

Rousseau PTO Meeting Minutes 2008-2009
September 15, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Jenni Jex, President. *A motion was made by Doug Ayars to approve the meeting minutes from the May 19th meeting. The motion was seconded by Sue Braun. The motion passed. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the July 28th meeting by Barb Solomon. The motion was seconded by Kelly Zoz. The motion passed. A motion was made by Lori Tackett to approve the minutes from the August 11th meeting and was seconded by Barb Solomon. The motion passed.*

General Reports (Principal) – Sue Braun announced that there are 492 students currently enrolled at Rousseau, which is 30 more than were expected.

Emily Goertzen was hired to teach kindergarten this year; however, due to personal reasons she could not continue. Kim Bowen was hired as a replacement, and is a great addition to Rousseau.

Traffic seems to be flowing smoothly. A suggestion was made to have an adult at the 33rd and Calvert intersection but it is against district rules to have a crossing guard unless there is a stop light present.

Positive feedback was received regarding the open house and fortunately Mother Nature cooperated. Jenni made a suggestion to include a map in next year's invitation as there seem to be quite a few parents who could not find the appropriate grade level teachers.

Security on the playground was discussed and Sue is thankful for the watchful eye of the teachers and parents.

(Presidents) – Jenni mentioned that 134 Spirit wear items were ordered last week with minimal markup.

Barb Solomon discussed the condition of the fish tank. A kindergarten mom cleaned the tank and has offered to maintain it. That would be very helpful as the fish tank is enjoyed not only by the staff but the students and visitors.

(Vice Presidents) – Lori Tackett and Kim Cook discussed the fundraiser kickoff that took place on the 5th of September. The deadline to turn in orders is the 19th of September. One order has come in thus far. They asked Sue to do a Connect-Ed to remind the parents of the deadline. They discussed coordination of shifts for those who are willing to help with the disbursement of orders.

(Treasurer) – Doug Ayars provided expenditure information and reports to the group.

Doug stated that he wants the PTA checking account to get as small as possible. A Special Grant Fund Allocation was discussed.

Doug wants to get a package together for the IRS, including bylaws.

The 2008-2009 budget was discussed:

Sue is in the process of picking out a display case to display the students' 3-D art. The cost is approximately \$730. There is a total of \$1500 budgeted for it, so two cases may be ordered.

Fundraiser earnings were down from \$42,000 to a \$30,000 potential.

Barb suggested raising the budget for the fish tank from \$100 to \$175 to cover the cost of supplies incurred by the new volunteer to maintain it, and all agreed.

Doug stated that each category can be further broken down into individual categories if that would be easier for some, but it may not be necessary. He mentioned that an expense does not need to be line itemized as long as it is within the budget.

Barb suggested that a committee be put together to go over the facility upgrades so as not to go over the budget. We may need to line itemize these expenses then present them to the Board for approval. An increase in the budget may be needed.

A motion to approve the budget with modification was made by Doug Ayars. Motion was seconded by Sue Braun. The motion passed.

(Secretary) – No report.

(Old Business) – No old business to discuss.

(New Business) – Kelly Zoz is the coordinator of the Box Tops fundraiser and stated there are two promotional events planned. The first will take place in the fall and the second in the spring.

Rousseau made the top 10 in the surrounding area, and Kelly would like our goal to be the top 10 in the state.

Kelly mentioned a seasonal theme for the promotion scheduled to start during the 2nd week in October with the Box Tops due the 31st. She welcomes any ideas.

She reminded us to sign up on the Box Tops website for a bonus as well as shop online.

Leah Redling discussed the after school classes that will be set up this fall. There will be a once weekly before school fitness class offered.

Deonne Bruning updated the bylaws last year, however they need to be reviewed and revised.

Announcements regarding upcoming events at Rousseau were made. Among these are a storyteller, parent teacher conferences, a skating party to be held on October 13th, and the Scholastic Book Fair will run from October 21st thru October 23rd. The ever-popular Waffleman Dinner, sponsored by the Character Council, is being held on October 21st.

A request for information surrounding the Nebraska Book Festival at the Children's Museum was made.

Adjournment - *A motion to adjourn was made by Leah Redling. Sue Braun seconded the motion. The motion passed.*

Next meeting: October 20, 2008

Submitted by: Melanie Whitmore, Secretary