

Parent Guild Meeting Minutes: January 5, 2010

Joe Woods, President of the Parent Guild, called meeting to order at 6:06PM

Members Present: Joe Woods, Brenda Salisbury, Kathy Szachta, Julu Brillati, Abmber Brown, Tracy Vessey, Rebecca Rosebolt, Srah Kapinen, Christin Moore, Valerie Malletta, Ms. Rousseau, Nick Sauvis

Introductions

- Introductions of parents, teachers, and administrators

Notifications / Information

- Motion to accept the meeting minutes from last month made by a parent - A member present seconded the motion. Motion accepted.
- In an effort to be more eco-friendly, the Parent Guild has decided to significantly decrease any hard copy handouts we have provided in the past. Moving forward, communications from the Parent Guild will be sent via email. If you have not yet supplied the Parent Guild with your email address, please see the front table across from the main office for the form to be filled out by the parent (s) and returned to the Parent Guild or contact Brenda Salisbury. Thank you for supporting us in our efforts to cut down on paper waste and expense.
- In addition, the Parent Guild will be happy to accommodate any parents who do not have access to email. On the Notifications / Information form there is an option for parents to designate the preferred method of non-electronic communications to be sent to them from the Parent Guild. For additional information, please feel free to contact one of the Parent Guild Officers.
- Parent Guild updates will be sent via email and on Facebook. Please search the group function on Facebook to locate the page. Search groups: **Mt Clemens Montessori Academy Parent Group. Parents must send a request to participate in the group.**
- **Citizens Bank is closing and will no longer conduct banking day effective immediately.**

Treasurer Report / Budget – Gita Tyza – Overview given by Joe Woods

- Joe Woods and Brenda Salisbury reviewed budget. Any questions please contact Joe or Gita
- HUGE success...Gaming Nights for 2009 raised \$15,000 for the Parent Guild

Fundraisers / Family Fun Events

- **Penny Battle ~ and the winner is...**

Congratulations to Ms. Palermino's classroom with a winning amount of 24,177 pennies collected during January 4 - 8. Students will enjoy a movie/pj day. What a great start to the New Year! We collected 146,119 pennies during our first week back from the holidays. Making a grand total of 205,591 pennies collected at the end of the contest. The collected \$10,000 from the 1,000,000 Penny Drive Fundraiser was voted on at the last Parent Guild meeting and received an approval to purchase 15 new computers for the Computer Lab; existing computers from the computer lab will be updated and disbursed to every classroom. Please keep the pennies coming in. ***A special note of thanks to Amber, Heather, Dawn, Joe, and Brenda who helped count all those pennies every morning.

- **Jan 19 - Feb 19: Recycle Cartridges Contest**

Bring in any empty inkjet cartridges, laser cartridges, used cell phones, laptops (power cord must be included) and PDA's. For more information on eligible items go to: www.cartridgeforkids.com. Unfortunately we cannot take monitors or printers at this time. Winning classroom gets their choice of classroom party. Contact Joe Woods for any further questions.

- **Jan 25 - Feb 5: Box Tops for Education Contest**

The Classroom who brings in the most Box Tops will win a Pizza Party. Clip box tops from major products such as: General Mills, Betty Crocker, Old El Paso, Hamburger Helper, and many more. Go to www.boxtops4education.com to get a list of products, coupons, recipes, bonus offers, etc.

- **February 14 & 15: 2nd Annual Winter Fun Event at Kalahari Water Park In Sandusky, Ohio**

Stay Sunday, February 14th OR Monday, February 15th, 2010: Stay 1 or 2 nights - the choice is yours! Mark your calendar to be part of the annual tradition at Kalahari - America's LARGEST indoor water park! Getaway without going far from home, and save! Sunday discounted rate is \$144 and Monday is \$114. These special rates available for all Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy families, staff, and friends! Rates available only on dates listed above. Call now to reserve your space. Limited number available at these prices. Standard room sleeps 4-6, and includes passes for 4 to the water park! Up to 2 additional guests may be added to sofa bed for \$20 per person. Lodge Suite sleeps 4 and includes 4 passes. Book your reservations at [1-877-Kalahari](tel:1-877-Kalahari); mention MCMA PG to ensure discount, our code is 7874.

Fundraisers / Family Fun Events, Continued

- **February 13, 14 & 15: Gaming Night at Sunnybrook Golf**

Volunteers are needed to sell gaming chips on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 1:30pm until 2:00am. This has been a successful and exciting new addition to our fundraising efforts. Please contact Joe Woods at (586) 405-5038 to sign up. Your help is greatly appreciated to cover any regular volunteers who may be in Kalahari.

Upcoming Events:

- **Bowling Party at Total Sports (Date ...TBD)**
- **Gym/Playground Equipment Drive.** Please think of donating any new or gently used sports equipment for recess such as: soccer balls, footballs, plastic horseshoes, frisbees, cloth jump ropes, etc...
- **Buffalo Wild Wings Family Night** - February date to be arranged on a Wednesday.
- **Labels for Education contest in March.**

SPECIAL THANKS!!! To everyone who enjoyed Family Night in December at Max & Erma's. From your support we earned 20% of every sale and received a check in the amount of \$220.96.

Review and Vote: Proposals to Spend Funds

- How to spend the funds raised from the 1,000,000 Pennies Drive
- Recycling Containers proposal for classrooms
- Adopt a pet for the Go Green (recycling) initiative for 2010. Option: Wolverine for Michigan

Committees

- Please join our efforts this year to achieve 20 points of Energy and Environmental Activities needed to receive the Green School Honor Award!
The Parent Guild approved purchasing recycling containers to place in the classrooms and we will be adopting an endangered wild animal.
- **Additional volunteers are needed for the library in 2010. Please contact Joe Woods to support our school library.**

Please support these efforts to earn CASH for school programs:

- **Capri Sun**

Join us in the Pouch Brigade. A donation to our school of \$0.02 per pouch is received for every type of aluminum juice pouch the school sends to Terracycle. Please empty the pouch of any liquid and discard the straw; send it to school or place them in one of the several recycling containers located throughout the school. *We have collected 8037 and received \$160.74 this year from the Juice Pouches.* For more information go to: www.Terracycle.net

- **Frito Lays**

Join us in the new Bag Brigade! Frito-Lay will make a donation to our school of \$0.02 for every bag collected (all Frito-Lay brands and sizes are included). For more information about up-cycling visit: www.terracycle.net. *From our beginning efforts, we have collected 140 bags and received \$2.80 from Frito lay bags.*

- **Box Tops for Education**

The Box Tops for Education program allows you to earn cash for your school every time you buy groceries. Clip Box Tops coupons from hundreds of participating General Mills products, each school can earn a maximum of \$20,000 annually. *A check in the amount of \$379.27 was received this month; next turn in date is February 24, 2010.*

- **Labels for Education**

Collect UPC labels from eligible Campbell's products. Go to www.labelsforeducation.com for a list of products.

Current points accumulated: 12,781. Future Wish List items: 24' Parachute Canopy, 50' Tug-o-War Rope, Multisport Ball Pack. Total points required: 15,200.

- **Kroger Plus Card**

Go to www.elabelsforeducation.com to register your Kroger Plus Card. Every time you shop at Kroger and purchase any eligible *Labels for Education* products, total points earned will be credited to your school's *Labels for Education* account automatically. Just remember to choose the school or schools you would like to receive your *e-Labels for Education* points, or your school will not receive the points you earn. Even grandparents and family members in other cities and states can earn points and show support for their loved ones by registering their favorite eligible Shoppers Card. It's easier than ever to Earn Free Stuff for Your School!

Committees, continued

January Bonus Offer (1/3/10 – 2/2/10)

Starting January 3rd and running through February 2nd, 2010, registered e-Labels for Education users will automatically receive 250 *Labels for Education* Bonus points with the purchase of any 10 participating *Labels for Education* products in the same transaction using their Shopper's Card. Purchases must be made in a single transaction and between January 3rd, 2010 and February 2nd, 2010. You must be registered e-Labels for Education user prior to purchasing the products in store in order to receive the bonus points. Points will automatically be deposited to your e-Labels for Education account.

- **Meijer Community Rewards**

Purchases made at your local Meijer stores can earn our school dollars. You can either get a Meijer Community Rewards card (similar to a Kroger card) or a Meijer MasterCard. Either one will earn Meijer Community Rewards. Simply sign up online: www.meijer.com/mymeijer or at the store. Our organization code is: **466507**. *Rewards earned: \$103.69.*

- **Target Take Charge of Education**

Target automatically tracks purchases made by participating RED cardholders, then sends a no-strings-attached donation check directly to the school. If you own a TARGET credit card please inquire online or at your local TARGET store how you can sign up to have a portion of the dollars you spend at TARGET go directly back to your school. You can track your school's progress at Target.com/tcoe. Our school ID is: **22273**. *Amount accumulated towards next Target donation: \$110.74*

Please contact Brenda Salisbury for any further information.

- **GL SCRIPTS PROGRAM ARE STILL BEING SOLD**

The Scrips program is fundraising while you shop. The program allows you to purchase scrip cards for everyday expenses like food, gas, clothing, and entertainment from a wide variety of popular retailers while earning a percentage of each dollar for not only the school but for the families who participate. *Monies given back to the families will be put into a special account to use only towards school purchases such as: Preschool Tuition, Day Care Fees, Field Trip costs, Classroom supplies, Donations, etc.* Kim Durham will be running the program and plans on taking orders through the summer months as well. Please contact Kim at (586) 677-6555 with any questions or go to www.glscript.com

- **Volunteers are needed for the Teacher Appreciation Committee. Teacher Appreciation is held in May 2010.**

Principal's Report

- 2010-2011 School Year – Early Registration forms are due in January 2010. Open registration begins January 26th, 2010. There is a new form for the 2010-2011 school year due to federal guidelines.
- Student Count Day is February 10th, 2010. Very important that all students attend school on student count day!!!
- Budget cuts pushed out until next year.

Additional Notes / Highlights

- **SEPTEMBER...Parent Guild purchased two lunch tables for the school in September 2009**
- **SEPTEMBER...Parent Guild: approved in September \$1000 to benefit the Positive Behavior Support program at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy**
- **DECEMBER...Proposal was reviewed by the Parent Guild to fund the purchase of drums for the music program. Mr. Casey requested \$800 for the purchase of the musical equipment. Motion was made to accept the proposal by Jennifer lafrate. A member present seconded the motion. Proposal accepted.**
- **DECEMBER...Joe Woods presented a staff request for the purchase of additional playground equipment. The proposal requested \$300 to be used for the purchase of new equipment. Parents suggested that a "PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT DRIVE" drive be organized in 2010 and use the \$300 for the purchase of a larger item/items. A suggestion was made to survey the staff on their "wish list" for playground. All agreed that the proposal be tabled until a survey is sent out and a drive is organized for gently used playground equipment.**
- **Again...the Parent Guild is in need of volunteers to support all the efforts for this school year. Please get involved by signing up to participate on a committee. It will make a difference for your children! The kids need you...**

Meeting called to close at 6:53pm