

Creek Valley PTA Executive Board
Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2010 9:30am

Present: Co-Presidents Carin Mehan and Beth Hanson, Co-Presidents-Elect Joan and Eric Bjelland, Secretary Suzanne Klein, Principal Kari Dahlquist, Site Council Representatives Shanna Flynn, Treasurer Rhondi Miller, Treasurer-Elect Kara Stechmann

Present for next year's team: Co-President-Elect Julie James, Treasurer-Elect Chelsea Korsh, Secretary Deb Hanson, Site Council Eleni Glerum

Absent: Site Council Representative Kimberly Barrett

Absent for next year's team: Co-President-Elect Bonnie Smith

- I. Call to Order (Carin/Beth)
The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m.
- II. Approval of Agenda (Carin)
The agenda was approved as amended.
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Suzanne)
The minutes were approved as amended. May minutes to be approved electronically by June.

IV. Report of Officers

-Treasurer's Report (Rhondi/Kara)

Rhondi said she would like to get all expenses, receipts, etc. by the end of the school year.

--Budget (Current) Review

Rhondi reported the YTD Total 2009/2010 income as \$55,083, which is \$9,008 over the 2009-10 budget. The YTD 2009/10 Total Expenses were reported as \$29,578 with approximately \$1,500 outstanding expenses left for the year. The YTD Net Income was reported as \$25, 506.

Rhondi will provide Eric the revised budget by the end of May. Rhondi will also provide Beth a report on income vs. expenses from year-to-year.

-Co-Presidents' Report (Carin/Beth)

--PFN submissions were discussed. Eric will add a volunteer sign-up for fall.

--Calendar committee—there were no updates to report.

--Suggestion box comments—Carin reported that most of the suggestions in the last month were regarding carnival. She organized and sent those suggestions along to the Carnival Committee.

--Grants/Donation—Ms. Hawkinson and Mr. Wuest would each like 15 stop watches to use for peer monitoring of repeated readings; Motria will check into donations regarding this.

Beth gave a report on iTouches: they can be used in classroom for math facts, spelling, and reading skills—virtually every subject. She said she talked to Apple and they were willing to provide a discount on a cart plus 31 iTouches, costing approximately \$6,000. Beth will collect more information from her teacher contact. Kari said Highlands has used this, and that the Creek Valley staff has not requested this. Eric suggested bringing this to

Site Council. Perhaps Site Council can go to Highlands to learn about it next year.

-Co-President's Report

--Open chair positions:

Eric went through their list of open chair positions to get suggestions on possible volunteers. There was an extended discussion regarding Artsonia as it involves a large commitment in volunteer hours. Eric said that this needs a co-chair or else it won't be possible to sustain next year. Eric will put the committee chairs up on website.

Several suggestions were discussed regarding all open positions.

--Budget

Eric submitted a proposed budget to the board. Major changes included decreases in the budgeted income for Artsonia (\$300 decrease), Boxtops (\$1,000 decrease), and Gift Wrap (\$5,000 decrease). Increases in budgeted income included Barnes and Noble Book Fair (up \$300), Parents Only Fall Fundraiser (\$3,000), and Mom's Night Out (\$2,000). Most changes were made based on 2009/10 actual revenue. There was an overall increase in budgeted total income of \$3,250.

Decreases in budgeted expenses included Art Adventures (from \$200 to \$0 as it has been eliminated), Media Center (down \$4,000), New Families (down \$100), 5th Grade Transition Speakers (down \$100), Pride Day (down \$500), and Social Worker Fund (down \$350). Increases in budgeted expenses included Cultural Speaker (up to \$595), 5th Grade Service Council (up \$700), 4th Grade Advisory Council (up \$200), Global Citizen Fund (up \$2,500), Math Night (up \$100), PTA Carnival Donation (up to \$190), PTA August Conference (up to \$100), Room Party Expense (up \$4,000), and School Signage (up \$100).

Kara will make the changes to the proposed 2010-11 budget and approval will occur electronically some time in June.

--New computers for fall

Eric asked if the PTA should go ahead and pay for the 10 new computers or if we should wait and run this through grants/donations. The computers cost approximately \$10,000 with the discount. Kari said we should go ahead with both: order and also go through grants/donations. Kari said that Site Council discussed antiquated state of many of the computers the school uses. We probably need 100 of them. Eric asked for a specific needs list. That way we can make that the mission of our fall fund raiser. Kari said there is need for 10 computers immediately, so we should go ahead with the plan to buy those right now. Then, talk to Motria about grants/donations.

--Calendar

Carin mentioned that the volunteer training was removed from the calendar. Kari said that, legally, we do not have to do this in the building; volunteers can be trained online. Volunteers would read and sign confidentiality/volunteer documents online.

-Site Council's Report (Shanna)

Shanna reported that Site Council had a discussion regarding computers. Mr. Wuest asked Site Council for a curtain in the Media Center to help with visual distraction. The PTA Board agreed to put this on our agenda in the fall. Shanna said that the teachers reported that they missed early conferences last year. They would like less bus duty. There was much discussion regarding bus duty, from having parents volunteer for this (high maintenance) to paying a Para to do this. Kari said they want to have 100% participation in the early conferences, so they will wait for feedback. Shanna said that they discussed volunteer recognition (Pride Day). The Board agreed that this is a worthwhile event. The Board discussed having it at beginning of the day (to better

accommodate working parents), and having better advertising. The board agreed it is important to give our children the opportunity to show their appreciation.

-Principals report

Kari has heard from several people regarding the issue of resurfacing the playground. It is expensive (one quote was approximately \$40,000). She had suggestions of painting a map or four square or other games on the current surface. Eric mentioned tapping into the Creek Valley community to see if we could get a discount/donation for resurfacing.

Kari reported the following staffing changes: Ms. Winter will teach 3rd grade, Ms. Powell will teach 4th grade.

DCD is expanding, it will be moving to 4th grade hall.

Kari handed out information regarding District Budget information located on the web.

Kari said that the Education Fund granted Creek Valley \$2,000 for the purchase of cameras. The Edina Education Fund also donated \$4,000 which will go either for a few document cameras and/or another smart board. She reminded us that the Education Fund specifies their donation toward technology trends.

Kari took the PTA Board through information from the Rtl Conference. While going through this information, she reminded us that we are still in a pilot phase. (It takes 6 years to perfect.) She took us through some of their findings and said that the teachers are working hard to meet the needs of individual students. Some statistics show the success of the program: the number of 6th graders who qualify for reading help is down by more than 50% for fall 2010 from fall 2009. The number of 6th graders who score below the 50th percentile in Math is down more than 75% for fall 2010 from fall 2009. Kari also showed statistics that for both Math and Reading in grades 3-5, there actual growth in the average scores was more than the expected growth.

V. Report by Committee Chairs

-Deb Hanson reported that the Carnival grossed \$32,539.89 this year. She said that expenses were higher, at \$9,012.91 (due to the shorter time frame). She said that most of the cost was associated with prizes this year. There was discussion regarding the need to look at where we're getting the prizes; if we are getting the best deal. The net income for the Carnival was \$23,526.98. Eric commended the committee on beating the budget (\$20,000). Deb recommends having more detailed budget and spending data breakdowns for better analysis and prep for the next year's Carnival.

VI. 2009-10 Service Awards/Adjourn (Carin/Beth)

Carin and Beth thanked the committee and bid farewell. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Suzanne Klein.