

**Nativity School Parent-Teacher Organization
Meeting Minutes for September 12th, 2006**

Present: Cindy Hutchins, Grant Benjamin, Lee Hoedl, Dave Groth, Amy Mathias, Jeff Jacobson, Tim Scott, Tammy Hoganson, Maren Ortmeier, Lori Dietz, Alison Dye, Molly Thomas, Chad Flanagan, Kathy Setness, Rita Visser, Mr. Markwardt, Ms. Kaiser

Opening Prayer

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from August 14th, 2006 meeting approved.

Motion to approve by Rita Visser, second to motion by Dave Groth. Unanimous vote to approve.

Members/Guests to be heard: None present.

Principal's Report – Cindy Hutchins

- Thanks for help with Back to School Night & Donut Days.
- 3 staff members, Christin Bessette, Mary Jo Traynor and Ms. Watski in conjunction with the Roughrider Conference are working on establishing a Nutrition & Wellness program with future discussion of how to incorporate into snack day, hot lunch, room parties, etc.
- Total enrollment is now at 371 students.

Teacher's Report – Ms. Kaiser reported that it seems we are off to a good start of the school year with the Donut Days, but would like to move the date up earlier in the future. Already into the middle of the month when the last Donut Day is held.

Treasurer's Report –

- Jeff thoroughly presented budget going through and discussing each line item, as well as year to day and variance summaries. Some key items pointed out were the \$1,000 dropped budget for the carnival night in anticipation of bad weather on carnival night. Increase budget income for raffle as last years turn out was phenomenal and are expecting the same this year. Received a \$800 check from Wal-Mart which was designated to be used towards athletics. Also received a \$600 check from Target. Box Tops and Happy Joe's fundraisers will be used as their own line item as "cushions". Skateland parties have been zeroed out as they did not generate much revenue. See more regarding the Skateland parties in the Fund Raising Report. There is \$20,000 in the savings account that is carryover from year to year. There was discussion regarding Technology Fund – how much to budget for computer batteries, computer life, when will these need to be updated/replaced and cost of them.

Officers' Reports

A. President – Lee Hoedl

- Thank you notes for the new risers from Mrs. Koudela and start up fees from Mrs. Thorseon.
- There is a PTO Mailbox in the office if anyone is interested to stop by and check for notes.
- There will be a Monthly PTO Newsletter created by Lee and sent home with 1 student/household the week following each PTO meeting. Lee also requested a brief paragraph be submitted by each Committee Coordinator to be included in the newsletter.

B. Vice President – Dave Groth

- Dave is happy to be on board.

C. Past President – Grant Benjamin

- Grant has been approached regarding adding the color "pink" to the uniforms. Grant would like to work through Nativity PTO before going to FCSN. Mrs. Hutchins is going to find the history and classification of the uniform code and see if this is an option. Mrs. Hutchins also suggested the Student Life Subcommittee of the FCSN would possibly be the body that would handle this issue.
- Lengthy discussion regarding parking issues. In the mornings, vehicle pulling into the bus drop off area. Grant is going to try and work his schedule to be in the parking lot in the next week as a reminder. Also, the Fargo Police Dept. (as well as the Mayor, Bishop and Mrs. Hutchins) have received complaints from neighbors in the area. The City of Fargo is also working to have 2 "No Parking" signs placed near the exit driveway and beyond the crosswalks. Crosswalks across 11th Street are also to be repainted. In the afternoons, there seem to be several parents who are parking in the pick up zone and leaving their vehicles unattended. This is making it very difficult for traffic to flow out of the lot. A reminder will be put in the Monthly PTO Newsletter regarding this. Mrs. Hutchins is also going to check the contract with Meritcare in regards to the parking lot space allotment. Maren has volunteered to work the parking lot in the afternoon a couple of times to place reminders on the cars that are left unattended in the pickup/dropoff only zone. Mrs. Hutchins will work on writing the cards for Maren to use.

D. Secretary – Amy Mathias

- Nothing to report..

Committee Reports

A. Public Relations Coordinator – Tammy Hoganson

- Back to School Night went well – thanks to all who helped.
- Should send out notices/invites for Donut Day next year, rather than just putting on the school calendar.
- Need to decide on a date for the Family Fall Dance.

B. Fund Raising Coordinator – Lori Dietz

- No more monthly Skateland Parties. Thought being to move the Skateland Parties to the Public Relations Committee and use as Family Fun Nights two times during the year.
- Kids Cards – Pam Bossart still in charge. No Christmas cards this year, only All Occasion cards. Thinking of doing a calendar next year, rather than cards.
- Box Tops and Soup Labels – Janelle Pederson still in charge.
- Tim Scott checked on the Minn-Kota Recycling Program. Gave to Lori to review. Information regarding on how to specify funds go to Nativity at the recycling drop-off to be included in the monthly Newsletter.

C. Curriculum Coordinator – Molly Thomas

- Curriculum Committee is meeting the 1st Weds. of each month at 12:30 PM. Chad is checking with the FCSN regarding updating the website. Will find out what parents would like to see, i.e. menu, calendar, daily pop-ups, etc.

D. Volunteer Coordinator – Kathy Setness

- Kathy has compiled Excel spreadsheets with volunteer information for each committee. Kathy to send email with spreadsheets.

Old Business

- Review of Fall Back to School Night – What could we do to improve?
Move fee payment table to south side of gym so as not to block the Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts/DI/4-H/Uniform Exchange tables that were hidden by the line. Perhaps move these extra curricular tables to the lunchroom and direct people in there. If anyone has ideas or suggestions, please email Tammy.
- Potential Donut Man Concert Sponsorship –
Donut Man has agreed to drop the price. Diocese will pick up some of the cost, take up a Free Will Offering at the church concerts, etc. Michele Herrington to get final details.

New Business

- Future PTO Meetings Schedule
1st Monday of each month at 6:15 PM in the library.
- Nativity Winter Carnival Update – Lee presented 2007 Nativity Carnival Map and Initial Carnival Committee Formation. Still need to fill some positions. Also discussed keeping the Sunday afternoon after the Carnival as an open date in case of inclement weather on Carnival Night.

Adjournment: Grant Benjamin move to adjourn. Maren Ortmeier second the motion. Unanimous vote to adjourn.

Next Meeting: Oct. 2nd, 2006, 6:15 PM in the library

Prepared by Amy Mathias, PTO Secretary