

Oak Park Elementary

PTA Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 / 7:00 pm

I. **Approved November PTA Meeting Minutes.**

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

• **Kelley Ahrens (Co-President)**

- Ken Neaderhiser has decided to step down at PTA Treasurer, effective immediately. Melisa Vick will take over for him for the remainder of the year.
- Oak Park was the winner of the “Beat the Chiefs Paper Recycling Challenge” in October. Abitibi provided us with a certificate for this achievement. The recycle company have been contacted about moving the recycle bins BEFORE the new construction fence goes up.
- The six benches over at the old building, which were purchased by the PTA , will be moved over to the new site. Not sure where they’ll be put yet but they will be moved.
- Committee Chairman’s mail is now located in the black file cabinet behind the work desk in the office. Board members mailboxes are in the last section of the school mailboxes on the wall.
- We are in need of a babysitting supervisor for the January 9th PTA meeting. Please let me know if anyone is interested.
- Kelley and Melisa met with Cynthia Jarold, SMAC President, and the two Carpenter PTA Presidents and some other SMAC Reps that have been through the closing/merger process. We found out that we will need to close down the Oak Park PTA unit as well as Carpenter’s unit. The following timeline will need to be completed:
 - Jan ’07 - Elect a new unit organization steering committee
 - Jan ’07 - Resolution to dissolve Oak Park PTA in Jan ’07
 - April ’07 - Organizational meeting to install the new unit (Oak Park-Carpenter) board the first week of April
 - June ’07 - Close Oak Park and Carpenter units by June ’07.

Kelley and Melisa met with the two Carpenter President’s following this meeting and discussed their thoughts about the merge and how to best bring the two school communities together. They are looking forward to sharing ideas. There was an emphasis on not forgetting each school’s past history while still welcoming new approaches.

• **Melisa Vick (Co-President)**

- Wish List - The kindergarten rooms have requested two giant economy size sand and water tables for both rooms next year.

- Money Market Acct – Ken did Oak Park a big favor is opening this money market account with the high interest of 7.5%. I'm hoping we can keep this account when we merge the two PTA's...just change the name.
- Budget Report – I retyped the Budget Report in Quicken so that's why it may look a little different than Ken's former reports. I am working on truing up the carnival and staff appreciation line items.
- **Jennifer Reynolds (SMAC Rep)**
 - Wasn't able to attend the SMAC meeting in November but I forwarded the minutes of the meeting to everyone's email.
- **Peggy Andra (Teacher Rep) –**
 - THANK YOU for the survival kits we found on our desks for the move to the new school. Yes, it was something we did not have to unpack and put away.
 - First Grade – We are taking good care of our new home. The school is awesome; the gym and art rooms are the best! First graders are excited about the new technology.
 - Fourth Grade – We've moved (pant, pant). Fourth graders are busy studying the water cycle, the geography of the Southeast, finishing Little House on the Prairie and preparing for EarthWorks.
 - Reading – A quick reminder to parents that books and magazine subscriptions make wonderful gifts during the holidays. Gift cards for book stores are great!! If we model by asking our child to buy/make us a book, and open them with excitement, they will begin to view books as special gifts, just like receiving a great toy!

III. Principal's Report (Jennifer Gill)

- Thank You – Thank you to everyone for being so accommodating during the move. The survival bags were wonderful.
- New Building Updates
 - Arrivals before 7:50 am will wait in the cube.
 - Arrivals between 7:50-8:00 will wait in the cafeteria
 - Dismissals of all students who will be walking will need to use the Nieman Road crosswalk.
 - Construction fence will be up soon and we may need to make adjustments.
 - Children need to be escorted while in the parking lot due to them having to walk in front of the drop off traffic lanes.
 - Kindergarten is releasing out the back door.
 - Recycle bin has been asked to be moved. This needs to happen BEFORE the construction fence goes up.
 - Electrical power issues???
- Carpenter Open House
 - This Thursday, Dec 14th from 5:30 – 7:00 pm...same time as Oak Park Open House.

- PTA members can come and assist with map distribution, monitoring classrooms and giving directions. Please arrive by 5:15 pm to get an assignment.
- AYP Reports released today
 - Oak Park was awarded both reading and math Standard of Excellence in all four grades. There is a formula only that a certain percentage must score in a certain range to be awarded the Standard of Excellence. We are one of four elementary schools in the SM district that were awarded all excellences in all four grades.
 - Math
 - 3rd Grade – 94.8%
 - 4th Grade – 100%
 - 5th Grade – 96.6%
 - 6th Grade – 100%
 - Reading
 - 3rd Grade – 94.8%
 - 4th Grade – 97.8%
 - 5th Grade – 96.6%
 - 6th Grade – 96.9%
- New Mailbox System – PTA will use the file cabinet for the committee chairs.
- Haunted House Materials – These materials will need to be moved off-site due to space needs. Would anyone like to volunteer to take them home?
- Boy and Girl Scouts – Troop meetings will be held in the music room, unless you reserve the cafeteria.

IV. Committee Reports

- Block Parent – We are waiting on background checks for some block parents.
- Carnival – We have met once and have another meeting planned in January. The theme this year is “International Affair.” The carnival will be held on Friday, April 27th...there is no school that day.
- Chat ‘n Chew – Forms went out in backpack mail. They must be turned in by Wednesday, Dec 20th
- Clothing Drive – Oak Park’s day at the Clothing Center is Monday, February 5, 2007.
- Cultural Arts – The carnival is combining with this committee to sponsor the “International Affair.” The Cultural Arts committee will be handling the food part of the carnival.
- Emergency Calling Tree – This went home in November.
- Family Fun Day – We will have a science night. There was also discussion about having an additional movie night to bring in more revenue.
- Legislative – Legislative Day is Monday, February 12, 2007.
- Preschool Fun Time – The first event this year will be Thursday, January 4th.

- Reflections – Holly will get another announcement out in the Eaglegram on Dec 13th to encourage participation by students. She will mention that the Holiday break would be a perfect time to work on this project.
- Service Committee – Rake up the Fall went well. We had enough people to cover the homes that needed done. There are two Harvester Days scheduled, one on Thursday, January 11th and one on Tuesday, April 10th.
- Skating Party – There is a skating party this Friday, December 15th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm.
- Staff Appreciation – Debbie Landes gave a special thanks to Jeanette Brethour and Jenny Ling for their time in purchasing all the things for the survival bags. There is ?? planned for Thursday, January 25th.
- Teacher Luncheons – The next one is planned for March '07.
- Yearbook and Photographer Coordinator – Laura mentioned that she will put in the Eaglegram who the class representatives are for the class pictures. She would like to have some photos collected by December 15th.

**The next PTA meeting will be held Tuesday, January 9th at 7:00 pm
in the school library. Bring a friend. ☺**