

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 1565
Nome, AK 99762

Minutes of October 18, 2010

President, Julie Kelso called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m., in the Nome Elementary School library. The following individuals were in attendance:

Maria Angasan	Marguerite LaRiviere
Janet Balice	Laura Lawrence
Betsy Brennan	Cindy Madsen
Dave Keller	Barb Nickels
Sandi Keller	Pat Robinson
Julie Kelso	Janeen Sullivan
Janice Halleran	Crystal Tobuk
Joy Hewitt	

Approval of November 23, 2009 and March 11, 2010 Minutes

Minutes from the two meetings were reviewed and approved with corrections by Barb Nickels.

Nominations/Installation of Officers

Marcy Merrill was nominated for Treasurer, Janet Balice for Secretary, Pat Robinson for Vice-President and Julie Kelso for President. The slate of nominees was approved for office as a bloc by a vote of those present.

Reading Incentive Program

Last year it was Reading Around the World. 111 kids reached the first level out of 361- 31%. 262 kids participated. Out of 88 Title 1 students 62 participated. Several Title 1 students won the higher awards. PTSA counted the reading tickets and helped with food and events. Joy expressed concerns that many kids read an average of 42 minutes per week. Joy said the incentives were too spread out and not sure how effective it was. Other comments were that kids read but didn't turn in tickets and that it increased reading enthusiasm for some kids. Sandi said she liked the program in class. Some teachers made the reading program homework to assist with getting the tickets signed. Sandi said that 30 minutes of reading or homework is a school expectation. Dave said that Accelerated Reader was being used by several teachers this year

.Accelerated Reader is purchased for the amount of students. Barb said she thought something fun and available to all children was best. Joy suggested that a committee be formed with teachers, principal and PTSA board president to design a reading program that PTSA can help with that. Janet made a motion that Joy would set up a meeting for the reading incentive program. Barb Nickels seconded it. Julie asked that a subject in the grading program be added that includes the reading program progress.

Kennewick Site Visit

Janeen Sullivan and Sandi Keller reported on this visit. The community has a media blitz of reading twenty minutes a day with your child. This included birth to five information, parent education meetings and volunteer tutors doing a structured program with specific kids in the school. Increasing numbers of kids are coming to kindergarten unprepared there as well as in Nome. Best Beginnings is a program in Alaska that targets young children. The Nome Literacy Council said they would be willing to assist with community information. PTSA is asked to back a program similar to this. The goal at Kennewick is 90% of students will be reading on grade level. Kennewick has been doing this for 15 years and started with 50% reading on grade level. They were a very focused district on the reading goal. The Kennewick group will meet and present information to the school district. Barb Nichols said we could incorporate some elements into our school strategic plan. Sandi Keller presented the ten things that Kennewick did. Julie asked that PTSA be apprised of how they could help with this effort. Dave said that community was a big part of this program.

FY 11 Budget Approval

Barb Nickels asked why we didn't do student of the month. Julie said it may not have been a successful program. 2010 our revenues exceed our expenses. Scholarships were limited last year to try to impact more students. \$5.75 from the dues goes to the national organization. Barb Nickels moved to approve the 2011 budget and make adjustments as needed throughout the year. Motion carried.

Family Fun Night

PTSA did an educational table activity last year. Dave wants to expand to several rooms for different activities. PTSA will do one activity. Pat Robinson will attend the planning meeting on Wed. Oct. 27 at 4:00 in the NES library.

Santa Shop

Comments were that kids benefitted from the opportunity to shop. Dates are December 6-10 after school hours.

Spelling Bee

Susan Rand will be the coordinator.

School Site Council-

Fifth year AYP second year requires a school site council that was formed last year to work on school improvement plan. A group was formed with two year staggered terms. The first meeting for the school improvement plan is this week and then the site council will oversee those plans. Julie Kelso is on that council and will report back.

Kindergarten music teacher

There is no music teacher for kindergarten.
Dave reported that there is no funding for this.

Handbook Committee-

Dave said that the handbook committee meets on Thursday Oct. 28 at NES library.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03.