

## Lake Tapps Elementary School PTA

### General PTA Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2011

This scheduled meeting was held at the DHES library. It was called to order at 6:07 by President, Brenda Foster. Proper notice was given and quorum was present. Sign in sheet is attached.

#### President's Report:

- President, Brenda Foster, welcomed all those in attendance. She reminded everyone attending to sign in, sign up for door prizes, and get a nametag. The Executive Board was introduced. Elliott Bay, the fundraising company, is present tonight and has provided cookies for the meeting. Samples of some of the merchandise that will be sold during the fall fundraiser are on display as well. Contact the executive board or sign up in the back if you are interested in volunteering for an activity. Please refer to website for up to date information regarding PTA activities. Thanks to the Hospitality Committee for providing first day treats for the staff at both schools.

#### Secretary's Report:

- Minutes from the April 12, 2010 LTES General PTA Meeting were distributed by Secretary, Amalea Maxfield, and approved as written. The next General Meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2012. Minutes will be on the LTES PTA website for review.

#### Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer's Report was distributed and reviewed. See attached. Kristy has copies of the year-end report for 2010-11 for review.

#### Principal's Report:

- Connie GeRoy, LTES Principal, expressed pleasure with the large turnout at the meeting. She thanked the PTA for the treats on the first day of school as well as the packet stuffing workers. Mrs. GeRoy reports that LTES has had the smoothest beginning ever. They have the largest group of first graders ever at LTES. The children are learning the routines and expectations of school. They have had many newly registering students as well as students transferring from DHES. LTES has their largest population with 455 students. They have started Dibels testing today and will continue to assess all of the children. There will also be some math assessments on the computer.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders did very well on MSP testing last year and were ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in all school districts in reading. They were considerably above the state average and made progress from previous years. Parent Orientation Nights start Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> and will run through Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup>. All orientations start at 6:00 and will no longer offer childcare. LTES will have their first

assembly on the 20<sup>th</sup> funded by the PTA titled “Space Ally” which has an anti-bullying theme. The school newsletter will start being distributed electronically in two weeks.

- Kevin Anderson, DHES Principal, welcomed the PTA to the building and expressed pleasure with the PTA presence and support in the schools. DHES will be sending out newsletters electronically starting next week. This big change will save money and staff time as well as help the schools move forward with technology. The school year opening has been smooth. DHES continues to grow and they have 24 classroom groups this year. They have their highest number of early childhood students they have had so far. They currently have 565 students enrolled. MSP scores were up across the district in almost every category and they compare very well to other districts. The OSPI web site has further information regarding this. DHES scores have improved considerably from the previous year and they are pleased with the progress particularly in 5<sup>th</sup> grade math scores compared to the previous year.

DHES has a number of activities coming up. Their curriculum nights are later in the year than they have been in the past. They will be on 9/22, 9/27, 9/29 and there will be some format changes in the curriculum night. The K2 Family Activity Night will occur as well.

#### Committee Reports:

Cookie Dough, Christy—Elliott Bay has brought cookies to the meeting. The cookie dough tastes really good this year and is from a different company than the previous year. This is the big opportunity to raise funds for the PTA. Students are encouraged to sell to family and friends. The fundraiser starts tomorrow with assemblies and ends on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. November 9<sup>th</sup> is cookie dough pick up day and they could use pick up day volunteers. Brenda mentioned that this fundraiser is the main source of income for the PTA and allows the PTA to provide all of the activities during the school year.

Carnival, Anne Marie reported for Kristy—The committee now has a co-chair for carnival and they are just getting started in planning the carnival on October 21<sup>st</sup>. They plan to send out a flier next week requesting volunteers and intend to hire a company to provide the game portion of the carnival. The committee is exploring using a different company that will make the planning process easier. They could use further volunteers to co-chair the carnival and are open to breaking the carnival down into portions for people to help with.

Book Fair, Jessica—Jessica distributed a sign up for volunteering for the book fair. It is scheduled for October 17-21 and will occur during the carnival as well. The theme is “To the book fair and beyond, reading is out of this world.” The Scholastic Representative reports that our schools are her biggest account.

Box Tops, Lisa—Box Tops deadlines are November 5<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>. Lisa is doing a webinar with the Box Tops company tomorrow where she can get ideas on how to do box tops and bring in more money for our schools. Fundraising has procured ipods to give away at each school as a motivator for bringing in box tops. The person who turns in the most box tops at each school will get to have lunch with the principal. Lisa has two volunteers for counting box tops. Costco and Sams has boxes with 6 box tops on them right now so PTA members can keep their eyes on buying this merchandise.

Brenda mentioned that 80,000 points of Campbells soup labels have been donated to our school and have been used to buy playground equipment. They have 40,000 more of these donated points available to buy further playground equipment when it is needed.

Membership, Brenda—Brenda reports that there is a large number of people who submitted memberships. If you become a PTA member before 9/30, you will be entered in a drawing to win a prize.

Yearbook, DeeDee—The committee is talking to 3 different yearbook companies and will make a decision about which company they will use next week. They expect to use a different company than Jostens this year and hope to have more color pages. There will be a link to send pictures to in the future but this is not yet available.

School Programs, Lisa for Sue--There is an upcoming Assembly by the Taproot Theatre on 9/20 at LTES and 10/24 at DHES. Parents are invited to attend the assemblies. They will be scheduling more assemblies throughout the year

Hospitality, Tabitha/Jen/Debi—Treat bags were distributed to all of the staff including transportation on the first day of school. The committee is planning a conference time luncheon in October and will send an e-mail requesting help with this event. The goal is to provide a monthly gesture to the staff communicating how much they are appreciated.

Family Activities, Serena/Christina—An outdoor movie night with dessert and beverages is scheduled for this Friday night, 9/16, showing the movie, Cats and Dogs. There is a skate night scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup> and fliers will be distributed on Thursday. The committee could use help with set up for events.

Reflections, Kathy—Reflections is a national PTA arts program and contest where kids have an opportunity to express themselves in a number of different artistic methods. Two of the Dieringer School District entries (out of 8) won the state contest last year. They are hoping to work more with the art docents this year in order to get more kids involved in the Reflections program. The theme this year is “diversity means.....” Due dates for entries are 11/21/11. The awards ceremony/celebration will probably occur the first week in January. Reflections hopes to do an after school information session this year to help the kids get started with their projects. They will need more people to help with the Reflections Program and Kathy is distributing a sign-up sheet. Their specific needs are help on the 11/21/11 due date and the awards banquet.

Art Docent, Kimm—Volunteers are needed for all of the classrooms. There will be an orientation on the first week of October. They are getting things started and organized.

RAH, Julie—RAH is a program encouraging children to read. RAH calendars were distributed early in the back to school packets and participants will get prizes each month. Students also have the opportunity to eat lunch with the principal if they have the most reading minutes in a month. The program has been modified slightly this year. They continue to need help with counting minutes at DHES and the RAH lunches. There is a link on the LTES PTA website to the RAH calendars if you misplace the calendar.

Shamrock Fun Run, Crista—The Fun Run returned in 2011. The committee plans to have a Fun Run again this year. They have tentatively scheduled the date of Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> and hope to increase participation. They have two people who have volunteered to help get sponsors for the event. They also plan to send home a flier offering companies and families an opportunity to sponsor the event with new levels of sponsorship.

New Business:

Standing Rules: Jen Shears moved and Andrea Hanschell seconded that the Standing Rules be approved with Article 22B modified—cookie dough changed to “Fall Fundraiser” and Missoula Children’s Theatre changed to “Children’s Theatre.” The motion passed.

Nominating Committee: Brenda is seeking volunteers to be on the nominating committee. This committee recruits and recommends people for the Executive Board for next school year. Please contact Brenda if you are interested in helping on this committee or have someone you would recommend for the committee.

Golden Acorn Committee: The responsibilities of this committee occur in the spring. They will take submissions of people who have supported the PTA and present the Golden Acorn Award to a worthy volunteer. Brenda is looking for someone who is interested in heading up that committee.

Door prizes were received by Serena Velhelmson, Heather Hanson, and Jen Shears.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15PM.

Minutes submitted by Amalea Maxfield