

The Foot Bridge PTA Meeting

Monday, November 9, 2009

Attendance: Jane Allen, Susan Asplund, Sandy Beeson, Toni Berg, Carrie Bergstrom, Sailaja Chandrapati, Ed Cavin, Jan Dornseif, Laura Emms, Karleen Goodman, Erik Hyman, Merrily & John Karel, Denise Manda, Nikki & Gary Robbins, Liz Schreier, Andy Wetzler, Shelli Wilk

The meeting was opened by President, Laura Emms, at 6:05pm. Laura began with some brain teasers to get us thinking outside the box.

President's Report: "Develop a Strong Community"

In her opening statements, Laura Emms enlisted our help to "Develop a Strong Community at Footprints Academy." She spoke to the importance of building connections between parents, and the school, with teachers, and with each other. Her goals for this year's PTA will be focused on creating those connections, and developing a strong community. Committees will be formed to develop activities and a separate fundraising team will be formed.

Vice President's Report: Karleen Goodman also spoke to building relationships between parents, as well as with our teachers, and students. Participating in PTA is one way to make our relationships at FPA flourish.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by John Karel to accept the minutes from the November 22, 2009 Foot Bridge PTA meeting as provided. The motion was seconded and passed. Secretary, Merrily Karel, submitted a revised edition of the Footbridge PTA Bylaws for review by the membership. Per the bylaws, the membership must have 30 days to review the revisions before voting to accept them as written, or with amendments.

Treasurer's Report: Denise Manda presented a financial report for the period of July 1, 2009 through November 9, 2009. Our current balance (cash on hand) is \$11,581.11.

Principal/School Update: Principal, Ed Cavin, reported that he is enjoying his new position at Footprints Academy, especially as he gets to know our children. He has also been spending more time with teachers, getting to know more about those relationships within our school.

Guest Speaker: Footprints Academy Music Teacher, Karen Salter, presented a sample lesson from her kindergarten class. We echoed a song about a Grizzly Bear, and listened to an example of dynamics in a piece by Hayden. She was assisted in the demonstration by Jonas Asplund. Karen provided a handout about National Standards for Music Education, and made suggestions for ways to incorporate music in your child's life, including checking out CD's from your local library, taking advantage of free concerts in your community, and encouraging your child to sing, dance, play, and listen to music *with you*. Thank you for a delightful presentation Karen!

Student Council Update: Olivia Johnson and Mady Robbins reported on some of the topics that the Student Council will consider or participate in for the 2009/2010 school year. These include, but are not limited to, requesting an additional stall in the girls' bathroom on the upper level, jumping rope, Kicking off a Food Shelf project, and hosting Grandparent's Day. The Student Council meets monthly over a lunch period.

Committee Reports:

BINGO Night - Laura Emms thanked the fifth and sixth grade students for creating the posters and advertising for BINGO night. Volunteers have been assigned, but help is still needed for cleanup. Additional prizes are also requested. BINGO Night will take place in the cafeteria on Friday, November 13th from 6-8pm. The entrance fee is \$10 per family.

Kemps Milk Top Collection - Andy Wetzel reported that flyers will be distributed to students regarding the program. So far, 660 caps have been collected.

Box Tops Challenge: Susan Asplund reported that the Boxer competition for the most collected box tops by one classroom will continue on a monthly basis. Some incentive programs will be starting soon, including a coloring sheet, and email bonuses. As a reminder, Box Top funds go directly to Footprints Academy.

Upcoming Activities:

Christmas Program – This school event takes place Thursday evening, December 17th. The Footbridge PTA has provided hospitality for the event in the past. A volunteer is needed to coordinate the hospitality/refreshments for the PTA.

Spirit Week – Another school event that needs support from the PTA is Spirit Week, scheduled for the week of February 1st. There is a different theme each day and provides great opportunities for parents to get involved. No suggestions were made for PTA involvement at this time.

Science Fair – Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 11th! The Footbridge PTA sponsors the annual event. Volunteers and a coordinator are needed.

Brainstorming for Ideas: Laura Emms lead us in a brainstorming session to come up with some new ideas for PTA events and service activities. See the attached list for the results of our session.

Old Business:

- Parents are encourage to join the official PTA group by completing a membership form, and paying the \$10 fee, per member, which keeps us a part of the national and state PTA organizations. Forms may be turned in to the front desk.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 7, 2009 6:30pm – 7:30pm in the cafeteria

Reminder: The Foot Bridge PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) organization.

11-23-09

The Foot Bridge PTA

Brainstorming - Activities & Service Ideas

EVENTS:

All School Picnic

"Are You Smarter Than an FPA Student?" event

Bowling

Christmas Caroling in the community

Garage Sale

Golf Extravaganza

Mother's Day Plant Sale

Roller Skating

Staff Appreciation Breakfast

Turn Off TV Week

Used Book Exchange - Adult reading materials

Wii Tournament

Wine Gala

SERVICE PROJECTS:

All Things Green (recycle) activities

Card making for our service men and women or veterans

Food Shelf Event/Outing to support the student council collection activity

Giving Tree

Grant Writing to support service activities in the school

Visiting facilities for people with mental and physical disabilities

SPEAKER TOPICS:

Discipline

Internet Safety

Money Learning Programs

Moving and Transitioning to Junior High School

Search Institute for Youth & Children: Developing Assets in Your Community

Social and Emotional Consequences of Video Games

FUNDRAISERS:

Butter Braids