

Washington Primary PTA
September 23, 2009 Meeting Overview
Notes delivered by: Sheri Lewis-Taylor, Co-President



The general meeting was held in the Cafeteria at Washington Primary school and was pretty well attended. The 'Pledge of Allegiance' was recited by all, new Board members introduced themselves and the PTA welcomed the new parents to the School.

Our annual budget was presented by Laurie Wickey, Treasurer, for approval by vote from the general body. Review and discussion ensued and a motion was entered to accept the budget, as presented, into formal record. By unanimous vote {show of hands}, the motion carried and the budget was entered into formal record for the 2009-2010 year.

Principal Neville gave her report and addressed the 'over capacity' issue existing at Washington this year. Construction was done over night during the first two weeks to make additional space. A fifth session of Kindergarten was approved by the HUFSD Board of Ed and implemented. Classes were shuffled around, closets and storage rooms were converted and staff re-scheduling was almost complete {gym teachers could not take on another session as they are in contract to report to a different building at certain times during the day}. She also addressed health concerns – purell is not to be shared at school but is allowed to be used by a child should their parent wish to provide them with it. Received school supplies donations from Sweeties.

Due to rescheduling the Librarian, Ms. White, will not be able to attend morning PTA meetings. The REACH program was implemented for ALL students this year and will be provided by Ms. White. Students will meet for their REACH sessions every other week. The Hispanic Read-In will take place on Thursday, September 24th. A story book will be read to every classroom in English and Spanish, concurrently, throughout the day.

Committee reports were presented as follows:

Currently in progress

- Pre-packaged school supplies were delivered in time for the start of school. PTA received overwhelming positive feed back for providing this service from parents
- Coupon Book {Kids Stuff} went home the 2nd week of September and will close on September 30th
- Gift wrap brochures {Sally Foster} went home Sept 22nd and will close Oct 9th

Pending and Upcoming

- Kindergarten Social 10/2/09 {will not be a bowling social as none of the bowling venues offered hours of play later than 4pm due to leagues}
- Monster Mash 10/23 {to be held in school's gymnasium}
- Fall Pictures 10/28 {payment due up-front}
- Barnes and Noble event 11/6 {committee will attend 10/3 workshop}

Announcements shared:

- 1). Committee sign-up sheets were made available and if signing up for a 2010 event, a reminder will be sent to all volunteers around the 1st of the year.
- 2). If interested in being a Class Representative please enter your name in the respective class lottery. Unlike other committee's, this is a year round obligation. From time to time you will assist the Classroom teacher and the PTA with events, programs and information. All Class Reps are expected to attend the monthly PTA meetings and adhere to the policies and procedures that govern all tasks.
- 3). The Parents have requested benches for the front of our school and the PTA did receive approval from the general body in June 2009 to shop for cast iron benches. We hope to have the benches installed this fall. No contract for purchase has been finalized.
- 4). Next BOE meeting is Monday, October 5th at 7pm and next PTA meeting is Wednesday, October 21st at 9:15am.

Public Commentary:

- 1). Parents addressed their concerns about the cleaning products used in the HUFSD and want to make sure they are effective in sanitizing the school. Mrs. Neville suggested we contact Building and Grounds to receive information of the sanitizing process and products used.
- 2). Parents inquired about the tree that was donated by Mr. Ahern to replace the dead tree that was removed last spring. The parents were advised that the PTA has not been involved in this transaction as the tree was donated to the school and is therefore being handled by the school Principal and Building and Grounds. The PTA will follow-up as to the status of this donation.
- 3). Parents addressed concerns of over capacity / fire codes. Mrs. Neville did not know the exact school capacity but did state that we were well over. She reassured the parents that learning will continue at the level we all expect even though some of the educational sessions will take place in refigured closets and storage rooms.
- 4). Parents addressed concerns that Washington is not being sufficiently staffed to match the increased student head count. Will need to be addressed at the BOE meeting.