

**Granger Elementary PTO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 31, 2007**

PTO President Barb Wright called the meeting to order at 9:15am. She thanked everyone for coming and mentioned how it seemed so long since we had last met.

She said the PTO had received numerous Thank You notes. Most of them were from teachers and staff in regard to their Christmas luncheon and gift. There was a nice card from Children's Hospital of Akron about the more than 250 stuffed animals we donated. We also received a nice letter from the Sharing Center about the monies we had donated in the name of Santa (Don Beck). Sherry Patterson also sent a note that she and Shawn were delighted with the gifts and generosity.

Angie Sollenberger suggested we post the Thank You notes on the PTO Board in the front hallway.

Barb thanked Gail Gold and Brenda Kucinski for organizing Amazone and Skate night, respectively.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Collins went over her calendar of upcoming events.

1. Feb. 2 Spaghetti Dinner
2. Feb. 5 Kindergarten Diagnostic Testing
3. Feb. 6 Bus – Front door Evacuation Drills
4. Feb. 8 3rd Grade Peer Leaders
5. Feb. 10 Jump Rope Presentation at HHS
6. Feb. 14 Alternate Day Valentine Parties
7. Feb. 15 Valentine Parties
8. Feb. 16 No School – Professional Development Day
9. Feb. 19 No School – President's Day
10. Feb. 20 Market Day
11. Feb. 21 DARE begins for 5th grade
12. Feb. 23 Interim reports go home
13. Feb. 27 Kindergarten Fine Arts "A Whirl of Puppets"
14. Feb. 28 PTO Meeting

Mrs. Collins then requested volunteers to help with the COSI On Wheels event that will take place on March 8, 2007. She needs 3-4 volunteers to help unload the truck and set up the show on March 7, after school (do not know the time yet). On Wednesday, 18-20 volunteers are needed all day, they must attend a volunteer orientation that will take place from 8:15-8:45 that morning. Volunteers should also plan to stay and help clean up at the end of the day. Mary Miller made a motion that the PTO pay for lunches for the volunteers that day. Angie Raynor seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Next, Mrs. Collins explained to the group that she had purchased four sets of risers for Granger. Until then when risers were needed, they were borrowed from the Middle School. She thought that all the students of one grade level would be able to fit on four sets. Unfortunately, the extra set would be needed to accommodate all the students. She asked the PTO if they would purchase one set at a cost of \$1438 – plus shipping which should be about \$200– so the full cost would be approximately \$1638. Gail Kelly made a motion to purchase a set of risers. Teresa Holland Gresock seconded the motion.

Mrs. Collins announced she would be having a Financial Meeting with a group teachers and Barb on February 14 to discuss long range financial planning. This building, she pointed out, had been playing catch for the past three years, but now that we are caught up, it is time to look ahead for the next two to five years. After this meeting she will also be able to decide on how many scanners she can order. Hopefully, it will be one per grade level. These scanners are to be used in conjunction with the Interwrite boards. Mrs. Collins then expressed an interest in obtaining an Interwrite board for Mrs. Frambaugh. Teresa Holland Gresock would like to earmark the funds from the “Read-a-Thon” for technology and items like an Interwrite board.

Next, Mrs. Collins Desk explained to the group that now the janitors are sanitizing the desk tops in each room on a weekly basis. Currently, this is the only building where this is being done.

Mrs. Collins explained the new Granger Gifts program. It was just started in an effort to recognize random acts of kindness. Check out the bulletin board by the library.

Also, new to our building is a program Mrs. Zachrias is working with called “Art to Remember.” Student’s art work is made into t-shirts, mousepads, mugs, etc. Proceeds from the sale of the items will go to Mrs. Zachrias allowing her to purchase art supplies, such as an additional drying rack.

To wrap up her report, Mrs. Collins recognized, Mrs. Tina Hummel – Granger Secretary – for all of the outstanding work she does.

GUEST SPEAKER

Moriah Ice, the school’s guidance counselor, spoke to the group on the different ways she works with the students. On average she visits each classroom 12 times a year to go over such things as social skills and conflict resolution. She also meets with students individually and in small groups. Parents should feel free to use her as a resource. Email is the best way to reach her.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Angie reported on the budget and the forecast for the rest of the year. She had some questions for some Committees as to when allocated funds would be spent. She pointed out to the group that a savings plan or earmarking funds for certain projects would be a good idea. Barb thanked Angie for pointing this out and said this is something the Budget

Committee should work on. Mary Miller pointed out that we show an excess of \$14,000 for the end of the year and that money should be spent. Angie suggested using the money for next year. Mary responded that she is raising money for now not ten years down the road when her children are no longer at the school. Angie told the group to be mindful of having adequate cash flow.

Barb said this would be a good time to talk about the Long Range Planning Committee. This Committee is meeting February 11. At this meeting, the Committee will decide what their goals are and do some brainstorming. If anyone has any ideas please get them to Donna King.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Book Swap – Teresa Holland Gresock

The Book swap will be February 21 during lunch. They will be collecting books February 12 -15. You can send up to five books. Please send ones appropriate to the grade level your child is in. Angie Raynor suggested contacting Middle School students for any books they may have outgrown.

Read-a-Thon – Teresa Holland Gresock

The Read-a-Thon will take place in March. There will not be a pizza party for the winning class but instead a Mad Scientist Party for the winning class.

Spirit Wear – Colleen Lerch

Colleen has been looking into a variety of new products to offer including key chains, umbrellas, water bottles along with my H stickers. A lengthy discussion ensued as to whether this should be a fundraiser or not, also discussed was the difference between pre-ordering or not. Barb mentioned that we wanted to have a supply of some items on hand at Kindergarten registration. To buy in time for Kindergarten registration the needed funds would have to be approved now. Although, Colleen did not have the exact figures, she would need \$1,500 to get started. Heather Dube made a motion to allocate the funds for spirit wear. Mary Miller seconded the motion. Barb announced the motion passed.

Market Day – Gail Kelly

We made \$377 in December and \$311 in January. Buy Market Day!

Rebate – Janice White

On Friday, February 23, we will be clipping BoxTops at Buehlers from 10am to noon in the new Community Room. All are welcome.

Anita said she is interested in pursuing a family event that would be a life size game night. This would possibly be held in November and she would be looking for corporate sponsors.

Spaghetti Dinner – Mary Miller

Mary reminded everyone that the Spaghetti Dinner will be this Friday from 6 – 8pm. Pasta will be from Mr. G's. and there will be a 50/50 raffle.

Talent Show – Nancy Everett

There will be a meeting on March 1 at 9am.

ODL BUSINESS

Barb announced that Jane Back, Sharon's PTO President is organizing a Pinnacle Day on President's Day. It will take place from 10am to noon. Admission is \$5. Barb suggested we think about having the PTO pay for our students to attend as a way to thank everyone who has supported the PTO. Many people were against the idea and it was dropped.

NEW BUSINESS

The Highland Pride Committee is hosting a Poker Dog Walk on May 20. They need volunteers. Contact Trish Roginski at 330-725-6384 for more information.

Nancy Everett brought up the possibility of installing an elevator in the school. Mrs. Collins said that she and Barb Frye had checked into the possibility of getting funding through a grant. However, grants typically go to schools in lower-economic situations. If anyone has any thoughts or suggestions, please pass them on to Mrs. Collins.

TEACHER'S REPORT

Since Amy was unable to attend, Barb reported that Robin Kennedy had asked for "New-2-You" subscription. It is an on-line newspaper that matches reading materials to reading interests and reading levels. Mary Miller made a motion to spend \$350 for the on-line subscription. Teresa Holland Gresock seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Barb adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 28th at 9:15am.