

Fort Island PTA Minutes
Dec. 8, 2008

Call to order: Deb Forster called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

Report of Officers:

1st Vice President: Kristine Fonte had nothing to report.

2nd Vice President: Nancy Jones reported that the Sally Foster assembly went really well. Both Mr. Whitaker & Mr. T had pies thrown in their faces.

Treasurer: Liz Timm reported the current balance is \$17,867. She also explained the new NSF program we will be using and it will no charge for us to us it.

Recording Secretary: Meghan Gehring asked everyone to look over the Nov. minutes and they would be approved later in the meeting.

Corresponding Secretary: Javan Rench reported that no cards had gone out last month and she also read a thank you note from Mrs. Dodd.

Procedure Chair: Sue Gigliotti had nothing to report.

Council Delegate: Elyssa Hilton reported that the Ohio PTA is updating their website. There will be a PTA convention April 17th – 19th. All Reflection submissions are due in the Columbus PTA office by 4:30 on Jan. 14th. Feb. 8th – 14th is “Take your family to school week”. Dr. Sauers spoke about changes being made the school district website. There are still residency issues. There is another hearing scheduled for this week. Mr. Poe gave the results from the Ohio Achievement Test for 3rd graders in reading; 77% scored proficient-advanced, 61% scored advanced-accelerated. Mr. Robinson spoke about the “buzz in” system, it is being installed one building at a time, starting with Arrowhead. Belinda asked for the reflection chairs to fill out a tally sheet for participation totals and submit to Blair Lampner.

Committee Reports:

After School Programs: Debbie Forster reported that instructor forms have gone out and are due back Dec. 10th. Student sign up will begin Jan. 5th, and are due back Jan. 15th. Roosters will be sent home Jan. 20th and programs begin Jan. 26th.

Acme Receipts: Debbie Forster reminded everyone to continue to send in Acme receipts.

Baking: Debbie Forster reported that the committee supplied cookies for the Reflection art show and the Winter Music Program.

Box Tops: Kristine Fonte reported that the Dec. check should be approximately \$1370. We have collected \$185 to date since the Oct. submission. Next submission will be 12-31-08. The current promotion to win a 4 pack of tickets to Amazone expires Dec. 12th. Giant Eagle Bonus Box Tops- During the month of Dec. buy 10 participating brands with your advantage card and receive 30 BONUS Box Tops @ the register. Sign up for free BTFE email newsletter and Ft. Island will receive 5 bonus tops. Go to www.btfe.com/2008 for more info.

Character Traits: Linda Maynard reported that to date 65 students have been recognized. Two memos have gone out to the staff to remind them of the program.

Coins for Compassion: Debbie Forster reported that we received an anonymous donation of \$500. To date we have collected \$611.50. Donations are being collected thru Dec. 18th, at which time Miss Shephard will use the money to purchase gifts for families within Ft. Island.

Community Tree: Debbie Forster reported that this program will begin in Jan. The purpose is for the students to find ways to help others.

Compassion: Debbie Forster reported that this committee has been in contact with the Harbaugh family.

Go Green: Beth Britton reported that the recycling program conducted on Nov. 19th in the cafeteria went really well. Dec. 17th meeting the members are going to be collecting plastic bags and take them to recycling sites.

Holiday Shop: Susan Stranberg reported that everything went really well. She did mention that there was a suggestion made for next year, that the students not be allowed to buy for themselves.

Hospitality: Debbie Forster reported that they supplied cookies for the Reflection art show as well as the 2nd & 4th grade Winter Music Program. 18 doz. cookies per class were donated.

K-Kids: Kristine Fonte reported that at Nov. meeting, the members made dog biscuits and donated them. They also dropped off the pop tabs to Akron Children's. This past Sat. a few members rang the bell for Salvation Army @ Giant Eagle. The next meeting will be Dec. 12th, Access Shelter will be coming to talk to the students and they will also be making cards. They will also be making cards for the baskets put together by the Copley Police. Also this Friday, the members will be caroling @ Sumner Nursing Home at 5:30. On Dec. 20th they will be helping Kiwanis wrap baskets.

Market Day: Debbie Forster reported that sales have been down. She also encouraged members to buy this month as this is the big month with the holidays.

Reflection: Susan Stranberg reported that we are waiting to see how many of our Top 10 can be sent to Columbus.

School Board Representative: Debbie Forster reported that the Fort Island student of the month is Jaren McKinnie from Mrs. Cadnum's class. The public had a question about the time school would be closed due to the weather. The latest time would be 6:15 am. Dr. Saurer said that there would be no redistricting at this time and he did not think there would be any in the future. Mr. Whitaker gave a talk on Ft. Island, he explained the Kindergarten Plus program and said Mrs. Check is doing a great job. He also reported that there are 474 students @ Ft. Island and the school received an excellent rating on the Ohio Achievement test. He said the K Kids & the media center both received grants this year. The walking club logged in 1065 miles for the Fall. Next meeting is Dec. 16th.

School Climate: Elyssa Hilton reported that Movie Nights will be on Feb 13th for K-2 and Feb. 27th for grades 3-4. The doors will open @ 6:30 and the movie begins at 7:00. She is also working on "Walk around the world in 180 day" for the Spring walking club.

SCRIP: Debbie Forster reported that order forms will be going out this week.

Yearbook: Debbie Forster reminded everyone to continue taking photos and send them to www.FortIslandpictures@gmail.com.

Approval of November Minutes: A motion was made by Kristine Fonte and seconded by Elyssa Hilton.

Principal Report: Mr. Whitaker

- Thank you for the cookies donated for the Winter Music Program
- Thank you to Nancy Jones for all your work with Sally Foster
- Thank you to Susan Stranberg for organizing Holiday Shop
- Title 1 assistance-based on academic needs. Open House Thursday at the Middle School. This program will target students that have the greatest needs.
- The front door is now operational but not hooked up to the new "buzz in" system as of yet. There is a meeting on Thursday to go over procedures, only staff will be permitted to buzz visitors in. The system will be activated once all staff & parents have been notified. The system will be deactivated around dismissal time.
- 3rd grade achievement test results came back. We did not do as well as expected with only 79% scoring average or above.
- Getting rid of the green & yellow recycling bin and only going to be using the green one which is on a 2 week rotation at this time.

President's Report: Debbie Forster

- Thank you to Nancy Jones for organizing the Sally Foster fundraiser & assembly and also thank you to the volunteers who cut tape.
- Thank you to Susan Stranberg for organizing Reflections & Holiday Shop
- Thank you to Camille Bendick & Sharon Dente for organizing the reception for the Winter Program
- Thank you to ALL the volunteers

Unfinished Business:

- None at this time

New Business:

- Mrs. Dodd received the Outstanding Educator of the Year award
- Nancy Jones received the Helping Hands award

Next meeting is Jan. 12th at 10:00.

Meeting adjourned at 11:27.

Prepared by Meghan Gehring
Recording Secretary