

MINUTES FOR THE HILLANDALE PTA GENERAL MEETING

October 18, 2011 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Linda Walters called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM in the cafeteria.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from September General Meeting

Linda pointed out that the September meeting minutes had been posted for the board but were not yet available on the website. There are copies of the September meeting minutes available on the sign-in table; if anyone wants to review them now. If there are no comments/changes by the end of the meeting tonight, the minutes will be approved as posted.

III. REFLECTIONS KICK-OFF

In Kristi Wescott's absence, Linda read the following information about Reflections:

Reflections is an art program sponsored by the National PTA organization. In its more than 40-year history, the Reflections program has encouraged millions of students across the nation and in American schools overseas to explore their artistic talents. The program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition.

Each year, children at Hillandale have the opportunity to submit their works of art, which are then judged by an objective panel. (Ad lib: Recently, residents of the Croasdaile retirement community with an interest in or experience with art have been asked to judge.) The winners of the school competition go on to the district level. There is potential to move on to the state and national level as well. If you look outside the Media Center you can see the works of the Hillandale participants who have won recognition at the district and state level.

This year's theme is "Diversity Mean..." Children can submit artwork in a variety of areas: dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography and visual arts.

Everyone should have received a letter home about this program. If you are interested in more information, you can contact Kristi Wescott, who is our Reflections Coordinator (her info was on the letter) or go to NCPTA.org. Each child needs to submit their work with an entry form, and if an individual is identifiable in their work (e.g. photography or film) they must also submit a consent form. These forms are available from the website, from Kristi and also at the front desk of the school. The deadline for submission is November 18th.

Another aspect of this program is that each year the National PTA holds a Theme Search Contest. Currently, they are looking for entries for the 2013-2014 Reflections Program theme. These entries need to be submitted to the state PTA by mid-November. The winner will receive a \$100 cash prize.

If any of the children here would like to start working on a visual arts entry, we have paper and supplies over here. Feel free to come up and start on your art. One hint for you: the winners of the visual arts category almost always color in the ENTIRE paper with their picture!

Mrs. Bates reminded the meeting that there are parameters for submission – all entries must meet specific criteria, which are listed on the national PTA website, or available in print in the front office. There are also copies tonight on the sign-in table.

IV. TEAM REPORTS

Book Fair – Mona Riggsbee

On Mona's behalf, Linda reminded us that Wednesday and Thursday mornings are "Doughnuts with a Grownup" events at the book fair. Wednesday is for 3rd – 5th graders, and Thursday is for PK-2nd graders.

Holiday Shopping Spree – Annie Harrison

Annie shared details of the Spree, such as vendors/craftspeople, food services, a raffle, and the children's shopping area, which will be available to the kids during the entire event. Anyone who is interested in being a vendor or volunteer is asked to contact Annie.

Reading Buddy Program – Lynette Coyne

Lynette gave more information about reading buddies – basically, volunteers come to the school and spend one on one time reading with children who could use a little extra help with reading comprehension. If you're available for half-hour or hour-long sessions, please contact Lynette.

V. HIKE FOR HILLANDALE SUMMARY AND PRIZES

The fifth annual Hike was on Friday, October 7; the weather was great, and everyone had a wonderful time. Event coordinator Jenn Strobel was not able to attend the meeting, but Linda recognized her very hard work and commitment to the Hike's success. Also, special thanks go out to the parents who attended, both to hike with the kids and to volunteer; Doug Shank, a Hillandale parent, also was thanked for coordinating the obstacle course.

At this point, the Hike has brought in about \$8,000, both from the kids' collections and from matching gifts from local corporations. Linda reminded everyone that many companies will match donations, and we can provide a 501(c)3 letter to any company that needs it.

HIKE PRIZE WINNERS: Congratulations to:

Top fundraiser: Evan Byers (\$259)

Second place fundraiser: Evan Hexter (\$205)

Third place fundraiser: tie between Jacob and Caleb Bowers (\$170 each)

\$100+ fundraisers, who are invited to a special bowling party: Caleb Bowers,

Jacob Bowers, Evan Byers, DeAnna Dickerson, Malachi Evans, Eva

Fennimore, Andrew Fox, Jada Gaither, Caleb Gilby, Ethan Haine, Evan Hexter,

Michael Brian Hinson, Alanah Howell, Arveyyah Jackson, Zuriel Jackson,

Madeline Strobel, Mary Walters, Eloise Wescott

\$75-99.99 raffle: Tawana Adams, Maddie Brigman, Lindsey Webster

\$50-74.99 raffle: Thomas Alling, Nikolas Ellis, James Lance Gard

\$25-49.99 raffle: Rachel Ades, Micah Smith, Ella Whithaus

\$.01-24.99 raffle: Jacqueline Blas Aranda, Jade Franco

Top fundraising grade: kindergarten (Amounts were averaged by class to keep competition fair.) Kindergarteners will receive a "pop" party – either popcorn or popsicle.

Top class: Mrs. Jarrell's kindergarten – they'll get a pizza party

Teacher Raffle classrooms with participation of 10+ students: Mrs. Jones

Donations for 100% of children in classroom: Mrs. Barber

All kids who raised \$50+ will get t-shirts; kids who raised \$75 or more will also

receive jump ropes. They will be sent home in a week or two. Thanks to everyone for their participation and contributions.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT – Jeanne Dellinger

Checkbook balance	\$9403.49
Designated Funds	1351.40
Available funds	8052.09

VII. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Sandi Bates

Mrs. Bates first thanked everyone who helped in all ways with the Hike – it gets better every year! We're all very appreciative for the many ways the Hike helps our school community. Mrs. Bates gave everyone a challenge: every person at the meeting should bring a friend to the next meeting on November 15th. The school is growing in new ways this year – enrollment has increased much more after school started, and many of the classrooms are overpopulated. Hillandale has hired on two new teachers to address this issue, one in second grade (Jennifer Vermillera) and one in kindergarten (Kelly Pulley). Because she is no longer helping out with second grade, Miss Fochler will be able to work more with kindergarten through second grade students who need additional challenges through the AIG/Enrichment program. Transportation has become smoother, and continues to improve.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Linda Walters

Linda mentioned the PTA vice-president position, which is now open. She asked that anyone who might be interested in taking on a leadership role, or who knows someone who would, to please contact her for more information. The person who steps into this role would then be president of the PTA for the 2012-2013 school year.

There will be a Summit Church Halloween party at Hillandale this year (Summit members meet in the Hillandale gym on Sundays for their worship service; they have greatly supported Hillandale in many ways – through providing teacher luncheons, to giving supplies and working in the gardens.) The party will be on Sunday, October 30, from 6:00PM-8:00PM. There will be inflatables, games, and “trunk-or-treat” goodies, as well as some refreshments. All of this is free to attending families.

There has been some discussion as to whether or not Hillandale should hold its usual spring fundraiser, the Spring Fling and about other potential fundraising opportunities. Linda asked anyone who is interested in fundraising or who would like to participate in planning for our future to please attend the fundraising meeting (date/time TBD). In addition to determining ideas, we will also need individuals willing to step up and lead. Mrs. Bates pointed out that although it seems like the PTA is constantly worried about money, the funding is extremely important to continue the programs that the PTA offers. A good example of that is our class field trips, which are supported by the PTA. No child is ever left behind on a field trip due to financial reasons.

The winners of the book fair raffle (meeting attendees were given entry slips) were Kenny Gaither and Aman Abdul Malek.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 17th – 21st: Book Fair

Friday, October 28th: Teacher Workday

Tuesday, November 1st: PTA Board Meeting

Friday, November 4th: Holiday Shopping Spree

Thursday, November 10th: Chick-Fil-A Dining for Dollars

Friday, November 11th: Teacher Workday

Tuesday, November 15th: PTA General Meeting

XI. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Annie Harrison