

# Parent Guild Meeting Minutes: November 3rd, 2009

**Brenda Salisbury, VP of the Parent Guild, called meeting to order at 6:08PM**

**Members Present:** Brenda Salisbury, Shannon Theut, Grace Agrusso, Dawn Siersma, Jennifer lafrate, Amber Brown, Jo'Lena Brown, Evelin Valdez, Sarah Kaphen, Rebecca Rosbolt, Paula Kinder

## Introductions

- Introductions of parents, teachers, and administrators

## Notifications / Information

- Motion to accept the meeting minutes from last month made by Dawn Siersma - 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. Right now we have about 180 people signed up. 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. Hard copies are also available if requested on the notification form that was sent out to parents at the beginning of the school year.
- Brenda / Shannon discussed the Parent Guild page 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.**

## Treasurer Report / Budget – Gita Tyza – Overview given by Brenda S.

- Copies of budget were placed at every table for review
- Brenda Salisbury provided an overview of the monthly budget. For specific questions pertaining to the budget, please contact Gita Tyza or Joe Woods
- If you have an idea (how to increase the budget) – please submit it, in writing, to the Parent Guild for further review.
- Member motioned to accept the budget. Member present seconded the motion. October budget accepted.

## Fundraisers / Family Fun Events

- We will be holding Family Nights, monthly. A calendar listing the Family Fun Nights will be posted on the school website soon. The calendar will highlight the locations, dates and times; HOWEVER, all are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Please check back regularly for the latest updates.
- The next Family Fun Night is on November 12<sup>th</sup> at Shogun's on Van Dyke and 16-½ mile road. Details to follow.
- Pumpkin Sales went well. Sales totaled around \$350. Sales were down from prior year.
- Fun Walk was successful. The walk raised \$3,634. We are still waiting for remaining funds to be collected. We are so thankful to all our volunteers, Barb Dempsey, the mayor of Mt. Clemens, and Kurt and Sandie Graber for their support in making this event so much fun. We have 37 t-shirts that we need to order for students who raised more than \$50. We are waiting for the remaining funds to be collected before providing the final shirt count. We had a problem with the wristband order. We are working on a solution. Bands will not be handed out until we determine how to handle the order mix up.
- Gaming Nights were discussed. The last gaming night \$2,000 + was raised. Mrs. Palermino explained the gaming nights and how the Parent Guild can benefit. Parents were asked to sign up for a time to volunteer for the next gaming night event. The next gaming night event will be held at the end of November. Please contact Joe Woods to volunteer for a time slot.

## Fundraisers / Family Fun Events

- Several parents suggested ideas for possible locations to host the Family Fun Nights. If parents have suggestions please submit a detailed written request so the Parent Guild can discuss all potential venues.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Winter Getaway at Kalahari Water Park In Ohio to take place in February 2010. We have a block of rooms already reserved. Please contact Joe Woods for additional information.
- Roller Skating Party, November 11th - Times (TBD). More to follow at the end of the week.
- We are working on scheduling a Bowling Party at Total Sports for January 2010. Details to follow.

## Committees

- We are in need of volunteers!!!! We have A LOT of committees!!!! Please support our efforts by getting involved
- Sheets were displayed for each committee needed for the 2009-2010 school year at the Parent Guild Meeting. Parents were encouraged to sign up for the committee they were most interested in helping out.
- We also are in need of a Parent/Teacher liaison to communicate weekly/monthly with the teachers to keep them informed of all the events.
- Brenda will be sending out an email next week to parents who have expressed interest in participating on a committee. A chairperson will be identified for each committee.
- Earn CASH for your school programs - - Brenda Salisbury gave a brief overview of the Box Tops, Campbell Soup Labels, and Capri Sun (Teracycle) initiatives. Please contact Brenda Salisbury for any information. Brenda collects from classrooms weekly. PLEASE support to earn cash for your school programs.
- Brenda/Shannon provided a brief overview of the Scripts program. Kim Durham will be running the program for the holiday season. Please contact Joe Woods or Kim with any questions. Further details to follow soon.
- We are looking at tracking the Parent Guild's efforts, monthly, in some form of communication. We are looking for suggestions and assistance with this task.

## Committees, continued

### *Fundraisers the Parent Guild will be supporting to raise funds this school year...*

- **Penny Drive:** Brenda Salisbury provided a brief overview of the Penny Drive. The goal is to reach one million pennies. Pennies are collected regularly from classrooms. BIG thanks to Amber's husband Ryan for making the Penny Drive collection box. We currently have over 16,000 pennies. Brenda asked if the teachers would allow one child each collection day to pour pennies into the storage bin. Please contact Joe Woods or Brenda Salisbury for additional information.
- **Parents expressed an interest in having their children be more involved with the spirit of giving this year.** The holiday committee will explore potential options. All agreed that a giving tree would be a GREAT idea!
- Brenda is in need of ideas for a Campbell Soup Label contest
- Parents expressed concern over NOT receiving information/updates from the Parent Guild meetings. Brenda informed the group that updates would be forthcoming.

## Principal's Report

- Ms. Agrusso thanked the Parent Guild, parents and staff for their continued support
- Ms. Agrusso asked for assistance to finish the front of the school clean up. We need knowledgeable helpers to prepare the plants/flowers for the cold months ahead. If you have any time to donate it would be greatly appreciated!
- Ms. Agrusso presented the Parent Guild with the Field Trip payment sheet, which funds \$5 per child for field trips.

## Additional Notes / Highlights

- **Parent Guild purchased two lunch tables for the school in September 2009**
- **Parent Guild: approved in September \$1000 to benefit the Positive Behavior Support program at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy**

- **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...**