

AGS PTO BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 31, 2009

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. Board members present were Lori Kessler, Ann Gerardi, Cathy Dremel, Denise Bautch, Mary Collins, Lisa Foydel Kramer, Jennifer Tonn, Amy Moore, Christine Ralston, Valerie Riley, and Kristy VanderLoon. Guests included Rick Manning.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the previous board meeting were reviewed. Lisa Foydel Kramer made a motion to approve the May 4, 2009 board meeting minutes, Jennifer Tonn seconded, all in favor.

Old Business:

- Mary Collins gave an update on the status of the clothing and toy resale scheduled for September 11-12th: almost 95 registered sellers, registration ongoing through September 4th, volunteer scheduling is underway. Receiving will begin September 9th after school and continue all day September 10th.
- Jennifer Tonn gave an update on the status of the Small Business Expo scheduled for November 5th from 12-8pm: 7 tables have been reserved so far and 2 volunteers signed up.
- Jennifer also reported that Kate Doesburg offered to coordinate courtyard cleanup/maintenance. However, Mrs. Ralston reported the Mrs. Doesburg will be unavailable for an extended time, so Lori Kessler will contact others who expressed interest in helping to maintain the courtyard. Mrs. Ralston believes that the district does not have the resources to maintain the courtyard. Rick Manning was asked to help develop a plan/design for the courtyard-something easy to maintain, use as outdoor classroom, not expensive.

President's Report: Lori Kessler suggested including the Early Childhood Center staff/students/parents in any AGS PTO sponsored social events and fundraising events, and recruiting an ECC teacher representative and an ECC parent representative to attend PTO meetings. Lori will contact the ECC staff. There was discussion of the relationship between AGS and the ECC, and how much financial support the PTO will provide to the ECC. It was suggested that the AGS PTO provide teacher gifts to the ECC teachers. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting. Lisa Foydel Kramer reported that the Batavia Foundation for Educational Excellence (BFEE) has some money in an ECC fund, but uncertain what it was for.

Lori provided an update on the possibility of holding a family photo night. Lori reported that Interstate was not willing to participate in that kind of event; however, Lori has located a different vendor (Lilly Photography) who is willing to work with the PTO to do a family photo night. Lori will get prices. It was suggested to hold the event in conjunction with the small business expo on November 5th.

Lori reported that this is the last year that Brian Joosse will be the AGS PTO's Technical Advisor. Laurie Lundborg expressed interest in taking on the position. It was suggested that an additional parent (with younger children) be recruited also to be trained in the PTO's website management/maintenance.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Ralston reported that Dr. Barshinger has asked that each school cut its budget by 25% across the board. Mrs. Ralston will be presenting details at the September 8th school board meeting. AGS will have some needs that they may ask the PTO to help cover. AGS' Activity fund has a little cushion to help cover expenses that can't be covered by the building budget.

Mrs. Ralston discussed the new parking lot/circle drive procedures and reported that Mr. Park suggested utilizing 4th & 5th graders as safety monitors to help younger students from the circle drive to the building.

Mrs. Ralston also reported that conference scheduling will happen differently this year. Parents can request time blocks with 1st, 2nd 3rd choices. Teachers will respond to parent scheduling requests.

Treasurer's Report: Denise Bautch provided a financial update as of August 31 (as presented).

1st Vice President's Report: Ann Gerardi gave an update on the Gator Gallop, and the group discussed how the event was held before and how it should be held this year. Ann provided an example request letter to businesses to get donations. Ann thinks we are not likely to meet the \$2000 budget.

2nd Vice President's Report: Cathy Dremel had been communicating with Tony Inglese over the summer regarding the projector purchase. Mrs. Ralston reported that the projectors have been delivered and that Ben Merrill, AGS' building technician, will start installing the projectors on September 1st. All buildings now have wireless capability. Denise reported that the invoice from the district for the projectors is insufficient and that we need the actual invoice from the supplier. Mrs. Ralston will follow up w/ Tony Inglese.

Cathy reported that the 1st special appropriations deadline is October 15th and asked Mrs. Riley and Mrs. VanderLoon to remind the other teachers to submit applications.

Classroom Support Report: Amy Moore reported that there is 1 tub of ice cream left over from ice cream social. It was suggested that the PTO sell ice cream at the first movie night. Wendy Domeier volunteered to help plan the movie nights. Marcie Mefford is having a room parent meeting in the multi-purpose room on September 4. The Halloween party is scheduled for October 30th, with a parade at 230pm and the parties afterward. Marcie will encourage head room parents to simplify, eliminate goody bags, minimize treats, and for older grades make the party more educational. The winter parties will be on December 18th and will involve service projects per grade level and focus on giving. Art Appreciation will be coordinated by Renee Faessler and she needs 8 more parent volunteers.

Ways & Means Report: Lisa Foydel Kramer provided a fundraising calendar with dates for several of the fundraisers including the book fairs, movie nights and "Dining Around Batavia" dates. Lisa will coordinate the movie nights with volunteer help. Lisa suggested that the PTO charge attendees \$2 for a drink & raffle ticket put into a drawing to win the movie at the end of the night. Chris Winkle will coordinate the book fairs, and the PTO has a contract w/Scholastic for this year. The spring book fair will be half price, and both fairs will have more Caudill books, more non-scholastic authors. Lisa reported that volunteers have stepped forward to coordinate the Spring dance.

Communications Report: Jennifer Tonn reported that the Gazette will be distributed September 11th, and the deadline for submitting news is September 8th. Jennifer plans to make the Gazette paperless starting in November or December. Jennifer also reported that the deadline for the Neighbors of Batavia magazine is the end of September for January/February issue. Mrs. Ralston added that she intends the Friday message to be more streamlined and to eliminate redundant information. Jennifer reported that Caroline Baty-Barr will finish the student directories by mid October. The board members discussed whether to include the ECC students in the AGS directory, no decision was made.

New Business:

- Add a BIC update to the PTO board agenda.
- Schedule an All-School PTO meeting.
- Contact ECC teacher to be represented at our PTO board meetings.

Adjournment: Lisa Foydel Kramer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 9:11pm, Denise Bautch seconded, all in favor.