

PTO Richard's School Meeting  
September 15, 2009  
Richards School Cafeteria

**PTO Board Present:** President: Crystal Currier, Vice President: Amy Howald, Treasurer: Brandy Blackinton and Secretary: Paula Johnson.

**Also Present:** Patti Warren, Richards School Principal, and 19 teachers and parents.

Before the meeting was called to order, board members, teachers and parents helped organize box tops for the fundraiser.

The meeting was called to order and the new PTO President, Crystal Currier, introduced herself. Brandy welcomed Crystal and thanked her for stepping up to become the President this year. She also introduced the other board members and welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

There was discussion of the upcoming events that are planned for the year. Volunteers are needed to chair various committees and to help out with each event. Crystal asked for people to fill out the volunteer forms that were sent home last week and send them back to school with their children.

Jen O'Neil and Tiffany Guyette brought up the idea to collect "Capri Sun" juice containers this year. These parents are willing to come into the school and collect the boxes once a week. Everyone voted to make this a new fundraiser.

There was also an idea for a "Target" card sign up which provides a percentage of each sale to the PTO. It was discovered that we have already been doing this, and since 1997, Target has donated \$927.79 to Richards School. It will continue to be a school fundraiser and not a PTO fundraiser.

**Teacher Request:** Mrs. Touchette is a teacher who made a request before the board. Last year was the first year that the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class didn't go to the Swam Lake Science Center, and she would like to see this year's class go. She made a proposal for the PTO to help with the cost of the payment for the bus, driver and gas. Mrs. Touchette asked for \$300.00 to help cover that cost. There was a motion for this request and there was a unanimous vote to accept to fund the trip. There were no other teacher requests at this time.

**Treasurer Report:** Brandy presented the treasurer report and financially we are doing well, and that is due to great fundraisers from last year. The PTO has sponsored a soccer team this year to get our name out there, with positive feedback. A list of budgeted amounts for each fundraiser was presented. Christine Baker asked about the Montshire or VIN to be brought back to school this year. The PTO will look into this option depending how the Halloween Festival goes. Amy will check into Northern Stage to put on a play for the kids. Patti Warren mentioned that there is a need for a sound system for the school and that Mrs. Stout is looking into the price for that.

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**Principals Report:** Patti Warren would like to set up a parent workshop with Ms. Strebble, the school nurse, along with the parents about when to keep their children home. Ms. Strebble would like to have this talk and Patti suggested that it be a PTO sponsored event. Mrs. Warren also talked about the playground adjustments that are currently being made, and Mrs. Merrow is teaching children how to be safe on the playground. She also mentioned that the school is currently short on bus drivers and they are looking for help, and paid training is provided. Budget season is upon us and if you have an item that you feel is very important and think it should be in the budget, please let your representative know.

Brandy suggested that someone from the PTO Board go to the teacher's meeting once a month to keep the communication between both organizations open. Patti Warren will provide the schedule.

Christine Skarin received an email from the Newport Montessori School suggesting that the two schools get together and do something for the community to teach the children to be involved and give back to their community. Christine will get clarification about this.

Crystal brought to everyone's attention that Diane in the front office is always looking for help and so is the cafeteria. You can let the PTO or Diane know if you are interested in volunteering.

There will be a meeting for the upcoming Halloween Festival this Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the cafeteria. A notice went home asking for people to be involved and help. The festival will be held on Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup>. The time for the event is still being discussed.

The next PTO meeting will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, which will be October 13<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria at 7:00pm.

Submitted by: Paula Johnson