**PAMS PTA MINUTES**

**October 10, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by president, Janine Sarach, at 5:35 pm.

**In Attendance:** Janine Sarach, Alex Bergren, Terri Weaver, Bobbi Vinsand, Donna Gowens-Parker, Michelle Prendergast, Courtney DeWitt, Kristin Sprauer, Tracey Mangus, Melissa Fagan, Trisha Saunders, Barbara Stebbins, Gerrold Walker, Jen Crow

The minutes from September were reviewed. A motion was made to approve, it was seconded.

**Administration/Mr. Bergren:**

* Rachel’s Challenge Assembly was held on the 28th. The focus was on Rachel’s impact. “Talking Points” were sent home to help students process and talk about it with parents. All feedback from parents was positive. PTA money well-spent in support of the program.
* A “Mix-It-Up Day” is being planned, sponsored by a group call “Teaching Tolerance”. October 30th is the day for the event and involves the students choosing someone different to sit with at lunch. Guidance Dept. is working to help with “conversation starters”. The entire focus will be to sit with someone new.
* Jen and Laura have worked hard to develop a layout and plan for the library. A copy of the layout was distributed and Jen explained what is in the works and showed photos of some of the furniture being ordered. It will have a modern, updated look. Kindles will be available to check out. This should attract more students to the library and give them multiple areas to work in. Cost is approximately $26,000 – sources: designated library $$, PTA $$, Grant $$, School $$.
* Next year, we hope to add another phase - replacing the bookshelves.
* Library is “partnering” with public library to work on several programs together.
* The school store opened this week.
* The A.M. News Show started Monday.
* We have Courtney DeWitt here to represent the 6th grade. We are working to have all grade levels represented.

**Partners in Education/Jen:**

* Working on more partners – Pungo Pizza, The Swell, on a waiting list for Equi-Kids and received a “no” from the military group (they are devoting themselves to the elementary students).

**Membership/Stress Free/Gerrold:**

* There are 1059 members as of tonight. Need about 1414 for head shaving!
* We could possibly do a “targeted” Alert Now.
* We have received about $9000.00 “stress free” donations to date.

**Treasurer’s Report/Budget review:**

* There is currently a balance of $16,103.55 in the account.
* $3064 went to the VA PTA from memberships.
* Check for $10,000 to go towards the library was presented to Mr. Bergren and Jen Crow. A photo was taken for our Facebook page.
* We made $980 on pizza day.
* Spirit wear brought in $422 at the two Open House nights.

**Corresponding Secretary/Michelle:**

* Michelle showed a sample of the little bags that were ordered for the staff. They will be filled with goodies and a birthday note.

**Volunteers/Bobbi:**

* We are getting a good response – we have between 250 and 300 people signed up.
* It was noted that Mrs. Patti would like volunteers for the “Friends of Rachel Club”.

**Reflections/Kristin:**

* We are including Kellam this year in our celebration.
* The deadline for entries that was given is October 12th, with the absolute **final** deadline being October 19th.
* Forms are a little different this year – entry form is only necessary for the 1st place entries when they move to the next level of competition. They just need name and artist’s statement on the back.
* December 19th is the date for the reception.
* Melissa will put info on Kellam’s Facebook page.

**Newsletter:**

* Tiffany is doing a great job – be sure to get articles in by due date.

**Web Site/Donna:**

* Donna added some new pages – newsletter, spirit wear – if you have any additional web info, let her know.

**Facebook/Melissa:**

* We have 81 members that ‘like’ us.
* We will make an announcement to “check us out on Facebook!”

**Spirit Wear/Jennifer:**

* We are changing logo to look like the PAMS stationery.

**Old Business:**

* **Open Houses –** They went well and were well attended even with date change. We may try to get some feedback/suggestions for next year about having it during staff week or waiting until later.
* **Half-Day Café/Trish Saunders –** Lots of volunteers and a good response.

**New Business:**

* Can we help support the Food Pantry? Guidance is in charge of this – if they need some extra things, could we help donate? Everyone agreed that this was something we, as a PTA, would be willing to do.
* Mrs. DeWitt could use some volunteers (from Bobbie) to help with “Mix-It-Up Day” – by tying questions to candies that will be distributed.
* School would like a donation for the Friends of Rachel Club of $300. PTA agreed that if we have the money, we would contribute.
* We will be selling Holiday Lights at the Beach tickets and will pick up 100 at a time.
* We will sell Coldstone pies for Thanksgiving and Christmas.
* SCA is selling Hunt Club tickets during lunch and activities.
* Melissa got the list for the Citizens of the Month. Each month, there will be an overall winner and this student will receive a beach towel that Mrs. Forbes will have monogramed with “Panther Pride” logo.
* Field trips coming up for the 8th grade in October and November – the play at Kellam, “Flowers for Algernon” and Monticello. If assistance is needed, please send info thru an email.

Our next meeting will be November 13th.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.