

Candia Parent Teacher Organization General Membership Meeting Minutes Monday November 10, 2008

Call to Order: The President called the meeting to order in the music room of the Henry W. Moore School at 7:10pm. An attendance list is available.

Movie Night: Kris explained that we are trying to do one movie per month to offer something to our families. The movie is free and we charge a small fee for snacks. We will be showing Kung Fu Panda on Friday November 14th and serving pretzels, popcorn and water. We are looking for ideas for a Dec. movie night.

After School Craft: The fall craft was very successful and had about 78 children participating on the 2 nights. Crafts are open for all kindergarten to 3rd grade students. We have some older siblings come and help. Dunkin Donuts is offering free donuts for the crafts which we serve with milk. We are looking for ideas for the Dec craft (Dec 16/17). Members suggested using foot prints cut out to make reindeer or pine cone ornaments with glitter. Any suggestions can be left in the PTO mailbox and will be returned.

Directory: We are ready to print these off with the exception of the staff pictures. Once we have those done, the directories will go home. The goal is the end of November.

School gift: An outdoor mat has been ordered and will be here within 4-6 weeks. It will have a blue background with white and black lettering "Henry W Moore Home of the Lancers". This will go outside the front doors and maintenance will use it as deems fit.

Playground Bake Sale: Troop 21606 earned about \$800 on voting day for the playground. They also had lots of donations to the Pennies for the Playground jar. Thanks to Jenn Patrick and her troop for coordinating the bake sale.

Playground: Mr. Lewis announced the Pennies for the Playground jar is almost half full. We will continue to collect money until Thanksgiving. After that the next contest will be to guess how much money is in the jar. Guesses will cost .10 cents apiece. The winner will win a free lunch with Mr. St Cyr, their favorite teacher and friend. Other on going fund raisers are to get corporate sponsors. We have sold 3 pickets for the fence already and will continue this. Jodi Hedstrom offered her router to inscribe names on the pickets. Mr. Lewis has received \$300 from the Dollars for Doers Program. Any Northeast Utility Employee is eligible for this company grant. The Stoneyfield Yogurt playground giveaway is national but keep the lids coming in. The playground funds are not in an interest bearing account but now that the balance is getting large enough, they will have to see who has the best rates for interest. Suggestion was made to sell the school spirit wrist bands at the school store for \$1.

BJ's Sponsorship: BJ's wholesale club is sponsoring our school. Danielle Salvetti is the Community Outreach who will be dealing with us. BJ's will donate \$1000 towards the school if the canned food drive brings in more than 1000 items. The food all stays in Candia too. The PTO will get \$50 gift cards every month to help defray out costs. Dec. 12th will be a shopping night for Candia residents and there will be activities and a scavenger hunt at BJ's. You do not need to have a membership to shop on

that night. We need to purchase /make a thank you sign for BJ's for sponsoring us. They are also going to donate raffle items. Kathy Bailey should be invited to the school board mtg on Dec. 4th since BJ's will be presenting the school with a check for \$1000. A suggestion was made that we need a "thermometer" to show how we are doing in relationship to our goal for the playground. Someone recommended using a slide with kids on it to show the progress or swing sets. Sonia McDaniel offered to help make a sign.

Boxtops: 5 webkinz were given out in the last contest. It was nice that some of the winners had several papers turned in. The next contest will be a class competition and classes will need to fill the forms in. It was a lot easier to submit the forms instead of counting. The winning class will win a holiday party. There is not a submission for boxtops right now but the kids enjoy the contests and it helps keep the kids bringing them in.

Communication: Several new means of communication were discussed. We should post the minutes to the meeting and the agenda to the website. We need to tack some copies to the bulletin board in the foyer for people to pick up. Have Mr. Lewis email the newsletter and agendas and minutes home with his newsletter. Also post the minutes and agendas in the teacher's room.

Secretary's Report: Judi Lindsey motion to accept the minutes from the Oct meeting. Deb Raiche seconded and a vote was taken. The secretary's minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: We have a total of \$2000 in the bank. The fall fund raiser money has not gone in the bank yet. A discussion on ways to raise funds ensued. Use kids artwork for gifts (mouse pads, mugs, stamps, etc). Sean McDaniel is willing to donate his time as balloon maker for an evening. This would be great to do with ice cream sundaes during Turn Off TV Week. We need to sell tickets ahead of time to this event. We could donate a picket to the playground for his fee. The Women's Club does gift wrapping at Barnes and Nobles and makes a lot of money. Sharon DeWitt will check on contact information at Barnes and Nobles. Students could pay to duck tape the principal or asst principal. Or hold a pie throwing contest where you just use whipped cream and pudding in the pie plate. We need to take advantage of the Shaws programs and the Stop and Shop programs. The Hannaford Dollars is about \$300 and will need to be submitted by Dec. 4th. Offer a Parents' Night Out and sell tickets ahead of time.

Activity: We have not done anything for grades 4,5 and 6. The crafts are k-3 and dances are middle school. What can we do for these kids? A suggestion of making fleece pillows was made.

Holiday Gift Shop: Kris mentioned that the gift shop will be different this year. Last year the gifts were pricey and junk. So we are using the same company and supplementing with Dollar Store items. Reindeer Lane is giving us money to help with students who can't afford to purchase items and are sending more bags and are agreeable to give us lots of things. We will be wrapping items Dec 2nd and the Holiday Gift Shop will be Dec 9, 10 and 11. We will talk with kindergarten teachers about allowing their kids to come down in small groups but in the past, they felt it was too overwhelming.

The meeting ended at 8:40pm. The next scheduled meeting is for Tuesday December 2nd.