

**Central School PTO Meeting
March 9, 2012**

Call to Order 9:02 a.m. in the Hauser Auditorium

Board Members Present: Jeannine Glavas, Amy Jacksic, Erin Durkin, Sue Pipal, Jeanine Vaia, Angela Izzo, Patrick O’Laughlin and Aberdeen Ozga.

Minutes Motion to Approve the Minutes of February 7, 2012.

Motion made by Sue Pipal; Seconded by Jeannine Glavas. Motion carries.

Guest Speaker Capital Improvements Dr. Lamberson summarized the capital

improvements to be undertaken at Central School starting on the last day of school. He indicated that all school property was to be removed prior to that date and clarified that despite local lore regarding Tiffany glass being stored in the attic, it must have been missing for several years. Dr. Limperis stated that packing would be facilitated during times when children were out of the building on year-end field trips and that her office would be moved to Blythe Park School as of the last Thursday that school is in session. On Friday, the last day of school, children will be picking up their report cards at Riverside Township Hall.

District Performance Dr. Lamberson indicated that D96 was a recipient of the Bright Red Apple Award in 2011, making it the 7th year in a row. This Award is given to the top 5% of Illinois’ 868 elementary school districts each year, based on ISAT performance. Comparing the enrollments of the 52 districts which consistently receive this award, the enrollment in D96 increased 39.3%, whereas the average enrollment of the 52 districts taken together decreased by 0.6%. D96 is the only district on the Bright Red Apple list experiencing such a dramatic increase in enrollment. Our expenditures per child are on the low end, comparatively, with increases consistent with CPI. We are expecting increased enrollment in the next academic year. For the second year in a row, D96 received the Apple Exemplary Program Award from the Apple Corporation for the innovative use of technology in the classroom.

Officers Reports

Co-PresidentsTraffic Safety: Amy Jacksic reported that she, Jeannine Glavas and Dr. Limperis observed the afternoon pick-up process together with the Riverside police and note that pick-up in the front of the school is still tough, but that congestion can be avoided as long as parents do not arrive before 3:10 p.m. and that, when they do arrive, they have their name placard in their car windows. Further, if their child is not outside waiting for them, they should circle the block as opposed to idling. A flyer with the traffic safety procedures was handed out to parents on kindergarten information night, so education is beginning now. Mary Komperda noted that the school bus often has difficulty getting to the curb to pick up children because people are improperly parked or idling. Dr. Limperis indicated difficulty in enforcing the parking rules because the police are in the middle of a shift change when school lets out and that Central does not have sufficient staff to send outside prior to 3:05 to patrol the parking situation. Lisette Jameson

suggested that perhaps the age of the children being picked up had something to do with drivers' apprehension about circling the block, and asked whether that could be alleviated by having younger children picked up in the back of the school. Jennifer Hepker suggested the PTO do something special for the staff who have taken on traffic safety responsibilities, perhaps in connection with Teacher Appreciation Week.

PTO Facebook Page Amy Jacksic has established a Facebook page for Central School PTO. By "liking" the page you can get (and post) updates about PTO activities faster than notices via Feedblitz.

5th Grade Games Night Dorie Skiest, Co-Chair, reports that this event will take place Friday, April 13. Central usually puts together a Scavenger Hunt. This year they have an Olympic Theme "Go for the Blue and Gold," and one of their competitions may involve packing a box for the move. Commemorative water bottles will be awarded.

Cultural Arts Field Trips Dorie Skiest reports that the training for the Chicago Architectural Tour will take place Friday, April 25 and that Parent Volunteers are needed both on that date and the date of the 5th grade tour, May 30.

5th Grade Picnic Dorie Skiest stated that volunteers are also needed for the 5th grade clap out and picnic on June 7.

DeAnn Gruber asked where 6th grade orientation, which usually takes place in the Auditorium over the summer, would be held in light of the Capital Improvements. Dr. Lamberson said the location remained to be determined and D96 may need to inquire with RBHS.

D96 PTO/PTAs Jeannine Glavas indicated that the responsibilities for 5th grade games, Halloween Windows and Guest Speakers are supposed to be rotated among the PTOs and PTAs according to a set schedule. Next year, Central PTO is responsible for the Guest Speaker, so ideas are welcome now.

Recess Committee Jeannine Glavas and Dr. Limperis reported Central was on the cutting edge developing its indoor recess program several years ago. Children are assigned to different groups and rotate through games, gym, reading or talking. Since enrollment has increased so dramatically, it bears reassessing. Molly Carl, Tracy Sloan, Angela Izzo and Lynda Carey are forming a Recess Committee to examine the programs.

1st VPs Update/Return Committee Chair Folders Erin Durkin reported that Committee Chair Folders are being collected and may be returned to the PTO mailbox prior to April 4. Room Parent Forms are now available electronically.

Kindergarten Information Night, held on March 1st, was a success. Dr. Limperis added that now that incoming kindergarten parents are aware that there is not a race to fill out enrollment forms in order to ensure spots in the incoming class this is a much more manageable evening.

2nd VP Board of Education Meeting Sue Pipal attended the BOE meeting on February 21, 2012. The BOE voted on bids for the Capital Improvement project and on the new

school calendar for the 2012-13 academic year. Details may be found on the D96 website.

Fundraising Update/Pavers Sue Pipal thanked everyone for their tremendous fundraising efforts to date and advised that Mary Robertson is now heading up the Pavers Fundraiser.

Environmental Concerns Sue also reported that Mr. Endriukaitis has offered to be the faculty leader for the Ecology Club, but the Club will need funds. Sue reported that the Environmental Concerns Committee, which had been allocated \$250 in this year's budget, will not be using that allocation.

Motion to transfer the \$250 budget allocation for Environmental Concerns to the Ecology Club.

Made by Sue Pipal; Seconded by Erin Durkin. Motion Carries.

3rd VP 2012-13 Paper Directory Jeanine Vaia reports that Calendars for the 2012-13 academic year will be able to be ordered in paper form. Next year's on-line Directory will be presented in the same format as this year. Amy Jacksic noted that every year a new user name and password would be issued.

Treasurer Angela Izzo presented the Treasurer's report and announced that the PTO is still in the black. Of note is the \$338 income for the month and the inflow/out-flow line item for the Kids Care collection.

Parliamentarian Patrick O'Laughlin reported on the update to the standing rules. The following changes were approved by the Executive Board at its February 23 meeting after having been presented to the General Membership at the January meeting: The first change ensures that only events to which the PTO is committed are reflected, so reference to Ice Cream Social, Kindergarten Tea and Recycling are deleted and reference to RAIN, the Science Fair, Target Fundraiser and Book Fair Social are added. The second addresses Accounting. In Section D, governing Deposits, cash and checks will need to be turned into the Treasurer within 1 week of the conclusion of the event with an itemized deposit slip. Similarly, in Section E, requests for reimbursement will need to be submitted with a completed reimbursement form within this same time frame. The final change, with respect to Childcare, is that childcare "may" be provided at PTO general meetings.

Motion to Approve PTO Standing Rules – Revised February 23, 2012

Made by Erin Durkin; Seconded by Jeanine Vaia. Motion Carries.

The updated Standing Rules will be posted to the PTO Website.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee Sue Pipal thanked the members and alternates to the Nominating Committee and presented the Committee's slate: Co-Presidents: Amy Jacksic and Lynda Murphy; 1st VPs Paula Fudacz and Amy Mooney; 2nd VP: Jessica Niekrasz; 3rd VP: Kim Macchia; Treasurer: Angela Izzo; Parliamentarian; Aberdeen Ozga; Communications Director: Stefanie Dockendorf; and Secretary: Sue Pipal. Sue asked for other nominations from the floor. There were none.

Motion to Approve the Nominating Committee's Slate of Officers for the 2012-13 PTO Executive Board

Made by Erin Durkin; Seconded by Jeanine Vaia. Motion Carries.

Auction Amy Jacksic reported for Stefanie Dockendorf that the Auction will take place in November at the Riverside Train Station. A heated tent will be provided to accommodate all festivities.

Artist in Residence/Cultural Heritage Festival Dawn Gmitro is co-chairing this event with Molly Carl. The festival is planned for the evening of April 11. The Muntu African Dance group will be working with 3rd, 4th and 5th graders the previous week. Molly Carl reports that a Feedblitz with online RSVP will enable children to get their own passports to visit the countries presented in the different classrooms. The Muntu Dance group will do interactive demos as well.

Science in a Can Jennifer Hepker reported a 96% participation rate in the prior year's 6 week program, with a drop off in participation in the last two weeks. In revising the program, the committee eliminated the less effective experiments and went to a 4 week program. Surprisingly, less than half of the children completed the 4 week program. The committee will explore other options for next year.

Grant Proposals Jennifer Hepker reported that one proposal was written this year to Riverside Township to help fund a speaker for RAIN. Last year, a LOWES grant was applied for and received. Anyone with ideas should contact Jennifer.

Preschool Screening Amy Jacksic reported that this event, headed by Nancy Connelly, went smoothly.

Teacher Appreciation Week DeAnn Gruber reported that the theme for the week will be "Teachers Rock" with daily activities along a rock n' roll theme. Volunteers are still needed during the luncheon as well as generally to help children participate in expressing their appreciation each day.

Read to Succeed Paula Fudacz reported that 153 students participated, which was down from last year. The Great America Tickets should be in during the first week of April.

RAIN Mary Komperda reported that Paula Kluth will be speaking at 7:00 p.m. at the Riverside Public Library. The Illinois State Board of Education's West 40 group will be meeting on Monday. Dr. Lamberson will be interviewing families with IEPs regarding D96 performance. RAIN is planning a meeting in May seeking parent leadership for a Resource Fair in the fall.

Plunge into Fitness Jeannine Glavas reported that this new program was being spearheaded by Olga Pribyl Pierdinock and children can earn tickets to the Raging

Waves Waterpark simply by logging 25 hours of physical activity. Forms are available on the PTO website or in the Central School Office.

Whereupon it was determined that insufficient time remained for other agenda items.

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Recording Secretary Aberdeen Ozga.