

**Cedarmere Elementary School
General PTA Meeting
October 6, 2005**

The Cedarmere Elementary School PTA Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by PTA President Barb Smith. The meeting was held in the school cafeteria. Attending the meeting were Terri Filbert, Sandi Wilkins, Beverlee Maier, Marina Sarantos, Shannetta Lewis, Lynn Gordon, Rick Smith, Claudette Robinson, Helen McShane, Carol Richardson, Jessie Gilbard, Adam Lass, Stewart Richardson, Laretta Baseman, Sigrid Houston, Shandra Patrick, RoseMary Albright, Michelle Nichol, Chris Brubaker, Charles Brubaker, Dee Sanchez, Tim Gallagher, Michael Goldsmith, Shelley Kelley, Mary Frantz, Jodi Marlow, Beck McClure, Gil Meerdter, Lisa Meerdter, Joe Murphy, Beth Murphy, Alvin Stevenson, David Green, Beth Ourand, and possibly more who did not sign in.

Barb Smith (President):

Barb welcomed everyone to the meeting. She said the budget was voted on during Back to School night. Chris Brubaker made a motion to waive reading the minutes from the last meeting and Shamren Flechter seconded the motion. Motion passed. Barb thanked volunteers and welcomed any additional volunteers. Barb reminded everyone of the fruit sale.

Terri Filbert (Principal):

Terri mentioned that the attendance was down at Back to School night and that there is consideration for combining Back to School night and the First Day School Celebration. Terri said the grades K-3 assessment skill has fueled new focus and teachers have been determining the gaps to help strengthen reading skills. She reminded everyone of American Education week (November 14-17). She thanked the number of teachers present at this meeting. Terri stated the bus situation is still improving. She said there will be an MSA night and she will confirm the date in the near future.

RoseMary Albright (Teacher Representative):

RoseMary stated that a number of countries begin teaching a 2nd language in first grade. However, we are one of the few countries where a 2nd language is not incorporated in elementary school. RoseMary stated that a teacher offered to sell a 2nd language program to the Cedarmere PTA for \$240 as long as the PTA was responsible for running the program. Sigrid Houston has volunteered to be the teacher and Ms. Albright is willing to help Sigrid. RoseMary typed all the specifics of the program and provided them to Barb Smith. RoseMary stated that the costs charged per child could be established by the PTA and that after \$240 was raised, the remainder obtained would be profit. There was discussion over the potential amounts that could be charged per child, potential payment for the teacher, and the number of times per year such a course could be offered. Shamren Fletcher reminded everyone that the PTA cannot pay a salary for an individual to teach the program, but the PTA could pay for supplies needed for the program. RoseMary agreed to talk to the teacher who is selling the program to gain a better understanding of how it has been offered elsewhere.

Sigrid Houston (recap Innisbrook):

Sigrid said the Innisbrook fundraiser brought in about \$3,320. We did not raise the \$5000 budget for this fundraiser. Sigrid reminded everyone that we could continue to order from Innisbrook throughout the rest of year by using the 112969 code. Sigrid said that there were \$215 online orders. Sigrid ordered stuffed animals and also ordered a party-in-the-box for Mr. Vale's class, since his class sold the most. Sigrid mentioned Innisbrook delivery has been moved to November 4th, which is an early dismissal day. Sigrid requested volunteers for that day.

Presentation from Arts Excel/BSO:

Gil Meerdter introduced Katherine Lyons and Leah Inger from the BSO Arts Excel program. Leah Inger said that Arts Excel uses the "arts" to teach other subjects, such as math and science. Katherine Lyons presented "Drama of the Metamorphosis".

Barb Smith (Various Individual Topics):

Barb stated that we have approximately 120 people who have already joined the PTA. A flyer will be sent home next week to increase membership. Barb stated that Munchkins for Mom will be held on October 11th from 7:30 to 8:20 a.m. October 11th is a day off for moms since the family dinner night is held that same day at Cheeburger Cheeburger. Barb stated that we were trying to do two family dinner nights every month. Barb said Bingo Night is October 28th and she requested a person with a strong voice to call out numbers, as well as volunteers to help at the event. Barb said she just re-registered Cedarmere for the Giant Bonus Card program. She said that box tops are still being collected and the PTA is still hosting the Regal Savings Bank program.

Alvin Stevenson (Fruit Express):

Alvin requested volunteers to make calls to potential buyers, to put labels on cards, and to help make copies.

Stewart Richardson (Basketball Nets):

Stewart introduced the topic that some parents volunteered to pay for basketball nets and he questioned if there was any interest in getting nets, since there had been a decision in the past to remove the nets. Shamren Fletcher said there was a decision in the past to not spend money on the nets because they were getting destroyed. Becky McClure said it was a safety issue and it causes more clean up for the custodians. She said there were problems in the past with getting the children off the basketball courts during school hours. Shamren Fletcher made a motion not to move to purchase basketball nets and Alvin Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Barb Smith (Other fundraisers):

Barb said we are trying to come up with a spring fundraiser to raise money for Arts Excel and selling candy bars is an option. Barb mentioned that another fundraiser may be to buy Cedarmere bracelets in our school's colors. The coupon book fundraiser will begin next week. A coupon book will go home with each child. If you sell 5 coupon books, then you will get one coupon book free. Each book sells for \$25. Sigrid Houston said

that the PTA made \$3,000 last year from the coupon book fundraiser. Barb said the Pikesville/Owings Mills power cards are available. The Reisterstown power cards do not expire till the end of November. Barb said we will also start a Campbell's soup label program soon – so start keeping your labels.

Sigrid Houston (Other Topics for Discussion):

Sigrid said that Ms. Peterson needs volunteers to reshelve books in the library. Sigrid said that an option would be to reshelve books during the day or Ms. Peterson would be willing to stay later to have a group reshelve. Shandra Patrick agreed to coordinate with the fifth graders to see how they could help. Sigrid questioned if we were going to continue the panther book exchange. Sigrid said she has not received any requests for the panther book exchange. Mr. Duffy was designated to be in charge of the panther book exchange.

Shamren Fletcher (Treasurer):

Shamren provided copies of the budget, but noted that it has to be presented differently. The State PTA requires gross income and then disbursements to net out the profit. This would be addressed by an executive board vote. Once that is done, the budget will be posted on the Cedarmere PTA website. Shamren requested volunteers to make 600 color copies of our Cedarmere spirit wear flyer.

Adjournment:

The PTA meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The PTA Winter Social is scheduled for December 15, 2005.