

## **Arthur Road PTA**

*Meeting Minutes - August 20, 2009*

A regular meeting of the Arthur Road PTA was held on Thursday, August 20, 2009 in the Arthur Road Elementary School Media Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:24am by President Patti Miller. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT - Tammy Jackman**

The minutes of the May 2009 meeting were submitted to Lisa Catalano for approval since it was not timely to distribute them for review. It was discussed that there was no outstanding business from the previous meeting.

Thank you notes were received by the PTA for staff appreciation week and from Tony Catalano's wife for everyone's support and were shared with those in attendance.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT – Donna Thomas**

Updated reimbursement request forms can be found in the committee chair-persons folders and in the treasurer's folder in the PTA drawer. Upon completion, forms can be returned to the drawer or mailed to directly to Donna Thomas. As a reminder, there is no reimbursement for sales tax. Please get a tax-exempt letter from the office so that you will not be charged for sales tax. Donna Thomas will be the only person to handle bank correspondences and will make all deposits.

Copies of the financial report were available for review. Budget changes were made to several committees.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Mrs. Mariann Moeschberger**

Mrs. Moeschberger welcomed returning families back from summer break, and those families new to Arthur Road.

Mrs. Moeschberger discussed the Ohio school district report card that will be published in the Plain Dealer next week. She explained that there is now a "value added" calculation component to the scoring and that the scoring is not based solely on passing or failing the testing. This data is gathered over a 2 year period. It requires that there is a "growth in education" for each child. For example, a child needs to score higher in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade than in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and show that there has been a years' growth in learning. Arthur Road and Solon Schools received an "Excellent with Distinction" ranking in this report.

Mrs. Moeschberger explained that there is a decline in enrollment throughout the district. This past graduating class of 2009 had 440 students, while this year kindergarten enrollment for the district is at 252 students. Due to the lower enrollment this year, kindergarten sections have been reduced from 4 ½ sections down to 3 for this upcoming school year. Ms. Kobe will be teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade not kindergarten.

In addition, the following staffing changes have been made for this upcoming year:

- There will be 5 sections of 1<sup>st</sup> grade this year.
- Mary Moore will be teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade.....She comes from Roxbury where she taught 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades.
- Due to stimulus money to start something new, a new section of preschool was added which will be taught by Jessica Heisler.

- Rachel Scott who was a 4<sup>th</sup> grade aide will be teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.
- Mrs. Goldberg who had taught 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will now be an interventionist, and will be the Reading Recovery resource.
- Miss Harper moves from 1<sup>st</sup> grade to Math Recovery and will also teach the ½ day Kindergarteners at Roxbury.
- Mrs. Wagner will move from Reading Recovery and will teach full time in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- There will also be one monitor assigned to one classroom for the lunch/recess periods.

Mrs. Moeschberger discussed a Welcome Wagon program to be implemented this year to reach out to families new to Arthur Road. This will entail more experienced, returning families being paired up with new families, and they will be a resource for them draw upon for any questions they might have, and the “mentor” will reach out to inform and remind them of upcoming events that they may be unfamiliar with.

### **SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Mrs. Suzanne Albano**

Mrs. Albano announced that the New Family Orientation was immediately following today’s PTA meeting.

She also announced that tonight is the Ice Cream Social held at the school from 6:30pm- 8:00pm. In the event of rain, the event will be held in the cafeteria.

Classroom visitation is scheduled for Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> from 1-2pm for grades 1-4.

Kindergarten has their own orientation as scheduled by the teachers. It is a good time to drop off classroom supplies.

Volunteers for Picture Day are needed. A request for 3 volunteers on Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> to assist from 8am -12 pm was made. Contact Suzanne Albano if interested.

### **VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Ann Wisner**

The Welcome Committee is still in need of “mentors” to help orient families new to Arthur Road. Anyone interested in being a “mentor” please contact Ann Wisner or Patti Miller.

It was announced that there will be a PTA table at Kindergarten Orientation. There is a need for 3 volunteers to work 2 hour slots as follows:

August 25<sup>th</sup> 8:30 – 10:30am, and 10:30 – 12:30pm., and August 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 –10:00am.

At future meetings, there will be a basket available at the officer’s table to leave issues for Mrs. Moeschberger and Mrs. Albano to address separately from the PTA meeting so that the meeting can stay more focused to the Agenda. Mrs. Moeschberger and Mrs. Albano will address the issues in the basket at an appropriate time.

A reminder was made in regards to babysitting for the PTA meetings. Please remember to RSVP prior to the meetings to ensure there are enough adults for the number of children.

### **PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Patti Miller**

Committee folders were available for the chairpersons to pick up at the meeting. This year there is only 1 folder per committee. An explanation of the contents of the folders followed. Forms included are the budget and reimbursement forms, the blue “set up” form, PTA letterhead if needed, a log sheet for volunteer hours to be logged, PTA meeting dates, a contacts list, and newsletter deadlines. We are

trying to keep a closer tab on the number of volunteer hours as they have to be reported to the Ohio PTA.

**Arthur Road Kindness** – Still in need of volunteers to chair this committee.

**Assemblies** - Instead of 1 large assembly for the whole school, the monies will be split by grade level and it will be up to the teachers to do something more grade level specific that corresponds with the grade curriculum.

**Book Fair** – We are still in need of a chairperson for this committee. The book fair will be held in November this year.

**EWOW** – Need people to get involved with committee as current chairpersons will be leaving the school after this year.

**Fundraiser** – We are in need of 1 more person to help Denise with the Fundraiser.

**Grade Level Events** – The budget was reduced for these events and they are to be held on school property this year. Some ideas of movie night, and bingo were discussed.

This will remain a free event for the students.

**Media Center Support** – Volunteers for the media center are needed to assist the librarian as needed.

### **GUEST SPEAKER – Steven Bramwell**

Steven Bramwell a SHS student spoke regarding a fundraiser called “Race for Education”. It is a run-a-thon held Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> and will raise money to build schools in Central Asia under the belief if you can educate women you can change a community. Those interested in supporting this event can contact Steven Bramwell for further information at [stevenbramwell@ymail.com](mailto:stevenbramwell@ymail.com). Donations are tax deductible.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Cosi – Kristi Foltz**

This year’s event is “Launch into Space” and will be held Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>. A sign up sheet for volunteers is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> day PTA packet of information. For those volunteering, a mandatory volunteer meeting will be held the evening of Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. 40 – 50 volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Lunch is also provided for the volunteers.

#### **Book Fair**

The book fair will be held in November. We still need someone to chair this committee.

#### **Budget Bin**

Volunteers needed for this consignment for scholarships event. This event enabled 25 students to receive scholarships. It is a district wide event. 50% of profit is kept by consigner, while 50% is donated to the scholarship fund.

#### **Classroom Coordinators – Kamna Jain**

Sign up sheets to be classroom coordinator will be sent home in the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of school PTA packet. A tea will be held Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> for those selected.

#### **Fundraiser – Denise Maiorana**

The fundraiser will run from Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be an assembly for the students at school. The PTA will earn 50% of sales. Donations to the fundraiser may also be made.

#### **Hospitality – Lisa Catalano**

Volunteers needed to make baked goods for the PTA meetings. A sign up sheet was passed around for those in attendance.

**Ice Cream Social**

The ice cream social will be held tonight at 6:30 – 8:00pm. It is a great event to have your child meet their teacher.

**Incentives – Melissa Crispino**

The school is participating in several programs including Box Tops, Campbell's, and the programs at Heinen's and Giant Eagle. Those with a Target Red card can also enroll in their program so the school can earn incentives from their purchases.

**Membership**

Envelopes to join PTA will be sent home in the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of school PTA packet. Membership is \$5. Committee chairs must be a PTA member. Show your support of PTA by joining as a member.

**Newsletter – Kamna Jain**

All entries for the PTA newsletter must be submitted by the Monday before the next PTA meeting. Please no graphics, clip art is okay. Items must be submitted in a Word document.

**Spirit Day**

Spirit day is the last Thursday of each month. Popcorn volunteers are needed.

**Starwear**

There will be a starwear table at the Ice cream social tonight. Samples will be available. Order forms will go home in the 2<sup>nd</sup> day PTA packet. All orders must be place by Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**VIP Breakfast – Pam Beck**

Volunteers are needed for these grade level events held on various months.

**Workroom – Mary Ann Mooney**

Volunteers in the workroom are needed. A sign up sheet made available for those interested.

**Yearbook – Tammy Jackman**

Yearbook will be taking pictures at tonight's ice cream social.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS - SCHOOL GIFTS**

There have been 2 tetherballs installed in the playground over the summer. There was also a birdhouse installed in memory of Tony Catalano.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Donna Thomas reported that the Audit committee met over the summer to review the PTA account and to reconcile bank statements.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at 9:15am in Room 114, which is located in the preschool wing.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy Jackman