



**WILLIAM F. STANLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION**

250 SOUTH STREET, WALTHAM, MA 02453

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, October 14, 2008, 7 PM  
Stanley School Cafetorium**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with 26 people in attendance.

**President's Welcome: Susan McKinney**

Welcome. Meeting is being expedited tonight, mostly because of the ball game at 8:07. Please be sure to get a copy of the handout (appended to these minutes) that Susan prepared as a summary. These items will not be brought up in the meeting unless someone has questions about it. This may be a format we continue to use in the future. The winner of the membership raffle is Susan Saulnier .

**Recording Secretary's Report (handout): Lisa Wise**

- o Motion to accept by Andrea W. seconded by Christine P. Minutes accepted.

**Corresponding Secretary's Report: Jennie Scafidi**

- o The PTO gave out fall stipends in the form of a \$25 Staples card to each teacher and specialist in the school. We have received thirteen thank you notes for those.
- o We received a thank you note from Mrs. Nadeau for the flag we purchased for her to use in the Flag Day ceremony. She is very happy she won't have to borrow one anymore!
- o We received a thank you note from Julia Wall, one of the recipients of last year's DARTS scholarships.

**Treasurer's Report (handout): Reid Lyons**

Our combined assets total ~\$30k. The treasury is very healthy. We had a better than expected outcome in the last fiscal year (we raised ~\$2000 more than we planned to) and we are about \$500 ahead of our budget plan right now. This is due to better than expected results from the Shopping Cart and the large Shaw's submission that went in over the summer. This does not mean that we can afford to lose focus. We need to continue to encourage participation in the Shopping Cart to prove it is viable as a year-round fundraiser. We can continue to support requests for funding as long as we continue to have income, and right now we are healthy enough to approve the two requests for additional funding that we will vote on tonight.

- o Motion to accept by Christine P. seconded by Sandy K. Report accepted.

**VOTE:** Appropriate \$2,000 to buy an AccuCut Mark IV roller die cutting machine with dies. The vote was **APPROVED**.

**VOTE:** Appropriate \$600 to buy a set of speakers for family events. The vote was **APPROVED**.

**Discussion:**

- o **Waltham Day:** Jennie Scafidi/Colette Casey-Brenner Waltham Day was a big success. We took in \$138 on the candy, and also sold 2 Entertainment Books and \$200 worth of Hannaford cards.
- o **Movie Night:** Chris Hogan Movie Night went well. We took in about \$300. Planning to make it earlier the next time around and have pizza instead of candy. We will also incorporate the next one with a "Parents Night Out" that will have a \$20 max per family.

- **Evening of Giving: Lauren Doherty** This event is put on by the Simon Mall Foundation. We get \$7/ticket sold. Tickets are \$10 and it's November 23<sup>rd</sup> most stores give a % off for the night. If you plan ahead you can prepurchase shopping cart cards and "double dip."
- **Holiday Shopping: Christine Power** This is not a fundraiser - it's an event for the kids to purchase gifts for their family members. October 29<sup>th</sup> is the date that the committee will get together at the school to wrap up everything and take inventory. A mention will go into the next tidbits looking for snowmen and/or snowflake wrapping paper ONLY. Shopping will be the first week of December which is right after the Thanksgiving break.
- **Holiday Bake sale: Kris Scheufele** Being held on the day of the Holiday Concert which is going to be December 12<sup>th</sup>. Lots of volunteers are needed to help package and price goods that have been brought in by teachers/parents. Children are not allowed to purchase the goods just the adults. We make sure that if you are helping out at the table you do not miss your child's performance.
- **Fundraising: Susan McKinney** Details are in the handout.

### **Principal's Report: Marcia Pertuz**

- **School Advisory Council.** There has been one nominee, Kris Scheufele. Result of the voting is in favor of Kris Scheufele joining the SAC. We received an email from the music department that the district music program has received a grant from the Education and Beyond Foundation to form and honors band. A note will go home with those children who teachers feel are up for the challenge. We are still looking for a challenge teacher and a committee is going to a challenge meeting soon. Costco has given our children backpacks with supplies. Linda Manning let us know that the grant she wrote to bring in a musician has also been approved. Our staff did the denim day and raised \$200. We have a new secretary at the school, Donna Donovan, and she comes to us with a lot of administrative background. The afterschool program is looking to start a before school program.

### **Open Discussion:**

- Mrs. Larson has asked the PTO for a vote for \$2000 for the library. She plans to order many through Amazon.com, which will save us money indirectly. The school department only gave about \$4000 and to be spent on curriculum related books first and then the series books. Shai brought up the honor roll issue because the school made a decision to cut this out due to the new report card system. It was brought up to Dr. Wyeth and he said that he would look into it and it appears that it has been overlooked. It is felt that the kids really need to feel that they have a certain sense of accomplishment. There has to be some sort of a system to acknowledge academic achievement. There is a meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> by the report card steering committee to discuss how do we honor achievement now that we do not have an honor roll system. Marcia said that if we are going to address the School Committee with the issue we should also go to them with a solution.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be having a special presentation on the PDD program that is housed here at Stanley.

A motion was made to adjourn by Kris S. at 8:16pm seconded by Andrea w.

## Susan's Notes for 10/14/08

### CALENDAR

- Cub Scout registration for kids in Grades 1-5 is this Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.
- There is a Healthy Behaviors seminar on the 15<sup>th</sup> and a Special Education Parents Council meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Cart order is going in on 18 October.
- Picture day is 21 October.
- Wendy's night is 28 October.
- Daylight Saving Time ends on 2 November.
- Next PTO meeting is on 12 November.

### NOTES

- **Shopping Cart** - Continues to show promise. Our profits in this FY are \$500 and \$1330 since we started. That is a pretty good showing so far. Now is the time to start talking to your family, friends and neighbors about their holiday shopping. By ordering their gift cards through us, they can save themselves the time and effort that goes into running down all those gift cards at the stores. I am pretty confident that even given the recent dire economic news, we can still come out way ahead on this. BUT THE ONLY WAY TO DO IT IS WITH EVERYONE DOING THEIR PART! Our next order is due October 18<sup>th</sup>. We have a special promotion to give a cascading card wallet to everyone ordering \$200 or more worth of cards.
- **Wendy's night** - HUGE success. Never saw it so crowded in there! We are expecting a check for about \$330, plus we sold \$370 worth of Cart Cards for another \$15 profit. The manager has assured me that at the **next one on October 28<sup>th</sup>** he will be sure that they are properly staffed. You may also want to consider ordering your food at the drive-thru, which was much quicker, and bringing it in to the restaurant to eat it. We will be selling Wendy's cards at the restaurant this time as well.
- **Box Tops** - Cid has us on track for submission at the end of the month. It is up close to \$600 right now. Thanks to everyone who donated their addresses for the double coupon promotion.
- **Hannaford** - We have the community giving box at Hannaford for the month of November to benefit the Scholarship Fund.
- **Membership** - We have 97 memberships so far, close to the 100 we hoped for. 71 are families, 26 are staff. We also received \$160 in additional donations and \$105 for the Scholarship Fund.
- **Entertainment Books** - This closed out on Friday. We made \$1387 and still have a few books to sell so it could go up. Many thanks to Jen Finney for taking this on when I had to be out of town during the week of the final processing, and to the other volunteers (Lauren Doherty, Chris Hogan, Erin Jensen, Jessica Mailman, Kris Scheufele) who helped out. We had a kindergartner, Oliver Oviedo-Pfister, win the raffle (iPod Nano and iTunes Cart Card).
- **GoodSearch/GoodShop** - The fiscal year closed at the end of September and we should see a check for ~\$113 dollars sometime in December. I think this is starting to catch on a little, because I am starting to see the totals on both parts of this rise every week. So far in October we have earned \$12! I also want to encourage people to start using the GoodSearch engine for internet searches. I figure that if everyone that receives the email newsletter would do just one search a day, the school would earn \$75 every month. How easy is that?
- **Amazon.com** - We need to start really getting this link around and start earning some serious money from this one! I will be sending out a form letter to the email distribution list in the near future that you can send out to all your family and friends encouraging them to help us with both

online shopping venues (Amazon and GoodShop). I am happy at any time to answer questions from anyone about how these things work.

- o **Evening of Giving** - Tickets are on sale for \$10. Ask your family and co-workers if they are interested. The deals are great and it is supposed to be lots of fun. I have already bought my ticket, and I might even go!
- o We have had a very generous offer from one of our kindergarten moms, Elena Coyne. She owns her own video production company, InFocus Video, and is offering the Stanley School a referral matching program. Basically, any event she books (weddings, real estate video tours, corporate events, other special events) between 11/15/08 - 5/15/09 that can be tracked back to the school will earn a commission for the school. This can range from \$25-\$150 dollars per event. We will publish more details soon, including an ad in the Student Directory with details. You can also go to [http://www.infocusvideo.org/referral\\_fee\\_program.html](http://www.infocusvideo.org/referral_fee_program.html) for more details.