

Cumberland PTA Meeting
March 21, 2006

Jeanette Krogstad called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Nineteen people were in attendance.

Kathleen Newby presented the minutes of February 14th 2006. Orit Riskin moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mala Ahuja presented the Principal's Report.

- Following Officer Scott Muetting's presentation to the PTA, a team of teachers convened the Safety Committee. They would like to invite a couple of parents to their meetings. Contact Mrs. Ahuja if you would like to participate.
- The parent surveys are currently being evaluated.
- The funding priorities established by the District funding forums were (1) Technology, (2) Art and Music.
- Student testing will take place the first two weeks in May.
- Kindergarten registration will begin April 3rd.
- The Gate parent meeting will take place on April 4th.

Selected students presented Grade-Level Reports.

- Kindergarten, Colin and Michael–Math: money, making Leprechaun's for St. Patrick's Day.
- 1st Grade, Ezra and Kinsey– Unit encouraging students to keep trying, Workshops: reading and writing.
- 2nd Grade, Leon and Stephanie–Science: dinosaurs, fossils, science fair projects, Social Studies: making Leprechaun traps, Music: rehearsing for grade-level musical.
- 3rd Grade, Shara and Michelle–Math: long division, geometry, measurement, Music: practicing recorder.
- 4th Grade, Sarah, Emily, and Amelie–Social Studies: Gold Rush, visited Mission San Juan Bautista, Reading: survival.
- 5th Grade, Zachary, Ellen, and Carrie–Social Studies: the 50 states, events shaping the 13 colonies and the differences among the southern, middle, and northern colonies, American Revolution, presidential research reports. Language Arts: Constitution, making speeches.

Student Council members Courtney, C.J., and Caitlyn presented their report.

- Box top winners and prizes were announced.
- The next spirit day will be Cowboy/Cowgirl day on April 14th.
- On Friday March 24th, the first ice cream sale will be held at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Cathy Haynes presented the Treasurer's Report. The largest area of income is still walkathon as corporate matching funds continue to come in. So far, the walkathon total is \$92,378. The following figures are year-to-date as of February 28, 2006:

- Income \$221,794
- Expenditures/reserves \$88,602
- Income in excess of original plan \$30,639
- Uncommitted funds \$42,316

Ruth Helfinstein presented the Budget Report.

- Budget Committee discussed \$100 for the Special Day Class to have a special puppet assembly. Funds exist in the Assemblies line item to cover this request.
- The Budget Committee recommended approval for the purchase a foam wedge mat for somersaults in Motor Perception. (\$200) Yaulanda Spyrou moved to approve. The motion was seconded and approved.
- The new popcorn machine purchased for walkathon and family movie nights has come in. It will be used for Klutz night. Interested parents can receive training to use the machine.

Debbie White presented the School Board report.

- Board school site visits continue. Five out of six went well.
- Eric Panosian, Bishop School principal, gave a presentation.
- Stacy Joslin, Fairwood School principal, gave a presentation.
- Fourteen members of the public spoke regarding changing the current tenure system.
- Annette Grasty, Lakewood School Principal, gave a presentation. Lakewood has a family reading program and has readers of the month.
- Jeff Ainscow, President of the Sunnyvale Education Foundation, updated the Board on the auto row program, which has in a few weeks raised \$1,200 for Sunnyvale schools.
- The final recommendation regarding the \$6.386 million dollar one-time moneys was to invest the money and spend 95% of the annual interest on expanded art and music programs and the implementation of the District's Technology Plan. The Board approved this recommendation.
- A presentation was given on a pilot program to measure school accountability and to use K-5 standards-based report cards. Part of the program requires changing from quarters to trimesters. Initial feedback from parents and teachers is positive. The program is computer based and has the capability to translate English into Spanish. It has been approved to roll out district-wide in fall of 2007.
- We need volunteers to attend board meetings and report back to the PTA membership. Contact Debbie White.

Laura Healy presented the Nominating Committee update. There are still many jobs open for next year, such as Chinese Parade volunteers, Auditor, school t-shirts, publicity, First Vice President, walkathon concessions (food). Write to one of the following members of the Nominating Committee if you or someone you know may be interested.

- Ruth Helfinstein
- Yaulanda Spyrou
- Cathy Haynes
- Denielle Fussell
- Carolyne Wong
- Laura Healy

Becky Hunt informed us that the Book Fair starts next Wednesday. More volunteers are needed for one or two hours at a time. Even 30 minutes could be helpful. Also, she is collecting Girl Scout cookie boxes for the plastic inserts inside. Contact Becky Hunt if you can help.

Jeanette Krogstad made the following announcements:

- All docents, parents and teachers are invited to attend a FAME meeting on March 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Library to evaluate this year's program and plan for next year.
- An offer was made to a candidate for Noon League Coordinator. Jeanette is still collecting names of parents interested in being part of the program on Monday or Wednesday at lunchtime. The Noon League program launch is targeted for Monday, April 10th. Parent volunteers will receive training on conflict resolution.
- The recommendation team presented two areas to spend the annual interest income of \$350,00 from desegregation funds: technology and arts/music. Use of these funds will be distributed equitable among the 10 school sites and reevaluated every couple of years.
- A Sacramento visit is scheduled for Wednesday, May 17th for Dr. Rudnicki and interested parents to meet legislators and discuss school/educational issues. The trip take from 8:30 to 3:30 p.m. Dr. Rudnicki will provide talking points.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.