

Montessori School of Iowa City  
PTO Meeting Minutes  
December 14, 2004

The meeting began a welcome from PTO president Colleen Schilling and introductions. The PTO was pleased to welcome several new parents to the meeting this month.

Director, Gordon Cook updated us on the playground resurfacing fundraising. We have generated close to \$7,000 so far this year, but need almost 36,000.

Kim Kopf gave a newsletter report. The teachers have decided that they would take turns writing a school wide report on the classrooms in general. Then teachers would write their own room newsletters at least once a month. Since information was not being collected from teachers, we will try this month just to send the information to Gordon directly. If this turns out to be too much work, Kim will be brought back in to assist.

Teri reported on the boxtop collection and said that we collected about \$200 so far this year. Since we have met our goal, students will be putting their hand prints at the top of the stairs just after the first of the year. She had sent a note home in Friday folders regarding web purchases and how this also can generate money for our school. She is going to recommend not collecting Campbell's soup labels since you have to collect 2000 before even turning in and then they are only worth one cent. Teri is looking into other options such as recycling ink cartridges or doing something with Tyson.

Gordon reported that not many items had been purchased from the Tower Wish List. Last year we were close to \$1000 and we are not near that yet.

Colleen reported that the holiday parties are scheduled for Friday. Jennifer was putting up the sign up sheets for those who volunteered to bring treats.

Teri reported on staff birthdays. She emails reminders to those who need to provide treats for the staff on their birthday. She is leaving it up to the room parents whether they celebrate summer birthdays on their 1/2 birthday or towards the end of the year.

The traffic control is still sometimes good and sometimes bad. Parents are NOT supposed to leave their car parked in the turn around if they are taking their children inside. This just seems to be a situation that we will be continuing to work on for the safety of our children.

Laura Wolf reported that we sold over \$800 worth of books at the Scholastic book fair. The fair was held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday only during pick up and drop off times: 8:30-9:30, 11:30-12:30 and 3:00-4:00. Gordon had talked

to the teachers and it was decided to take a cash profit, just over \$200. We discussed whether to do this fair next year and it was decided that Laura would check and see if we could have the fair during spring conferences. There is a two week span between conferences so we are not sure if they will let us keep the books here the entire time.

The Chili supper is planned for either Jan 28th or February 4th. Gordon will check to see when the Beggarmen are available. The board, PTO and teachers will all compete once again for the best chili. PTO will be looking for a good recipe to cook up this year.

Gordon reported that the board of directors met and we are better off financially than we were last year. We have a line of credit that we have borrowed against and we are 1/2 way to paying it off. Gordon proposed the idea of having a fourth full day class next year since we have turned away parents that could only do full day. We have the room and equipment, we would just need to figure out the staffing. Laura had also suggested that during the summer the school could offer 2 or 3 day options for summer school. Gordon said he would check on that.

Laura Wolf has gotten three parents that have agreed to help organize the library. She has met with all of them and they now know what needs to be done. Then they will be able to come in on their own time to straighten on a regular basis. Laura mentioned that she might come over Christmas break and try to get it back in order.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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