

**Fellows Elementary School PTO, Inc. Meeting  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by president Courtney Witte at 7:00 pm.

**Attendance**

Courtney Witte (President), Michelle Lenkaitis (Treasurer), Heidi Chopskie (Secretary), Carol Page (Principal,) Mavis Butler, Kelly Conner, Annie Cleveland, Peggy McConnell, Karen Green, Helen Blitvich, Alejandra Pedraya, Manimaran Govindarasu, Jody Atwood, and Teresa Albertson

**New Officer Vote**

A motion was made to accept Heidi Chopskie as PTO secretary. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Approval of May Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

Michelle presented the totals for the Fellows Fair from May 2011. The total profit for the Fellows Fair was \$13,242.84. Game sales profits were \$2,789.23 of this total.

Current balances as of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011

Main Account Balance \$25,003.05

Scrip Account Balance \$7,036.10

(Account Balances include uncleared checks.)

PTO School Supply kit sales were short \$70 due to late student assistant requests. Most of the items for the 2010 - 2011 year were under budget.

**Spirit Wear**

Dri-Fit t-shirts are a new item that is available this year and there are samples in the front hallway. Orders are due September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Great American Fundraiser**

Courtney reported the Great American Fundraiser order forms will be sent home with students on October 7<sup>th</sup> and are due back by October 21<sup>st</sup>. The orders will arrive for distribution by November 18<sup>th</sup>. The current volunteer for this fundraiser is leaving next year so a replacement will be needed for Fall 2012.

**Volunteers**

Courtney is finalizing the PTO volunteer sign up list and will contact those who are interested in serving this year. There is a shortage of volunteers interested in chairing a committee this year so the PTO will ask for additional help from parents. The goal is to have 2-3 chair volunteers for each event to divide responsibilities.

**Science Night**

Courtney reported that volunteers are greatly needed for Science Night. The goal is to find 5 interested parents to co-chair the event. Planning for Science Night is set to start in October.

### **Family Fun Night**

One volunteer is still needed to chair this event.

### **PTO Communications**

The PTO Facebook page is active and updated and can be found under the name Fellows PTO. This page will notify upcoming events, meetings, and volunteer opportunities. The link to the Fellows PTO page on the Ames Community Schools website has also been updated with current PTO information including upcoming events and current officers.

### **Ice Cream Social**

The event went very well and over 550 people were served. There was a lot of great feedback about the event.

### **Principal Update**

Carol Page thanked the PTO for their support. The students are off to a great start this year and have a lot of energy and excitement towards the new school year. Students, teachers and staff are encouraged to wear their spirit wear on the 1st Friday of the month. The music room has had the mold cleared from the room and the air quality is very good. Additional mold has been found in parts of the school and they will be working to remove it.

### **PTO Funding**

Michelle reported that the PTO is in a position to offer around \$10,000 towards new classroom materials. Items that were discussed as possible ideas for the funding included books (leveled readers) for all classrooms, iPods for the kindergarten classrooms, document cameras, desks, and Smart Boards. Leveled readers are used by all students across all the grades.

### **Yearbooks**

Teresa Albertson is finalizing the yearbook individual order price. Once finalized, order forms will go out to students this fall. The yearbooks will be produced in color this year. An idea was suggested to use the yearbook sale as a fundraiser, and have a percentage of each sale go towards a specific need for the school. A motion was made to use the profit from the yearbook sales as a fundraiser for leveled reading books. The motion was seconded and it passed unanimously. Teresa will finalize the order price for the yearbooks and a total increase for profit will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm. The next PTO meeting will be held on October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Fellows Elementary Media Center.

Minutes submitted by Heidi Chopskie - PTO secretary