

**Edmonds Elementary PTA  
General Meeting Minutes 10/15/2009**

**Call to Order by M. Fellows**

**Welcome & Greeting:**

Members shared with each other their weekend plans

C. Edwards, an EE student, made some suggestions for the upcoming Harvest Festival

**Speaker, EE Webmaster Cathy Baran:**

The new website is generating more traffic (2008-2009 entire school year had 130 hits/month total, Aug/Sept 2009 had 275 hits per month, and the first two weeks of October have had 197 already)

This year parents have three forms of communication available: the Orca News, PTA newsletters, and classroom email lists.

This year we are using a program called MailChimp, last year we had used Nexo for PTA, but many of the user functions were not utilized.

ORCA news facts: informational only, reaches 331 people right now, provided by school (from Melissa Oliver), there is a goal to have all outside fliers accessible by links (no more pdf. Emails!)

PTA newsletter facts: find out what is going on & how you can help, sent on alternate weeks, and provided free by PTA organization

As of November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 the school webpage will change due to the district changing over to School Wires.

Interesting fact: 25 EE families are without email and still need to be reached via non-electronic correspondence.

**Speaker, PTA liaison to STARS Board, Carol Davies:**

STARS is a non-profit that serves the EE school community by providing extra support in certain areas of study. STARS: Supporting the Teaching of Arts, Reading, and Science

Each year an auction is held to help raise funds. This year the goal is to scale down the cost of the auction itself. A committee meets weekly to plan and secure donations.

Grant money is currently available to start a chess club and to continue the quilting club.

Parents can write grants, too! Grant forms can be found online. The current deadline had been extended to November 1<sup>st</sup> and the next deadline will take place in the spring.

Two important criteria for writing a grant proposal: must support arts, reading, science/technology & must determine how many students it will serve.

## **Principal's Report, Melissa Oliver:**

Picture Day is tomorrow! Popcorn Day is tomorrow, too! (25 cents a bag)

### **Building Budget:**

Set by the legislators, this year it is \$24.95 per student which is roughly \$7,800 total for our school. This is less than half of last year's budget which was \$64 per student/ \$20,000 for the school. Our paper costs for last year alone were \$10,000.

S. Payte asked about the capital gains funds and the painting of our school. Painting is not being done because a paint project would also require work to be done on the roof which is not part of the budget.

We expect another 3-4 million dollars in cuts in next year.

### **PTA Budget, S.Payte & M. Merrill**

\$588 in the general fund

Everyday Ways – ways we can help EE on a day-to-day basis: PACE (explained by C. Davies), Boxtops (explained by P. Frank), Target shopping, Albertson's shopping, Campbell's Labels, & Goodsearch.com

### **Hospitality Committee, P. Frank**

This is a new committee this year whose focus is to do "hospitable" and random acts of kindness on EE campus. The 1<sup>st</sup> event will be the teacher luncheon being held the Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> during the week of conferences (all day for teachers). We also have a need for providing treats at meetings & can use volunteers to help chair the committee.

### **Harvest Festival, Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup> in EE gym**

Overview of Event, K.May: There will be donut bobbing, a cake walk, scarecrow building, arts & crafts, a haunted hallway, and food.

Volunteer Needs, L. Lawrence: The goal is to staff two shifts for each station; 5:45-6:45p and 6:45-7:45p. A sign up sheet was passed around.

Supply Needs, P. Frank: A sheet was passed around explaining needs for items such as brown bags, leaves, Halloween decorations for the hallway, etc.

### **Approval of September Meeting Minutes**

First Motion by C. Baran, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion by D. Pierce. All in favor.

### **Adjournment by M. Fellows**

*followed by hospitality/social hour with brownies, coffee, & tea*