

Earl B Wood Middle School

PTA Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2009

Parent Academy: Study skills presentation by Laurene Thomas and Youngme Choy.

The meeting was called to order at 7:52PM

Attending: Jeanie Dawson, Konni Brantner, John Baker, Liz Novatny, Chris Rattay, Colleen Anderson, Kelli Potter, Martina Skoglund, Dignora Cedillo, Angie Kitan, April Adhikari, JoAnn Barney, Meg Goodman, Shalay Bevel, Amy Hartley, Susan Keady, Maria Salientes, Sharon Beckham

Principal presentation:

1. The first marking period is done, report cards go out tomorrow. The school is working diligently with students who are achieving below C level. After school help is available in reading and math. There are pull out groups for reading and math that pull out during electives. A significant number of students are taking advanced math. Teachers are being utilized at lunchtime but not much after school.
2. School Improvement (SIP) 11/19/09 3-5PM- parents are encouraged to attend. The group will review data to see if interventions are working.
3. There were 15 referrals in the first quarter. This is the lowest number in a long time.
4. Parent conferences tomorrow and Thursday from 12:40 – 7PM. If parents can't make it they are able to call and schedule another time.
5. Three Wood students were featured on the Homework Hotline program last week.
6. Students and staff attended the Robotics Caucus on Capital Hill. They heard a discussion by the man who developed the insulin pump and the robotic arm. Wood is one of 4 schools to be part of the Net Generation of Youth. Students will work with scientists from NIH and the Naval Weapons Resource Lab. The goal is to give student s connections with professions in the science and technology fields.
7. Wood will receive a Tech Grant.

New Business:

1. WeatherBug Station presentation- Mr. Durbin and Keith Brown described the functions and benefits of purchasing a Weather Bug system. This allows the school to access and share data with >8,000 weather stations across US and Internationally. It can be used for map lessons, science and technology in the classroom. The cost is normally \$15,500 for purchase and installation. There is a grant of \$2,000 if purchased before December 31, 2009. This is something the school would like to work with the PTA to purchase in the future.
 - A question was raised about responsibility for maintenance and repair.
 - The PTA would like to know if we could partner with local schools to purchase.
2. Volunteers are needed for the Mega party from Katherine Beich.
3. The PTA will donate \$250 for a teacher luncheon on parent/teacher conference day.

OLD Business:

1. Katherine Beich orders may be picked up from 1-5PM tomorrow from the auxiliary gym.

2. The directory is ready. Copies were passed out to PTA members at the meeting and will be in the office for PTA member pickup and non members to purchase for \$5. Scott will sell copies at a table during parent conferences..
3. It was decided to reduce the cost of the Discount cards to \$7 since they are only usable through March.
4. The Volunteer Coordinator asked that everyone please log their volunteer hours or email them to her. She has had to call everyone individually.
5. Hospitality had good response with baked goods for the luncheon on 11/11/09. They will be asking for baked goods in December for a teacher's dessert reception.
6. Cultural Arts questioned if there should be a December activity. They will plan an 8th grade assembly to go along with the trip to the Holocaust Museum.

The meeting was closed at 9:07PM.