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## **Opening Comments**

Suzanne Peterlin, President, called the general meeting to order at 9:20 AM. Everyone was welcomed and Suzanne shared some gracious thank you notes. It seems that the candles and nice note from our PTO were appreciated and that Carol Priebe and Vikki Tift are super hostesses with the mostesses (with the dinners they provided)! Mr. Houghtaling, our PE Instructor, sent a very nice note thanking us for our help in providing the climbing wall. He explained how it helps children develop and told us he began to use it right away. Please ask your child how they like it. Thank you everyone, for thanking us!

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## **Minutes and Treasury Report**

The September 20, 2005 PTO Minutes will stand as written, as no changes were noted. Vivian Bronstrop moved to accept the minutes and Meg Vandenberg seconded the motion. Motion passed. Treasurer, Cindy Wade, reviewed expenses and income in our 2005/06 PTO Budget to date and thanks to the all-school field trip and the installation of our climbing wall we need to work on income. We are operating in the black and it is nice to have things done early in the year but we need to build reserves to continue on our forward path. Cindy also presented a new form that we will use to ask for funds from the PTO and also one we will use to submit money. Forms can be found in the clinic. Also, please submit original receipts. Susan Jackson motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report and Meg Vandenberg (only on her first cup of coffee) seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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## **Principals Report – Mrs. Rastok**

**Student Garden:** As we hunker down for a brutal winter Mrs. Rastok (sporting a well-thought-out-time-consuming-state-of-the-art-Mix-it-Up-Day outfit) told us that we were recipients of an AUDOBON CERTIFICATE of Partnership AND our garden will be featured in a future bulletin! Hurray!

**The Hale Farm Trip:** What a great educational day! Thank you to the parents, especially those who bought School Cash!

**The Climbing Wall:** It's up, and as you can see from our note above, is already loved by the children and staff! It is very safe, in that kids climb horizontally and can't go higher than three feet off of the floor. We will be looking at ways to start saving for an extension because it isn't long enough, especially for the older children. Two schools already have expressed a desire to get one. Isn't it great to be part of a school that has foresight? The accessories are ordered to help make the wall even more educational!

**School Pictures:** Re-takes are December 5<sup>th</sup> and will be back in time for the Holiday's! Along with your picture you will receive an extra page that will have your child's picture in different formats- like picture frames and book marks. They'll make great gifts or gift tags (isn't everything that has our child's picture on it?). If you want to keep the page, send \$10 to school and if not, just return the photos. The small profit from this Principal's Fund-Raiser will go to a fund to help extend our Climbing Wall.

**Conference Dates:** Are going well and we love the dinners and response! Thank you!

**Other activities:** The Veterans Day (11/11/05) Assembly was heartwarming. So many people have given time and lives for our freedom. It was touching to see and hear our children express appreciation for a day they try so hard to comprehend!

November 18<sup>th</sup> is the day our kids are scheduled to have a Bully-Free Assembly and crazy hair day.

Remember Thanksgiving break is long! No school November 24-28 this year! Enjoy time with your families, it goes by so quickly and we have so much to be thankful for!

**Most importantly keep current with our School Daze since there is too much to mention happening here at Hinckley!**

**If you miss-place your copy, there is one posted at school and you can also get it off our web site:** [www.highlandschools.org](http://www.highlandschools.org)

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## **Fund Raising Reports**

**School Cash – Debbie Prescenzi:** Debbie had cards for sale at the meeting and thanked EVERYONE who purchased them. Did you know that 25% of our families are now using this program? Are you? Thank you! Debbie mentioned that this time of year some of the more popular stores start to back-order so please try to think ahead and get orders in early. All monies from School Cash will be paying for our Climbing Wall until it is paid off! A special thank you goes out to a grandparent of a Middle School Child who bought a \$3000 corporate order. David Peterlin also took the time to put a corporate order from Metaldyne through us. Thank you for the extra time it took to help the kids! This year we are already \$300 ahead of where we were this same time last year with total profits already about \$1100! Thank you Debbie and Lynne, we know it's crazy but realize the value of your time!

**Market Day – Sue Bernhofer (by Suzanne Peterlin):** Internet orders are the most reliable way of assuring your order makes it to us by delivery date! Next order pick up is on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Start thinking now about your holiday entertaining, some of the items will make your presentations complete!

**QSP Magazine Sale – Kelly McCormack (by Suzanne Peterlin):** Please pay your vouchers! We would like to extend a big thanks to our office staff for passing out the prizes. There were prizes, books and book socks and we recognize without you we wouldn't have had it done so well, so thank you.

**Read-A-Thon – Kelly McCormack (by Suzanne Peterlin):** What a huge success it was! Besides the value of reading- we made \$4205. Jessica Peterlin won the raffle for the Border's Gift Certificate! Way to go and keep on reading!

**Ponderosa Night Out – Kelly McCormack (by Suzanne Peterlin):** Get out your 2006 calendar and mark February 6, 2006. Thank you to everyone who went out. Are we to understand that a brave parent went alone, to a buffet with all her kids? Thank you Debbie for being so courageous!

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## Events / Meetings

**Skate Night – Lynne Nawalaniec:** November 15, 2005 at Brunswick Skate Station! 25 tickets were given as prizes for the Harvest Creature/Poem Contest. Lynne discussed the options for our next ICE SKATE DAY in January. There are several options available please let us know if you'd like pizza lunch included in the cost-use the suggestion box if you can't come to a meeting. We will re-visit this in December. In the mean time we won't be *roller*-anything together until March of next year.

**Head Room Parent Meeting (Lynne Nawalaniec):** The room parents are doing such a great job this year and the kids are really enjoying themselves! We understand that the Christmas Parties will incorporate the Multi-Cultural Theme! Anka Wiencek has volunteered to coordinate the Raffle Baskets by room/grade for WINTERFEST 2005-and we thank you for that. We also thank any family who supports this by giving of items for the baskets or helps try to win them! We also understand that the Staff and PTO groups will be providing some great items-make sure you don't miss this raffle at the WINTERFEST 2005-There is sure to be something to please everyone!

**St. Nicholas Day December 6<sup>th</sup> – Suzanne Peterlin:** Thank you Jen Simonis for volunteering to do this while everyone else is busy with the Santa Shop. It is an idea to help explore a Middle European Tradition and enhance our Multi-Cultural Theme. Besides learning about this tradition we suspect all the GOOD little boys and girls will get a shoe-full! Peggy Dietz, Nancy Rischar and Carol Priebe are expected to ELF like never before! Thanks guys!

**Gift Wrapping at Barnes and Noble – Carol Priebe:** From 6-9 on December 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in Montrose you will find the best wrappers in town! Look for Mrs. Rastok, Mrs. Tomko, Vivian Bronstrup, Suzanne Peterlin, Peggy Dietz and Carol Priebe. Have time? Shop that night and get things wrapped for free! All tips will go to the PTO!

**HOLIDAY WINTERFEST 2005! – Lynne N., Suzanne P. and Kelly Mc.:** By now you have seen the information come home and you are planning to attend the best winter party of them all. It is December 10<sup>th</sup> from 11-3 and your kids will have a blast! We understand Santa will be the Man-of-the-Day and it will be a carnival type-winter-fun-for-all kind of afternoon. If you have time to spare please consider volunteering to help make this as fun as we think it will be. This could quite possibly be the start of a new tradition here at Hinckley and you'll really want to say, "We were there!"

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## Funding Proposals

None at this time. But remember every time you participate in School Cash money is going to pay for our Climbing Wall! AND every time you buy Market Day those profits are being put aside for future Playground Improvements!

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## Volunteers Needed

**December 10<sup>th</sup> to help at WINTERFEST 2005:** Please call Lynne N. or Suzanne P. if you haven't offered to help us yet. We need all the elves we can get!

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## Old Business

**SNOW LINE! - Susan Jackson:** Thank you Susan for getting this done before the first snow! Your work and dedication to this project is so appreciated! A note to everyone: We understand that when the phone rings prior to the crack of dawn you may have not had your first cup of coffee but *please* try to remember that this is a volunteer chain of calls and if you found out some other way, don't be angry at the caller. Think of it as a friendly wake-up call and be courteous. We thank you in advance for your kindness as we get the word of 'no school' or 'delay' out to everyone! Remember back to your childhood and how you loved SNOW DAYS! You always have the option of getting out of the 'line' by calling Susan at 330.723.3031.

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## New Business

**Mouse Pads- Diane Elliott:** Mouse-pads are cheaper when bought in bulk. We need to call the other elementary schools to check on interest prior to purchasing above the 500-item count. Thanks for your continued time and research.

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## Other / Open Floor Discussions

**Science Resource Room- Suzanne Peterlin:** Just an idea that is being researched for future considerations.

**Climbing Wall Expansion:** The climbing wall was a great addition to our school and we agreed that it would be nice to extend it so the kids can maximize its use. For the time being we believe that we first need to pay for what we have and have agreed to re-visit this as the year moves forward. If you have any thoughts, please put them in the PTO suggestion box or come to a meeting to voice your opinion.

**Polar Express Movie 12/3 from 1-4 PM:** Highland's National Honor Society is hosting a movie for 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders. It will cost \$4 and include the movie and a snack. Location = High School auditorium

**Drama Club – We** have a drama club! 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be invited to participate 3-15/5/9 and more information will follow.

**Closing Remarks:** Suzanne thanked everyone for coming to the PTO meeting, acknowledged that we are attempting to plan further out with activities and expressed hope that more people will continue to come forward with comments, concerns and ideas! She is THANKFUL for what we have all accomplished so far and wished everyone a very peaceful Thanksgiving. Without any further business, the busy meeting adjourned at even earlier at 10:45 (quite possibly because Jane Carsten volunteered to watch our munchkins again)! Lucky #12 (for the second time this year) –Corrine Sacksteder took home a beautiful FALL arrangement as a door prize!

**A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY:** Because of the volume of business held in the meeting the personal thanks and some extra conversation had to be omitted from the minutes. Please be assured that we appreciate your input and attendance. EVERY volunteer is needed so if I neglected to mention you, I apologize. Remember to please use our suggestion box in the clinic and GET INVOLVED for our kids. Respectfully submitted, Jen Simonis (with help from Vivian Bronstrup)

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**Next PTO Meeting Tuesday, December 13, 2005 ~ 9:15 ~ School Cafeteria**  
**“Working Together To Make A Difference”**

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