

**Grand Ridge PTSA
General Membership Meeting
Grand Ridge Library
September 27, 2011
7:00 p.m.**

Attendees: See attached list

Welcome and Introductions: Carolyn Kennedy and Kari Leon

Secretary's Report: *Theora Dalupan makes a motion to approve the minutes as written from the May 24, 2011 general membership meeting. Katie Short seconds. Passes.*

Principal's Report – Christy Otley

- Thanks to PTSA for everything they have done to get the year started.
- Michelle Face is the teacher rep.
- Hired 14 new staff over the summer, due to replacements as well as growth.
- Met with a number of parents concerned about growth. It is a concern of Christy as well and she is working with the central office to come up with options to accommodate the growing population. As she hears information, she will pass it along. Programs and classroom instruction is still happening at highest caliber. Limited space is the biggest issue. More management of kids. In terms of quality, things are going well.
- Just hired another 2nd grade teacher. No classroom for them. She is a roaming (support) teacher. Starting October 3. Working with the second grade teachers to either push in (go into class to work with kids) or will do pull out groups.
- Bond in February. It is important to keep eyes open for it and listen to information. Pieces slated on bond for Grand Ridge include a gate/fencing for playground and wind screen for basketball court. Bonds are only for capital projects. If hesitant to vote for it, think of others who voted to help us build Grand Ridge when they got nothing out of it and we were beneficiaries. Need to pass our help along by voting yes to help them now. Taxes will not go up.
- Slated to do handful of Coffees with Christy. First one is October 25. Some open Q&A, some will have an article and discussion around the article. First article is Raising Smart Kids, about how, as parents, the things we choose to do and the things we don't even realize we are doing will have an impact on our kids and how they think of themselves as learners.
- Received MSP scores. Majority of kids met standard in all grades.

Mission and Goals:

Carolyn Kennedy presented the Mission and Goals for 2011-12 (see attached). *Theora Dalupan moves to approve Mission and Goals as presented. Tana Sinnott seconds. Passes.*

Standing Rules Update

Carolyn Kennedy presented minor changes to the standing rules. *Theora Dalupan moves to accept changes to the 2011-12 standing rules as presented. Pam Cabrera seconds. Passes.*

Membership Status – Tana Sinnott

- We are at 92% membership. State looks at it from a 1 parent to 1 child ratio, so if you sign up as a family then you get 2 memberships for PTSA.
- Actual numbers of families who are members are 78.6%. Grand Ridge currently has 580 families with 800 students.

Feed Gilman

- 205 families have donated to date.
- Presented spreadsheet outlining how our Feed Gilman funds of \$13,200 would be distributed for classroom enrichment. Reminder that funds will go directly to class enrichment such as assemblies, author visits, curriculum enhancements that teachers can't otherwise do.
- Equitable distribution for the instructors at \$150, then \$200 per classroom for a grade level distribution. *Katie Short moves to accept the board's proposed distribution that was presented as written. Tana Sinnott seconds. Passes.*
- Christy Otley and Michelle Face expressed their thanks to parents for supporting the schools programs through Feed Gilman.

Mardi Gras SAM Auction – Lida Buckner

- Auction is February 11, 2012 at the Hilton Gardens Inn in Issaquah.
- Trying to be cautious because fundraising capabilities are uncertain.
- Can have 325 people attend.
- Starting to sell tickets on November 1, anticipate it will sell out. Early bird rate is \$60 per ticket through end of year. After January 1, prices go up to \$75 per ticket.
- Want to make sure whole community has opportunity to participate.
- Classroom projects. Looking for auction leads in those classrooms. Projects will be online for bidding.
- Packet has FAQ for auction. Go to Grand Ridge PTSA website for auction information. All of that will become live on October 1. Big kick off on October 1.
- Need community support for donations.
- Fundraising goal is \$50,000 for science, art and music.
- Carolyn expressed thanks to Lida for taking this on.

Fundraising – LoriAnn Morrey absent, Carolyn Kennedy reports

- Grizzly Gear – order online through October 15. New styles and colors, can personalize the back. Go to Grand Ridge PTSA website for ordering. Will be having spirit day Fridays.
- After School Movies – looking for a chair person, tentative dates are in November, Jan, March and May.
- Popcorn – Starting in October, let Wendy Posey know if you are interested.
- Box Tops – Will have classroom contest Oct 3-14, class that brings the most gets spirit trophy.
- Escript sign up on www.escrip.com.
- Jamba Juice – can use your card and money goes directly to school.
- Cartridge for kids – inkjet recycling, also takes cell phones, pdas, ipods, digital cameras, etc. Box is by office

Programs – Lisa Callan

- Cultural Diversity Council – Twenty-eight languages represented here. Trying to use our cultural diversity potential for education to teach kids about different cultures. Put together calendar of months for country spotlights. October is Japan, November is Turkey.

- MEN (Men for Excellence Network) - Trying to get dads more involved in school and with each other. Monday night football at Zeeks email invite sent out. Provides opportunity to socialize and get to know other dads. Tim Ryan is chairing the program.
- Gift-A-Book – Display month starting October 14 with pictures of books the librarian wants for her library. Kids can choose the book for parents to order, and your child will get a book plate saying the book was donated by them. It will be presented by the librarian and your kid is the first one to check it out.
- Art Docent Program – PTSA docent program is what gets art into the school. There is no funding for art in the district. Every grade level has a chair docent. Each chair works with the classroom docents to incorporate art into the classroom. Once a month the docents will go into class for an hour, teaching art project to the kids. Every child gets a clay project, so kiln is booked throughout the year. First art docent lesson kicked off in October.
- Reflections for 2011-12 – Theme is “Diversity Means...” Reflections is a national PTSA program/competition. Entries are accepted on October 27. Twelve entries will move on to the district level. Categories are photography, visual arts, literature, and music.
- Seattle Junior League sponsors a roving art exhibit (in house field trip) through Bellevue Art Museum. They crate seven pieces of their personal art to send to schools. We will receive the art (hopefully) in March. Docents and teachers can be trained in these pieces and will take kids through the exhibit to learn about the art.

Events – Kim Goodman

- Book Swap - First event of the year on October 13. Started collecting books at school, Zeeks and PCMS. Trying to get more chapter books for older kids. Book swap is a fun event, doesn't cost anything to come. Every child leaves with two books and gets milk and cookies. Noise Guy will be the entertainment. Also collecting PJs to donate to Eastside Baby Corner.

Treasurer's Report – Pam Cabrera

- Budget updates – See attached budget. *Tana Sinnott moves to approve the budget as presented by Pam. Katie Short seconds. Passes.*

Legislative Report – Leslie Warrick

- WA states chosen to be one of 20 states as part of the next generation of science standards.
- There will be another 30 day special session, bad news about state revenue and a report coming in November. Another \$1.4 billion in statewide cuts for 2011-13. This means a potential of more cuts to education. More info in November.
- Leg Assembly coming up October 14-15. This determines the top issues that the PTSA would like to lobby for when they go to present to legislatures.
- New bond coming up – \$227 million district wide to include field improvements, building improvements, etc. It is critical to pass it.

Highlights of Upcoming Events

- Vision and hearing screening
- Committee chair meeting
- Book Swap
- Gift-A-Book
- Directories
- Reflections

- Gifts from Gillman
- General Membership Meetings

Meeting adjourned 8:25 p.m.

Lida Buckner - ISF