

## Grove PTO Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2009

Welcome: Sharon Zogg, President

- Introduced PTO Board

Principal's Report by John Lutes:

- Welcome to all parents & attending staff. We have 730 children at Grove. It's been a lot of fun & a lot of work to keep our building safe. It's very rewarding this time year after the August registration as we now get back into a routine. Thank you for all your help as we get the SOS Grove sailing. All in all we're off to a wonderful start. We will say goodbye to about 200 gators next year with the new school being built, Benjamin School. No one wants to leave the school, but the new school will be a fine school. The staff for Benjamin will be selected in late fall, early winter. Later in the spring, there will most likely be an open house, probably at the high school for these new students. At that point, a mascot will be chosen for the school. Rest assured there will be a good plan for transition to the new school. Please come if you have any concerns or questions.
- Thank you to Mike Trask for the planning of the shelter project.
- Thank you on the Volunteer Program & understanding this new procedure. Once the application is complete, the school will contact you to let you know that you can pick up your badge at the school.
- The H1N1 flu is currently being addressed. Nurse Susi Marcum is at the fore front of this health concern. The health department would ultimately dictate if we would ever need to close our doors but we are working very hard to prepare for all these concerns. All announcements would be posted on our website.
- If you become aware of an incident at our school, will parents be notified? H1N1 is already existing in the area, so no we would not make an announcement of a specific instance. When the number becomes significant & the health department notifies that we need to close our doors, then we will do so.
- This past summer, we worked with engineers to place security system in school. There will be 27 different cameras monitoring the school parameter. Telephones will be placed in every classroom. We will have a carded buzzing system at the front of building. In addition to all this, there will be a smart board installed in every classroom. Cameras will run 24 hours, all year long. Please know the cameras will be a supplement to our security & we will not let down our guard upon holding each other accountable to securing our building.

- The bus lane & traffic is working well & as long as people use it correctly, it will keep the congestion to a minimum.

#### Announcements by Sharon Zogg:

- Approved April Meeting Minutes, motion approved.
- Due to scheduling conflict, we will not be able to provide child care at the next meeting.
- We are still working on the shelter project with a goal finish date in late October 2009.

#### Committee Leaders and Reports

CAC Report: Citizens Advisory Council: We work on topics assigned by the Unit 5 Board. We came up with 6 topics the district will study. Go out on Unit 5 website for any information to peruse along with the new topics for discussion. 1 of the topics is on Literacy, another is regarding drop out & attempting to reduce those numbers.

Room Parent/Volunteer Coordinator: A few teachers are still in need of room parents. Contact Mary Beth Vasilou if interested. Room Parent meeting is on 9/21.

Birthday Book Program: Fee for book program was lowered this year to \$10. Book Fair will be week of 10/19 thru 10/23.

Library Coordinator: Volunteer schedule is currently being set. There will be a meeting for them following the Room Parent 9/21 meeting.

Box Tops/Campbell Soup Labels: The square box tops on many different food/box labels are being collected throughout the year. We'll have a contest among the classes for collecting the most box tops. The first set will need to be collected by end of October. The winner will get Allie the Gator & a popcorn party. Separate the soup labels from the box tops. With the soup labels there is a catalog of items we can choose from to purchase with the soup labels collected.

Historian:

Hospitality: The First luncheon for the teachers was the first full day back to school. We had plenty of food & volunteers but we could have used more manpower with setting up tables & moving things. Parent/Teacher conferences will be next luncheon.

Publicity/Directory: Hoping to have this out early October. This is a great resource with all parents/children contact info.

Spirit Wear: Sale will in the next 2 weeks, form will be coming home for you to place orders. There will also be display out in front of office for people to view the apparel.

Website: Give Mike a call if you have any announcements to place on website.

### Fundraising:

Unraiser: No unraiser this year, we will be taking a break from that this year.

Market Day: Off to a great start. Our first sale made \$400, it started in the middle of the craziness when school just started. We have a great pool of volunteers. Curbside pickup is for prepaid orders & definitely worth it.

Family Fun Night: Date not officially set but will be on a Saturday again this year. We will be seeking donations again for this event. We're looking into starting a committee designated to donations. Contact Sharon Zogg if you are interested.

Scrip: We finally have a tax id which qualifies us to begin this fund raiser. Basically, you buy gift cards to use at stores that you frequent & once it's used, the school gets 2% profit for your purchase. We are doing a pilot with the teachers currently to work out any kinks before we present to parents. These will also have to be prepaid. We're hoping to have this ready before the holiday so you can begin using it when purchasing Christmas gifts.

Teacher Reps: Everything is going well. We've had some very busy Gators starting assessments. We appreciate the lunch that the PTO does for all the teachers.

Treasurer's Report: See Income Statement. Budget was passed. It was requested by Mr. Lutes to provide a \$2500 budget for the Benjamin PTO. This would be a very supportive thing to do for the new school.

Closing