

**Granger Elementary PTO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 13, 2007**

PTO President Anita Finucane called the meeting to order at 9:17am.

Anita thanked everyone who helped with Holiday Shop, Santa Breakfast and Giving in Granger.

We received a thank –you note from Mrs. Rutledge for the “First in Math” program.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Calendar of events

Wed.	Dec. 12	9:15 – PTO Meeting Kindergarten Grade Level Meeting
Fri.	Dec. 14	Interim Reports
Mon.	Dec. 17	7:00 – Board of Ed. Meeting – Here
Thurs.	Dec. 20	8:00 – Staff Breakfast 7:00 – 3 rd Grade Christmas Concert
Fri.	Dec. 21	9:30 – Christmas Gathering in Gym 1:45 – Christmas Parties
Mon.	Jan. 7	Return – Begin Diagnostic testing in Grades 1 and 2 this week
Tues.	Jan. 8	Candid Pictures Staff Meeting’ GATES testing begins Grades 1, 3, 4, and 5
Wed.	Jan. 9	Blood Drive Assemblies 9:20 – Grades 5, 4, 3 9:40 – Grades K, 1, 2
Thurs.	Jan. 10	5 th Grade Band Concert
Thurs.	Jan. 17	End of First Semester
Fri.	Jan. 18	Teacher Work Day
Mon.	Jan. 21	M.L. King Day – No School
Tues.	Jan. 22	Market Day
Fri.	Jan. 25	Beach Party
Wed.	Jan. 30	PTO Meeting

Mrs. Collins thanked everyone involved with the Santa Shop and Santa Breakfast. She said these are two great events for students. She also thanked the PTO for continuing to participate in the Caring at Granger program of providing stuffed toys to children at Akron Children’s Hospital. It is very important that we teach compassion, empathy and generosity to children.

Also a thank you to everyone who is planning to help with our Christmas parties!

Mrs. Collins then went on to explain some changes that resulted from a pre-PTO meeting discussion with the Executive Board. In May there will be a meeting consisting of current

committee chairs and new committee chairs where Binders will be reviewed. Also, a budget will be placed in each binder so the new committee chair has a complete record of what the expenditure is for that particular project. New chairs will have the freedom to change things with their committee, but there will be guidelines that have been done in the past to make it easier and less stressful for the new committee chairs.

She also discussed that the Executive Board has no more than one vote on any expenditure and cannot nor do they want to dictate expenditures. The treasurer's responsibility is to provide information about budgets and the amount of money available. The treasurer will not give opinions on expenditures. If an emergency expenditure comes up that is not covered. We can call a quick meeting of the board to help Committee Chairs.

A change has been made in the By-laws to clear up some confusion. The intent of the by-law that expenditures are explained at one meeting and not voted on to the next, this does not allow for emergency expenditures. The Board recommends any major purchase, if possible, be given the full month for members to determine need. The intent is being kept trying to make the by-laws and budget more user friendly for example the buying of the fans in the beginning of the year. If we had waited by the time we got the fans there would have been no need.

Also, Mrs. Collins reminded the PTO that just because she asks for something does not mean we need to approve it. The PTO makes the money and we can spend it as we see fit.

On to another topic, Mrs. Collins asked the teachers if they needed any games for indoor recess. The following is the requests she received.

- 2-3 Battleship games - Mrs. Waltos
- AquaDoodle Mats and pens – Mrs. Dominak
- Battleship – Multiplication Games, wipe off flash cards or hot dots - Mrs. Kaplack
- Gears-Interlinking Blocks (samples in the classroom) – Mrs. Spaite
- 1 Trouble – 1 UNO – Mrs. Hulin
- Jenga, Monopoly, Stratego, apples to Apples, Dominos, Hangman, Clue, Battleship – Mr. Nicholas
- Battleship, Connect Four, Checkers, Uno – Julie Spaite
- Connect Four, Guess Who, Play Doh – Lisa Nar
- Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader, Don't Break the Ice, Don't Break the Safe, Apples to Apples, Monopoly – Ellen Harner

After today, Mrs. Collins will be off until January 7, 2008 due to health concerns. Students will not be notified.

Nancy Boyert made a motion to spend an additional \$200 for recess games. Barb seconded the motion. The motion passed. Eve Smith volunteered to buy games.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Angie reported that November and December were busy months with Holiday Shop, etc. Currently it looks like at the end of the year we should have about \$12 – 13,000 in the checking account.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nancy Everett – Talent Show

Applications are due on Wednesday to see how many acts there will be. Tryouts will be in February and they will need to have a pretty good idea of what is going on. Nancy talked to the teachers and they will be doing a skit.

Gail Kelly – Market Day

We made \$575 in November and \$592 in December. We have made \$1900 total to date. In January all on-line orders have a chance to win a Disney trip.

Holiday Shop – Donna King

Next year Donna King and Andrea Chorba will do Holiday Shop and Heather Murray will do Giving in Granger.

Poinsettia Sale – Angie Sollenberger

We had 63 orders.

OLD BUSINESS

At last month's meeting Barb Wright presented to the group a proposal to help fund the newly created photo club. Barb was asking for up to \$750 for four cameras, cases, memory cards, camera docking/chargers and shipping and handling.

A discussion ensued with the following comments:

- Eve Smith – It is a big liability to let the kids have the cameras. Barb said at Sharon all the kids use cameras purchased by the PTO for continuity.
- Heather Murray said it would have been nice to have the cameras to take pictures at the Holiday Shop.
- Karen Howard asked who has priority the students or teachers with the cameras.
- Anita reminded everyone we have \$2500 earmarked for teacher support.

Erica Loomis made a motion to spend \$750 on the cameras and related equipment. Janice seconded the motion. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Diane Soldat reported that they have been getting quotes and new playground equipment. A representative from Playground World will be here in January.

Anita adjourned the meeting at 10:20am.