 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm.

- Recycling – Dad’s Group – Ken Neaderhiser
 - Dad’s Group –
 - Game Night – Thursday, Feb 23rd.
 - Lunch Week – Week of March 6th through 9th
 - Car Race – Friday, April 7th at Katherine Carpenter’s gym

- Reflections – Amy Stillwell - There were 11 entries at Oak Park. Five pieces went to the regional competition. The judging will happen next week but we will not know for about another week if any Oak Park students received recognition. Mrs. Gill will be having breakfast with the participants sometime either this week or next week. Thanks to everyone for all the support! All of the participants will receive certificates at the end of the school year.

- Refund – Kay Erickson
 - Refund Check - Received a \$374.00 check from ??.
 - Box Tops – next deadline is Tuesday, February 28th. – We will continue to have a note in every Eaglegram and in the PTA Newsletter. Will focus on the challenges between the classes after all current items are sorted, cut and sent in for redemption.
 - HyVee coupon books will be on sale at Open House on Feb 16th. They are \$5.00 for over \$50.00 worth of savings. They are such a great deal because you can get your money back with the first coupon which is for \$5.00 off \$50.00 worth of groceries.

- Room Parent – Shelly Minton
 - Valentine’s Party – will be held on Tuesday, Feb 14th. Please check with your teacher for your party start time. If you need paper plates, napkins or cups, please let Shelly Minton or Janet Maxey know. They will be in the office the day of the party. Please check w/ your teacher to see how Valentine distribution is done in your room (if it is a part of the party). Party money will be in the office for pick-up on the 14th. Have fun! - - - Parties seem to have gone very well this year. Thanks for everyone’s help!!

- Yearbook – Shawn Fowler – Activity pictures will be on Friday. This will include both class and group pictures. We will do as we did last year (all activity groups will report to the gym and will be dismissed as their group picture is completed.) - - - Everyone should turn their pictures into a class photographer per class to arrange a deadline for all the pictures. The deadlines will be spread out between Feb 20th and Spring Break. If you have pictures that we can use for the yearbook, please let me know. I can use either digital or actual photos (higher quality digital is preferred.)

**Next PTA meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2006
at 7:00 pm**

