

The Ella Canavan PTO met in regular session on March 9, 2010 at Buehlers, 3626 Medina Road, Medina, OH. This meeting was held in the Community Room.

Mrs. Blender's Book Talk: "Why Write Letters? 10 ways to simplify and enjoy your life" by Donna E. Schaper

President, Melody Costello, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jacqui Moore, Melody Costello, Todd Costello, Tracy Bayer, Leslie Burns, Shirley Larabee, Brian Condit, Janice Jokkel, Allison Lynskey, Michelle Brenner, Susan West, Sue Bolender, Lilly Selva

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Leslie Burns – Leslie forgot to bring minutes. Will read and approve at April meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly Prostor – Kelly was not present at the meeting. No report.

President's Report: Melody Costello – Announced that we are looking for individuals to fill committee positions for 2010-2011 school year.

Vice President's Report: Jenn Piehler – Jenn was not present at the meeting. Melody said that the VP is responsible for calculator orders each school year. In previous years, calculator order forms went home in the fall. For 2009/2010 school year we tried sending order forms home in the spring and online ordering. The intent was to lighten parents loads in the fall and have a spring deadline for ordering. Online ordering went well, however, many parents were still trying to order calculators in the fall although we had many written correspondence that the deadline was in the spring. Brian said that the school is considering purchasing calculators to keep in the classrooms and to hold off sending any information home for now. This is only if it is in the budget. If this does not go through, we will probably wait until fall and send a notice home in the summer with the school newsletter that states which calculator students need and that we will be offering them for sale in the fall.

Principal's Report: Brian Condit – *Prepared report attached at bottom.* Brian also mentioned that Kelly McLaren-Olin's students will be at the MCS board meeting to share with the board the new program, R12, they developed. They worked with Miles Reed on the program and will share some of the program and their experiences with the board.

Staff Reports: Tracy Bayer was present. She had nothing to report on behalf of staff. She did say that the school system notified the teachers who would not be returning in the fall on Friday, March 5th at the end of the day. She said there was much sadness but by Monday everything was back to normal for the sake of the students. Mrs. Bolender was present and said that 3rd graders are getting ready for achievement testing.

Committee Chairperson Reports:

Beautification: No Report

Birthday Books: No Report

Committee Chairperson Reports Continued:

Blood Drive: No Report

Canavan Café: No Report

COSI: Crystal Johnson – Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with COSI this year. Your time and dedication is appreciated.

Directory: No Report

Family Events

Family Reading Events: Mary Steele - No Report

Book Exchange: No Report

Puzzlemania: Leslie Burns – We have 92 participants signed up at this point.

Math & Science Night: Lisa Bradford - we are planning a night for the kids to have fun with math and science on April 8, 2010. Volunteers are needed to help plan and run a few of the events. Contact Lisa if you would like to help at (330) 241-5550.

Bowling & Skating Parties: Eve Whitmore - No Report

Spring Open House

Art Show: Stacie Yates – No Report

Ice Cream Social: Stephanie Hutz – No Report

Jr. Great Books: Jackie Spinelli – No Report

Market Day: Carol Matozzo/Susan West – No Report

Mini Grants: Michelle Brenner – No Report

Playground Equipment: Joan Haberkorn – No Report

Redemptions

Box Tops: Todd Costello – Keep collecting and turning in Box Tops! The grade level that turns in the most by May will win a pizza party, courtesy of Mr. Condit. The class that turns in the most will get an ice cream party. And a surprise visitor will visit Ella Canavan if we reach our goal of \$3,500 by May 1, 2010. We are currently at 75% of our goal. Todd also discussed the different ways we can earn money with Box Tops besides just clipping and encourages all families and staff members to visit the Box Tops website. You can find this by clicking on the link at ellacanavan.com.

Campbell's UPCs: Lisa Jenkinson – No Report

Tyson A+ Labels: Todd Costello – No Report

Room Parents: Leslie Burns – We are looking for a new chairperson for 2010/2011 school year. If someone is interested in learning more about this, contact Leslie Burns at (330) 241-4914.

Round Up: Jenn Piehler/Leslie Burns – No Report

Safety Calls: Becky Parkhurst – No Report

Scholarships: Crystal Johnson – No Report

Committee Chairperson Reports Continued:

Specialty Grants: Allison Lynskey – approved one grant for the month of March. The grant was awarded to Marcia Young for library materials in the amount of \$85.30. Marcia will purchase four library skills games that will reinforce basic library skills for all students during library lessons.

Spiritwear: Mary Stewart – No Report

Staff Appreciation: Mary Stewart / Jacqui Moore – No Report

Volunteers: Stephanie Hutz – No Report

Ways & Means: CHAIR POSITION OPEN – No Report

Welcome: Nora Epplen – No Report

New Business: Allison Lynskey questioned the dates for Right to Read Week. Melody would like to add Field Trips - \$3,500 as a line item in the budget. Todd Costello made a motion to approve. Allison Lynskey second. All present in favor. Motion approved.

Old Business:

Akron Aeros Baseball Game – May 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. In previous years we have sponsored a Cleveland Indians Night. This year we chose Akron Aeros to change things up and it's more cost effective to families. The Aeros will make the flyer and print them. This is the same Saturday as Medina prom.

Fundraising for 2010/2011. We had a special meeting on March 5th in Room 10 at Ella Canavan to discuss fund raising for next year. A final conclusion has not been made. Ideas included Jump-A-Thon, Walk-A-Thon, Kids Stuff Coupon Book Sales, Round-Up, Winter Gift Shopping for Children, Dining Night for Parents, Father/Daughter Dance, Mother/Daughter Banquet and other family gathering events.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 p.m. announced by Melody Costello, President.

Next Meeting: Friday, April 9, 2010 at Ella Canavan Elementary School in Room 10. You must sign in at the office before proceeding to meeting.

**Ella Canavan Elementary
Principal's Board Report
March 2010**

Healthy Living News

In Mrs. Jones' third grade Healthy Living classes (funded through the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission aka "The Anti-Drug Levy") students at Canavan learned about the effects of advertising. Students then created their own Healthy Living advertisement. This year there were more than 600 entries in the entire district! At least one winner was chosen from each third grade classroom. In many instances the posters were so well done, that more than one winner was selected. Canavan would like to recognize the following students for their outstanding, winning posters.

Mrs. Bolender's class:

Madelyn Miller
Kirsten Gormley
Griffin Hager

Mrs. Korud's class:

Jacob Ambrosetti
Tyler Clouse
Wesley Watkins

Miss. Briggs' class:

Ryan Broz

Mrs. Schneider's Class

Timmy Armstrong
Alli Pankow
Alan Cook
Taylor Rudolph
Seth Pajur
Caitlyn Gow

Greek Night

Students in Mrs. Machalec and Mrs. Nickley's 4th grade classrooms recently participated in Greek Night. Students in both classes read the book, Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief. This book inspired the students to write their own myths. As a culminating activity Mrs. Machalec and Mrs. Nickley hosted Greek Night. Students were able to share their myths with parents. It was a great event and a fun way for the students to share their myths.

The Invention Convention Club

The Invention Convention Club is coming to Ella Canavan. Gifted Intervention Specialist, Kelly McLaren-Olin is organizing the club and will culminate with an Invention Convention in April. The Invention Convention is all about the kids. It is a program designed to inspire, encourage, reward, and recognize students, K-8, for using their creativity and imagination in developing new solutions to everyday problems. The program is both fun and educational for students. It teaches them important life skills and helps them become creative problem solvers. Many of our young inventors have also taken their ideas to the next step getting provisional or full patents and/or working with a company to turn their idea into a product that is now in stores. Participants also have the opportunity to win college scholarships – we have award over \$300,000 in scholarships to Ohio students over the last 12 years.

Brian Condit

Principal, Ella Canavan Elementary School