

# PTO MEETING NOTES

JANUARY 6, 2012

## ATTENDANCE:

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*Meeting Lead by Wendi Hill; Notes taken by B Allen*

### Principal's Report (as given by Mrs. Standefer)/Teacher's Report

The "**Bunny Bucks**" money from Grandrabbits Toy Shoppe is in. We decided that a drawing will be held at a Staff Meeting with 2 winners, consisting of one teacher from each pod, getting to spend this money.

**Heatherwood was awarded the John Irwin Award.** This award is given to schools that "exceed" expectations on the 3-year school performance for academic achievement and that "meet or exceed" expectations related to academic growth.

The **5<sup>th</sup> graders** are doing really great this year and are maturing into good, responsible learners.

**The Open Enrollment Tours** went well and we had a larger turnout than usual.

The **CAP presentations** for teachers and parents happened last night and the individual classroom presentations will continue over the next few weeks. Parents are welcome to observe another classroom other than their child's if they want to, and are strongly encouraged to talk to their children after. A conflict may exist for Mrs. Hamlen's class (concerning a visit to Choice Platte) so the schedule will be checked and appropriate actions taken. All parents should know when their children will be participating in the presentation through communication with either Renee or Tami.

**Parent Math Night** is January 19 from 6-7:30pm. The night will start with everyone together in the gym for 20 minutes, and then go to the individual classrooms where parents will be doing activities to see how their children are learning math. The focus will be on computation which is currently the biggest parent concern. Should we provide babysitting? Yes. We'll send home a signup sheet flyer which must be returned by Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> so PTO will know how many babysitters to provide. In future years can we have it earlier in the year?

The **New Principal Search** is underway. The opening will be posted for 6 weeks, then a community forum will be held, followed by interviews in early March.

Thank you to everyone involved with the yummy **Holiday Treats!** The teachers and staff really appreciated them.

Holiday Bazaar - We made \$500 at this year's Holiday Bazaar. Next year we will need a new chairperson, and we should think about combining the event with a Hot Shots show to draw a bigger crowd. It is a LOT of work to put on this event, and it is a LOT of work for the vendors for not too big of a profit. All of this should be considered while planning next year's event.

### Budget

H.I.M. donations have exceeded our goal! We budgeted \$1500 in Corporate Matching funds and have collected \$1000 so far. We have already collected twice what we budgeted for Restaurant Nights. We collected \$100 more than we budgeted for the Holiday Bazaar. We earned triple what we budgeted with the Payback Books (thanks to Wendi for pushing for the books to go home in Friday Folders-it worked!).

### Hug-N-Go

Heatherwood won the national Over Star Award as the #1 Elementary School in the country for our Hug-N-Go systems. Congratulations!!! Other good news is that the new signs are great, in general Hug-N-Go is working well, and Heatherwood is a safer school because of it. Thank you to everyone who has worked hard to help with all the changes. Unfortunately, some parents are not happy with Hug-N-Go. We will continue to work with them and hope they can see the benefits of a safer school for their children. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders decided to make laminated "tickets" that they will give to cars who are in violation of Hug-N-Go rules. These sheets will inform parents of proper Hug-N-Go pick-up and drop-off procedures.

### Barnes-N-Noble Fundraiser

This year's event raised approximately \$750 which is a little more than last year.

### Box Tops

So far we have raised \$850 and our goal was \$1000. We have another competition coming up which ends on February 17. Last year we made \$1104.

### Web Site

Wendi asked everyone to look at Heatherwood's website and make comments or suggestions. Four suggestions were made: we need Doug Sammond, the AR books should be part of the website, there should be a quick link to paying for school lunches on the home page, and classroom schedules should be posted as well.

### Donuts with Dudes

Donuts with Dudes is coming up Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:15—7:55am. Volunteers are still needed!

### Science Fair

The Science Fair is January 26<sup>th</sup>. Smiling Moose Deli will be providing pasta dinners for \$5. In addition, the Student council wants to do a Bake Sale.

### Muffins with Moms

Muffins with Moms will be held Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7:15-7:55am in the cafeteria.

### Valentine's Day – Tuesday, February 14

Children will exchange valentine's in their classrooms as long as they bring one for every child and do not include food treats. There was a lot of discussion about homemade vs. store-bought cards (it was decided to let individual families decide what they wanted to do), and about whether toys or stickers would be allowed in the valentine's (it was decided that the teachers could decide what they wanted for their individual classrooms). Also, the children will have the opportunity to send extra valentine's to school to give to others (i.e. soldiers or soldiers' families).

### Book Fair

The Book Fair is coming March 12-22 and will try to be coordinated around conferences. The theme is unknown and this time there will be mostly evening hours.

### PEN and DPLT

PEN (Parent Engagement Network) and DPLT (Diversity Parent Leadership Team) wants to create a new group to help Heatherwood parents connect with other parents. This meeting will last 1 ½ hours, childcare will be provided, and Sacha Mittelman, the school psychologist, will attend as well. Open Enrollment families and Special Needs families can be specifically contacted and invited because this information is known. Other parents are definitely encouraged to attend as well. This meeting is set for Wed, Jan. 25 at 5:30pm at Karen Zeid's house.

### School Supply and Advance Ordering

We need to find a chair person for this. Jill Williams offered to help with the transition once this person is found.

### Spring Fling/Art Walk

The Spring Fling/Art Walk will be held in April. Room Parents will either need to be in charge of this project or find another parent who could be the rep for this event.

### Additional Principal's Report (reported by Mr. O)

**Solar panels**, similar to those at the Water Treatment Plant, will be installed on the SW corner of Heatherwood's property in the spring. This land is really not usable for much else and they will provide about 30% of the school's electricity. A kiosk will be installed inside the school to show the different voltages used around Heatherwood.

**Dr. Messinger** visited Heatherwood from the District. It was a good and positive visit.