

Fremont PTA Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 5th, 2010

In Attendance – Faith Levesque, Joy Wood, Nancy Bernhardt, Deb Genthner, Misty Keeler, Jodie Antoine, Brenda Silva, Elizabeth Torre, Jennifer Brown, Jennifer Brown, Jennifer Rydeen, Shawn Perreault, Tammy Bond and Camilla Fraize.

The June meeting minutes were approved.

The 2010/2011 budget was presented.

Audit - We need 3 non board members to perform an audit of the books which would involve pulling receipts and checking them against the records. Jodi Antoine, Faith Levesque and Joy Wood volunteered.

The board presented the previous board with small gifts to thank them for their service!

Kindergarten Academy is scheduled for Monday 8/9 and Tuesday 8/10 from 9:30 – 11:30. Nancy Bernhardt reported that she has assembled 60 pencil pouches, each containing; 3 pencils, crayons, topper erasers, pearl eraser, a pencil grip, stickers, and a glue stick. She reports that the cost for the pouches came to \$100.00 which is \$100.00 less than the budgeted amount.

The Welcome Back Teacher Luncheon is being organized by Jenn Brown and Tammy Bond. The date has been set for August 26th from 11:00 – 1:00 and the theme they have chosen this year is Dr. Seuss. An e-mail will be going out shortly asking for donations.

Parent Packets – Shawn Perreault reports that 600 parent packages need to be put together this year and she has planned on 6 pages per packet. Staples has given an estimated cost of \$234.00 for the copying costs. Elizabeth Torre has a connection with a printer and has offered to check into a possible deal with them.

Fremont Day Festival – The town is planning a Fremont Day Festival on September 18th from 9:00 – 6:30. They have offered town organizations the opportunity to have a free table for promotional or fundraising possibilities. The members brainstormed possible options including a kids' activity table (ie. Face painting), having books and forms available from our fall fundraiser out, and having PTA membership information and Box Top information visible. Faith Levesque offered up the use of a lollipop tree for a fundraiser and use the previously donated McDonald's toys as prizes. Jen Rydeen will investigate the options.

Fall Fundraiser – Cathy Herrmann is running the fall fundraiser again this year and would welcome any help offered. We are set up to use Meadow Farms again this year, and will run from September 15 through the 29th.

Other Business –

- Shawn passed around notes from teachers and kids thanking the PTA for Field Day.
- The district meeting is August 18th at 6pm at Atkinson Academy and will be attended by Shawn, Jenn and Jen.
- Breedia Royer e-mailed the following collection programs update:

BoxTop\$ News

A BIG thank you to all our community members who collect BoxTop\$! Last year's earnings of over \$1400.00 supported programs sponsored by the Fremont PTA for Ellis School. Many NEW grocery products can earn \$\$ for Ellis School this year – clip and collect BoxTop\$ from Land O Lakes, Progresso soups, Totinos, Gold Medal flour, Avery, Nestle Juicy Juice, and Welch's jellies. Also, you can earn 'bonus' BoxTop\$ when you buy any 3 Juicy Juice products and receive a certificate worth 10 Bonus BoxTop\$ (\$1.00 value) at the register from local stores (expires 10/31/10). Bring your BoxTop\$ to collection boxes located at the town hall, library and Ellis School lobby. Also, go to www.boxtopsforeducation.com to enter various sweepstakes to earn even more 'bonus' BoxTop\$ for Ellis School.

Labels For Education (LFE) News

Last year, over 10,000 UPC LFE points earned 17 free educational items for students at Ellis School. Ellis School can earn MORE FREE educational items this year when our community collects UPCs from Campbell soups, Swanson broths, Prego, Pepperidge Farms, Spaghettios and V-8 juice (caps only) and also (new this year) UPCs from PopSecret Popcorn and BIC office products. Bring UPCs to collection boxes located at the town hall, town library and Ellis School lobby. Also, keep collecting Tyson Chicken Project A+1-2-3 tearstrips/flaps – each one earns 24 cents for PTA programs.

Hannaford Helps Schools

Starting in September through December, when you purchase 4 participating products, you will receive a Hannaford Helps Schools certificate at the register worth \$3.00 or more. Collect and bring your certificates to collection boxes located at the town hall and Ellis School lobby as well as the Raymond Hannaford Store. Tell relatives (all over New England) to collect them and send them to you to support Ellis School. The \$\$ earned from this collection program support Fremont PTA programs for Ellis School.

- Jodie Antoine expressed the desire to bring the King Arthur Bread Making program into our school this year. This is a free program which includes a 45 minute demonstration for grades 4-7 on how to make bread incorporating the science of the process. King Arthur ships the supplies to the school then the kids will bake the bread at home. They will each receive enough

ingredients to make 2 loaves of bread; one to keep and one to donate to a community food program. Cheryl Rowell will work with Jodie to set something up (there will need to be an assembly) hopefully in the spring and Cheryl will speak with Kathy Arsenault about distributing the donated loaves to the community (possibly via the Methodist Church).

- Faith has stepped down as elementary BoxTop\$ coordinator this year and mentioned that Breeda has been doing the program for 6 years now and this is her last year with a child in the school; she thought it might be a good idea to have 2 or 3 people step forward to shadow her, in preparation to take over the program when she decides to step down. Breeda has not stated any intention of stepping down, and is happy to keep on as long as she is needed though.
- Faith volunteered to do the Sunny D promotion again this year if they do it.
- Jen Rydeen brought forward information about the Lowes Toolbox for Education program which offers the opportunity to earn up to \$5000.00 for a project for your school. Jen is willing to fill out the application but needs ideas for specific projects as the application requires specific project information. Mentioned was something to do with the greenhouse, and a new stove for the kitchen (which was mentioned by Nancy Bernhardt at the end of last year as a very needed item) though it was decided that the kind of commercial stove needed for the school is not available from Lowes. It was concluded that Mr. Brown should be contacted as he would have a good idea of specific things that are needed.
- Elizabeth Torre volunteered to research the possibility of getting a stove donated or deeply discounted by a commercial vendor.
- We do hope to have a PTA newsletter again this year; we just need to check with the school how newsletters will run this year.
- We still have the pads (used to report child absent/tardy etc..) used a couple years ago as member gifts available for use maybe as a membership incentive or to include them in the Kindergarten packets. It was decided to add to the Kindergarten packets.
- The next meeting will be Thursday, September 2, 2010 at 7pm at the Community room in the Fremont Public Library.