

Earl B Wood Middle School

PTA Meeting Minutes

September, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:10PM. .

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

Ms. Dawson Announcements

1. The opening of school ran smoothly this year.
2. Last year's Algebra and MSA test results were improved. Wood was the only Phase I Middle School that met the AYP goals. Ms Dawson attributes this progress in part to Middle School reform resources. Wood also has highly qualified staff that makes an exceptional effort to know the students and meet their needs with programs that have been successful. Ms. Dawson also recognized the efforts of the PTA to meet student needs.
3. Parents were invited to attend the quarterly School Improvement Plan meetings. The dates and times will be posted on the web site.
4. The H1N1 virus response plan was outlined.
5. MAP-R testing is September 21-24. All students are tested in Fall and Spring. Students who would benefit from extra intervention are also tested in January. Last year 90 students were retested in January after increased intervention. Of those 78 went from Basic in September to Proficient in January. The test data is used for student placement and planning interventions. Mr. Rattay will speak with students about taking the test seriously and doing their best. He asked that the PTA communicate the same to parents.
6. PTA support requested in providing library coverage from 3:30-4:15PM Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings beginning September 22. Students stay after school for extra help and sessions end around 3:30PM. Library coverage would allow these students to work on homework or read in the library until the activity buses arrive.
7. On Tuesday evenings, bi-weekly the school will keep the library open to provide computer access and assistance for parents who don't have computers or need help with Edline.
8. Morning announcements will be sent over email starting Friday or Monday. Sports try-outs for Cross Country and Soccer will start this week.

OLD Business:

1. Back to School Night will be held on September 17. The PTA will have a PTA information table as well as a "Meet and Greet" in the library. There will be a List-serve sign up and place to purchase the fund raiser cards as well. The school will provide Edline training in the library. Anyone able to help at the PTA table was asked to email Konnie Brantner.
2. Fund raising- Discussion of the Kathryn Beich process and do we want to do that or try some other fundraiser. Concern voiced because the goal wasn't met last year. Mr. Rattay stated that at end of the school locker clean out many Kathryn Beich packets were found in the bottom of lockers. It was decided to do Kathryn Beich this year and

- investigate other options for next year. Shalay Bevel volunteered to chair the Kathryn Beich fundraiser. We will try to get extra packets to pass out at back to school night.
3. Student Directory chair position still vacant. All present were asked to contact anyone they thought might be interested. Scott Smith did the Barnsley Directory for 3 years. He will be contacted to assess his interest. It was decided to give the directory to everyone and have extra copies available for purchase. This year the directory will be stapled and printed in black and white to lower costs. Kelli Potter will call the businesses who advertised last year about repeating. Until a Chairperson is identified the advertising copy will be forwarded to her. She will create a letter to go out in the backpacks asking for advertising ideas from parents.

New Business:

1. Treasurer Liz Novatny reviewed and led the discussion of budget expenses vs. income from last year. If the PTA doesn't hold a big fall fundraiser we will have to cut things supported in the past.
2. Sharon will send sympathy cards to the 3 teachers who recently lost family members.
3. The PTA calendar was presented and reviewed. Meetings will continue on the 2nd Tuesday of the month with a parent interest speaker. The speaker may be before or after the business meeting depending on their availability. Child care will not be provided. Refreshments will not be provided. To decrease meeting time Committee Chairs were asked to limit their presentations to basic facts and requests for volunteers.
4. Honor roll parties – Discussion held about having progressive perks for making the honor role more than once and for straight As. Mr. Rattay asked if we could include students who went from ineligible to eligible or most improved. Members were asked to forward ideas and opinions to Konni.
5. Susan Keady requested a date for the Dessert Day to be help for teachers in lieu of holiday gifts.

The meeting was closed at 8:50PM.