

Poplar Tree Elementary School PTA
Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2012

Meeting called to order at 10:04 am by Elizabeth Zielinski.

Attendees: Mary Yee, Arian Hadley, Bonita Rogers, Elizabeth Zielinski, Allison Denenberg, Carolyn York, Chelese McClain, Sandy Jones, Jennifer Alvarez, Laurie Senio, Sandy Mileski, Stephanie Best, Susan Friedman, Charlotte Matthews, Carol Hoffman

The September 27, 2012 minutes were approved as submitted.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Williams reported that Bully Awareness Day would be observed at the school on Friday. All students were encouraged to wear purple that day. Thursday, the students would attend an assembly entitled "Taking Care" to reinforce the lessons learned in Bully Awareness Week.

President's Report

Elizabeth Zielinski reported that Picture Day will occur on October 24th. An email will be sent out to recruit volunteers needed for that day.

Treasurer's Report

Jennifer Alvarez presented the current balance sheets for everyone's review. She highlighted that the ending balance was \$23,967.32.

Committee Reports

Fall Fundraiser - Allison Denenberg reported that she has currently received \$8,777.88. This total represents an average family donation of \$45.72. Forty percent of Poplar Tree families contributed to this year's fundraiser. However, these donations only reach 58% of our intended goal of \$15,000. A flyer will go out in Friday Folders explaining the breakdown of the donations. This is done in an effort to communicate to the families who did not donate already how the collected funds are used in the school.

Spelling Bee – Mary Yee reported that the Spelling Bee will happen in the spring. Practice sessions will be offered by Mary and Maureen Aronhime a few weeks prior to the Bee for any interested students at a time to be determined. Also, instead of a History/Geography Bee, Mary and Maureen will run a six-week club, beginning on November 13th from 3:30 – 4:30pm in room 117 for interested students.

Directory – Arian Hadley reported that she has received the database information for the Directory. Every family at Poplar Tree will be listed, but it will only be distributed to PTA members. She anticipates the completed Directory will be out in November.

New Business:

GEMS (Girls Excelling in Math and Science) Program – Carol Hoffman, one of the school counselors, presented this program to the PTA. She needs a parent volunteer to be the STEM(Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) coordinator for the school. The parent would attend a monthly meeting, get women in STEM careers to speak to the students, maintain attendance lists, and promote STEM careers to the students. Chelese McClain indicated she would be able to coordinate the registration of the students. Mrs. Hoffman would like to start this group in January of 2013. She would like to attend the GEMS meeting in March with the parent volunteer.

“Celebrate Calm” – Carolyn York proposed that the PTA cover the cost of a speaker named Kirk Martin. He speaks to parents about his easy to follow theories regarding creating a calm atmosphere in the morning so that the children are calm and focused at school. He will speak to parents at Poplar Tree on November 2, 2012 at 8:45 AM. Everyone voted whether to approve payment of the \$250 fee to have the seminar at Poplar Tree. The “ayes” won the vote.

Next meeting is Tuesday, November 13 at 7 pm in the Language Arts Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 am.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary Yee