

General Smallwood Middle School PTO
Minutes
October 9, 2006

The General Smallwood Middle School PTO met Monday, October 9, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. 26 people were present; 17 members signed in.

The meeting was called to order by Elana Thom, vice president, who distributed and reviewed minutes from the September meeting. Mrs. Thom reported that the PTO currently has 77 members, including 5 teachers. She also reported that Make a Wish lists have been distributed to all GSMS teachers, but only 2 teachers have responded. Needs for parent volunteers include chaperones for a school dance to be held October 19, and volunteers to help in the school library with processing new materials and with the December book fair. Parents who wish to volunteer at the book fair should contact Mrs. Venable, school librarian, for the dates.

Mrs. Thom also discussed fundraising ideas, including the possibility of having a bake sale at a school dance, which would allow us to have a presence at the dance as well as earning a little money. Mrs. Baker reported that another school group is already having a bake sale at the October dance, but we could coordinate with the office to participate in a later event. Mrs. Thom also suggested that the PTO could possibly take pictures at school dances and sell them to students. Mrs. Thom reported that the PTO sponsored Claire's Gourmet fundraiser would begin October 10, and end October 26. Because of problems with checks last year, no checks will be accepted for this fundraiser. Payment is accepted via cash, money orders, or online ordering using credit cards.

Some suggestions were made as to ways to spend the money we raise. They include:

- Tee shirts for 8th graders with classmates' signatures
- A picnic or barbeque in the spring
- Book fair coupons for each student

No vote was taken on any of the suggestions.

Paula Wiegand, president, presented information on the following programs in which the PTO is participating:

- Giant Bonus Bucks
- Safeway
- General Mills Box Tops for Education
- Campbells Soup labels
- Nestle water bottle labels

Alison Bode, secretary/treasurer, reported that after collecting \$200 in dues at the last meeting and paying \$30 to continue the website the PTO balance should be \$777.15.

Joanne Queen, by-laws committee, presented proposed by-laws she developed by analyzing other by-laws available on the internet. Ginger Kisamore made a motion that

we review the proposed by-laws, make comments to Mrs. Queen, and vote on finalized by-laws at the November meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Linkins and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Queen also reported that she had contacted the newspaper for the Public Relations Committee and has information regarding how to submit positive press releases regarding our students and our school.

It was suggested that the PTO find ways to get students involved in the school so that they will take pride in their school community. It was suggested that we brainstorm ways to accomplish this goal at a future meeting.

Ms. Salvia made a motion to change the PTO meeting time to 6:30 p.m. The motion was seconded. 14 members voted in favor, 2 were opposed. The motion carried. Sue Lateulere volunteered to take PTO minutes in the absence of the secretary who may not make it to meetings at 6:30.

Mrs. Baker answered parents' questions regarding school safety.

Sue Lateulere made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05. Joanne Queen seconded the motion, and we all went home.

The next GSMS PTO meeting will be held November 13, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by

Alison Hancock Bode
Secretary/Treasurer