

## PTA Meeting Minutes for Thursday, October 2, 2008

**Introduction:** The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. at the Hollywood School Library. PTA board members in attendance were Laura Tracy, Maureen Rurka, Kierith Kurth, Denise Notz, Sue Gersch and Jennifer Perry.

Also in attendance was Riverside Trustee Ben Sells, who came to speak and answer questions about the Village of Riverside property tax increase referendum on the November 4th ballot. The Village of Riverside is facing a \$600,000 budget shortfall until 2014, largely due to the increase in personnel costs. Mr. Sells said that the Village of Riverside already runs very leanly and that there is no way to cut the budget without affecting service levels. Riverside currently employees 19 police officers but the optimal number is 21. If the referendum passes, Mr. Sells said a homeowner with a \$450,000 home will see a tax increase of \$350 per year for the next three years. If the referendum fails, Mr. Sells said Riverside will have to eliminate a police officer, eliminate two days of daytime fire staffing, eliminate the Parks and Recreation department, and reduce staff in the public works department.

Mr. Sells also spoke of a second referendum question on the ballot for Riverside residents: the Green Initiative, which asks for community support for the Village of Riverside to take every opportunity to become environmentally friendly.

**Recording Secretary Report:** The minutes for the September 4th meeting were accepted and approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report was accepted and approved.

**Corresponding Secretary's Report:** Birthday cards were sent to Judy Johnson and Joe Zboinski. A card was sent to the Cleveland Family. A card and wedding gift was sent to Ken Krozel. Thank you notes were received from the Hollywood Staff for room gifts.

**School News/District News:** Ms. DeVyllder reported on school and district news. The district is working on a civility policy, the writing curriculum, mapping the Social Studies curriculum, has created cadres to work on using technology in the classroom, and a pilot program for parent/teacher/student conferences.

Mrs. Barhorst, Mrs. Schirmer, and Ms. Bracken are members of the district's language arts committee, which is working on a new writing curriculum to be implemented for the 2009/2010 school year. Mr. Trimmer is on the committee to map the Social Studies curriculum, the district's initiative to use technology to improve learner outcomes. The completed map for the Social Studies will eventually be available online. All other curriculums will be mapped as they come up for further discussion.

Mr. Howes, Mrs. Barhorst, and Mr. Trimmer are members of the Inquiry Learning Cadre, the purpose of which is to develop inquiry lessons for use in the classroom. There is also a MAP Cadre, which is exploring many ways for teachers to use MAP testing results in the classroom for instruction and to target specific skills.

Participation in the pilot program for Parent/Teacher/Student conferences is voluntary this November. The district has implemented this program to encourage students to feel empowered and engaged in their educations. It is viewed as an opportunity for students to discuss with their teachers and parents their strengths and weaknesses and to set goals for the school year.

ISAT scores will be mailed on October 7th.

Parent/Teacher conferences scheduled for October 10th are invitation only.

On Halloween, kindergarten will be held in the morning as usual. Kindergarteners will be invited back for the assembly and parade. The kindergarten Halloween party will be held in the morning.

The District Leadership Team will be discussing after school programs.

The police departments of both Riverside and Brookfield asked that the fifth grade patrol program be abolished because of traffic. The police departments do not want fifth graders to walk out into the street to stop traffic.

Mr. Trimmer is also on the Leadership Team comprised of four or five teachers who meet monthly during school hours to exchange ideas and make recommendations to the district. Mr. Trimmer was in attendance to answer question about his roles in the Leadership Team, the Inquiry Learning Cadre, and the Social Studies mapping committee.

### ***Committee Reports:***

***Ecology Club:*** This year, kindergarten, first and second grades will meet separately from third, fourth, and fifth grades. The younger grades will meet in the Hollywood Community House under the direction of Martha Carlson. The third, fourth, and fifth grades will meet in the Hollywood gym under the direction of Mel and Laura Tracy. Both groups will participate in the same project. The permission slip to participate in Ecology Club will be going home in the backpacks soon. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.

***Ice Cream Social:*** The Ice Cream Social was a success. After expenses, the PTA is expected to net \$200. A giftcard will be given to the face painters as a thank you for staying for the whole event.

***Wee Deliver:*** Next Thursday is Wee Deliver. A note will be coming home listing addresses.

***5<sup>th</sup> Grade Games Night:*** The first 5th Grade Games Night will be rescheduled due to a conflict with Movie Night. Lisa Buffo will choose the date. There is an Games Night scheduled for November 14th. A note will be going home to fifth grade families. In addition, the PTA approved a budget of \$100 be added to the yearly budget to cover the costs of 5th Grade Games nights.

***Scrip:*** Jennifer Perry announced she was unable to continue to run the SCRIP program this year. Laura Tracy said that she wished Jennifer had informed the PTA over the summer

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during the PTA Budget Meeting. Jennifer said she had just reached this decision. The discussion was tabled for the time being.

**Market Day:** Denise Notz will provide babysitting for the October Market Day. Volunteers are needed for babysitting the rest of the year.

**Halloween Program:** Hollywood students will be entertained by magician Dennis Watkins. The assembly will begin at 1pm on October 31st. Parents and younger siblings are welcome to attend. Thanks to Kierith Kurth for booking Mr. Watkins.

**Odds & Ends:** October's Movie Night will benefit Hollywood flood victims.

Ms. DeVlyder has submitted two REEF grant requests for a sound system and a lighting system for Hollywood School.

The district landscaping plan is beginning at the main campus of Hauser and Central.

### Announcements

- 10/9 - Wee Deliver
- Oct 2,9,16,23,30 - Fun Lunch
- 10/10 - Early Release P/T conferences (invite only)
- 10/13 & 10/14 Columbus Day Holiday/Teacher Institute Day
- 10/21 - Ecology Club 3:10-4pm
- 10/21 - Board of Education Meeting @Hollywood 7:30 p.m.
- 10/24 - Family Movie Night 6-9pm
- 10/24 - 5<sup>th</sup> grade games night 7-8:30pm
- 10/30 - Pajama Day
- 10/31 - Halloween program/party

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45am.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Jennifer Perry, Recording Secretary