

Explorer Elementary  
Parent Council Meeting  
October 9, 2007

Attendance: Erica Lund-Anastasakis, Kim Soltero, Carol Mead, Kim Weinstein, Lise Bernard, Tracey Makings, Kelly Schwartz, Patti Bruffey, Stacy Chenelle, Tracy Wilkinson, Levi Lawson, Jill Green, Wendy Hutchison, Steve Price, Reita Sebert, Anna Jimenez, Andy deTorres, Jana Fortune, Maite Agahnia

Welcome:

- Kim Soltero:
  - Many thanks for being here this evening
  - Minutes: The only change is that on September 25, Joanna Clark is filing to get the testing mistake fixed.
  - Lise Bernard: Motion to approve
  - Patti Bruffey – 2nds the motion.
  
- Fundraising:
  - Restaurant Night at Oggi's Pizza
    - October 24
      - Oggi's will donate 15% of all dine in and take out proceeds from 1-10pm
    - Fliers to go home this week along with an email blast as a reminder.
  
  - Liberty Station for Education day in April
    - Businesses to donate percentage of proceeds or give a flat fee donation
    - Starbucks donated \$3000 already
    - Proceeds to be split between all schools in Liberty Station
  
  - Starbucks's to hold a book drive at the Liberty Station location as well as other locations.
    - Cris Anderson gave them a wish list for Explorer.
  
  - Cris Anderson is looking for a volunteer to put the business directory together.
    - The job would entail soliciting ads, etc. for the Explorer Directory
  
  - Explorer Wear Kickoff
    - Done on-line and ongoing in conjunction with [hightechhigh.org](http://hightechhigh.org) with a link on our website
    - This will give us a wider array of options.
    - The donated hats will be sold with Explorer Wear.  
(the hats have earned \$350 so far)

- AFTH Location
  - AFTH will take place at Explorer Elementary on April 26.
  - We will be renting a tent for outside activities.
  - They are working on a theme that will make this an event that will include dancing at the end of the evening.
  - The timeframe is changing to possibly start later (6:30 or so)
  - The committee is sensitive to the idea of having it at school and is working to make it a beautiful, fun, enjoyable evening.
  
- PC Budget Update
  - Please welcome Tracy Wilkinson as our new PC Treasurer and thank her for taking on this role.
  
  - Kim Soltero wanted to make sure that the \$25,000 check from the Parent Council to the school is recorded as well as the Jog-a-thon check.
  
  - The other CD is due to be cashed out at the beginning of the year (2008).
  
- PC Email Addresses:
  - Erica Anastasakis handed out the list and explained that each volunteer Parent Council position now has a corresponding email account.
  
- Volunteer Report - Carol Mead:
  - Thanks for the events that have already taken place.
    - Kim Weinstein did a wonderful job with the gift wrap drive.
  
  - Room Parents are all in place.
  
  - Many thanks to Erica Anastasakis and Kim Soltero for Movie Night. It was a huge success and we look forward to the next one!
  
  - We still need help with:
    - Business Directory
    - We need a few more helpers for movie night in March.
    - Kid's News Day – Jean Federici heading it up.
    - Skate Night in November – Lise Bernard is chairing – need help taking money at the door - can pay before hand if you want to before 3pm Thursday that day.
    - If you have signed up for a specific committee – you will be contacted by the chair.
    - Contact Carol Mead with question.
  
  - Movie Night/Gift Wrap Report:
    - Movie Night – was great and wonderful

- Thanks to Andy deTorres for suggesting recycling! It was a great idea.
  - Gift Wrap –
    - Without the internet we have made \$6800 of which we receive \$3400
    - Internet sales are year-round.
    - Thanks again to Kim Weinstein!
  - Art Cards - Cindy Davis extended the art card deadline to 10/9.
  - We made close to \$1000.
  - It was suggested that we do these at school next year to get more involvement.
- Board Report:
  - There was not a meeting between now and last meeting so there is nothing to report.
  - Lise Bernard was sick for the Destination Imagination meeting so she is working on setting up a new meeting.
- Principal's Report
  - Everyone in the room introduced themselves.
  - Welcome and many kind thanks for being here this evening.
  - The next board meeting is November 1.
  - Board retreat was today.
    - Board is so supportive and intelligent with Lisa Gray as the president.
    - After assessing goals set between 2003 and 2007 the Board determined that 80% of those goals were completed
    - In order to be more involved with school activities, the Board will be more visible around the school and making classroom visits.
      - These policies need to be defined and committees set
        - Roseanne Holliday offered her ranch for dissemination and training
  - Teachers In-Service
    - Nancy Cole to offer new ideas based on her presentation
  - Explorer opened enrollment Oct 1 and we've already received over 200 applications.
  - The teachers are performing internal assessments
    - Writing, reading procedural and conceptual math.
  - Documentation of Teaching
    - Explorer is looking at holding summer institutes for teachers and in-services for other schools
      - Fees will be charged so that our teachers can be paid.

- Charter School Review
  - Explorer's preliminary report is glowing
  - The results and recommendations will be shared once they are filed with the district.
- Jill participates in a weekly meeting with the High Tech community.
  - Jill's relationship with High Tech is growing, creating continuity and integrity of the educational programs.
- Zoltan Sarda is doing a social curriculum in-service for the middle school teachers. Tina Boughton is presenting as well.
- Nita is on leave indefinitely and we wish her all the best. We thank Carrie Flowers for doing a wonderful job filling in until Nita's return.
- In answer to Steve Price's inquiry regarding Explorer students' transition to the High Tech system, Jill's response was that our children thrive there. They are more than ready for the environment and are doing wonderfully. Patti Bruffey added that graduates of High Tech are doing wonderfully in college.
- Dates to remember
  - 10/19 No School
  - 10/23 Photo Day/Kids' News Day
  - 10/24 Family Dinner Night
  - 11/8 Skate Night
  - 11/13 Parent Council @ 1:30 – Library
  - 11/16 Gratitude Celebration

Meeting Adjourned