

Rousseau PTA Meeting Minutes 2007-2008
January 28, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Deonne Bruning, President. *A motion was made by Diane McDonald to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2007, meeting. Motion was seconded by Victoria Miller. The motion passed.*

General Reports (Principal)- Sue Braun issued a thank you to PTA for sponsoring the Missoula Children's Theater. Again, MCT was a huge success and all Rousseau students were able to participate in the show and/or workshops. She reported roughly 440 tickets were sold. A thank you was given to the Bird and Snow families for hosting the actor/directors.

Staffing for the 2008-2009 school year will be coming up. Sue indicated there will be a reduction in grade sections due to the new schools that will be opening. Rousseau will be open to transfers. "Surplus" teachers will be eligible to interview in buildings with openings.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held in February and parents will be asked to complete arrival/dismissal plans for their children. Sue has received a few calls from parents asking to be removed from the "Connect Ed" system. If it is a district call, then she is unable to remove a parent from the list, however, parents can be removed from the Rousseau call/notification list upon request.

(Vice President)- Eastridge Elementary School PTA would like to borrow or rent Rousseau's Fun Night games. Sue made the suggestion to have Eastridge parents tear down our Fun Night and transport the items to their school at that time. Everyone agreed that we'd ask them to replace any thing that might be damaged. Chi Omega sorority will provide workers for Fun Night. Deonne is looking for workers to start planning and helping with details for Fun Night on April 11, 2008.

Diane informed the group that \$4,229.00 was made from the Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough sales. PTA will net 40% of the sales. Fifth grade (Clayburn) will have popcorn sales this week. Money will be used for the end-of-the-year party and the field trip to the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island this spring. Any surplus of money will go toward food or disposable cameras for the students.

(Treasurer)- Doug Ayars disseminated the latest budget information/spreadsheets. Of interest are Box Top earnings to date (\$1,446.08), and fifth grade pie sales profit of \$875.00 which will cover fees for buses to Grand Island. Kelly Zoz passed out a Box Top earning summary.

The IRS penalized the PTA for \$7,000.00 because of failure to timely supply a 990EZ tax form for 2005 and 2006. They were filed beyond allowable deadlines by our prior treasurer. The form needs to be turned in by November 15th each year. All non-profit organizations must file annually. The IRS did accept a letter of apology and the fine was

forgiven. This prompted a discussion of the group to have a framework in place of critical dates/timelines for the new board. Kelly Zoz suggested a manual and a retreat was another idea. The group felt with better communication that transitions would be easier and result in more people willing to assume board positions and responsibilities.

(New Business)- Barb Solomon inquired about the timing of the Scholastic Book Fair and wondered if it could be held in conjunction with Parent Teacher Conferences as several other schools hold it at that time. Diane McDonald mentioned that there has been discussion among the staff that the Book Fair be held next year at the same time as The Waffleman Fundraiser.

Books and Beyond- The theme for this year is “Celebrate Reading” and the kick-off is Friday, February 1st. Posters are up around the school and the kick-off will include dressing up as a favorite literary character on Spirit Day. Books and Beyond will end on March 14th and there will be a drawing at the end as opposed to Fridays. Medals will be purchased. Three parents have stepped up to help run the program this year: Ingrid Sepahpur, Susan Gleason, and Kris Costello.

Box Tops for Education- Kelly and the group discussed a “quick” campaign to collect more box tops before the end-of-February. The group consensus was to do a school-wide activity which results in an effort to top the fall drive and let students help select the kind of playground equipment (etc.) when the campaign ends. Amie Callahan and Diane Snow will work together on details for the campaign.

PTO vs. PTA- Doug will investigate the pros and cons of these two organizations and list it as an agenda item, possibly for discussion at the 2-25-08 Board meeting.

After School Classes- Barb Solomon passed around information for the spring classes which will be sent home with students this week. Doug Ayars suggested adding a liability statement to the registration form and read the YMCA liability statement to the group. Similar wording will be added to our form. Everyone agreed it was necessary to try to have a better handle on the arrival and departure of students who participate in after school classes.

Jill Bird motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Victoria Miller. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 25, 2008

Submitted by: Jill Bird, Secretary