

**PTA Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2007**

Recorded by Amy Crawford, Recording Secretary

PTA President – Angel Bivens

The members reviewed the minutes from the November 2007 meeting. Jayne Miller moved to approve the minutes, and Jane Jones seconded the motion. The November minutes were approved.

First VP - Greg Thomas

Greg raised the topic of doing other fundraisers besides the Sally Foster fundraiser. He discussed the possibility of Market Day. Several other local elementary schools offer Market Day. It is a good fundraiser, but a lot of work. The PTA would need to purchase a freezer, but there is no room for a freezer at MWES. If people failed to pick up their food by the deadline, food could be donated to the Maryland Food Bank. Fundraising subcommittee will continue to investigate the pros and cons of this possible fundraiser.

Treasurer - Jayne Miller

Jayne distributed hard copies of the budget. We have made \$11,500. There is a discrepancy concerning Sally Foster online orders. The Sally Foster fundraiser grossed \$20,500, but could be as high as \$22,800. Escrip is doing very well. We have made \$4,100 from Safeway and Giant. Jayne reminded everyone to fill out reimbursement forms in order to be reimbursed (instead of just submitting receipts). Jayne mentioned that we could be audited at any time, so it is important to keep accurate records.

PTA President – Angel Bivens

Angel discussed the PTA's website. Ms. Flynn has updated the school's website and has offered to put PTA information on their website. Jane Jones is currently working on the PTA's website.

Angel informed members of a Cultural Proficiency workshop being offered. She also told everyone about the Comcast Parent Involvement Matters Award to honor Maryland parents who have volunteered and encouraged nominations. She also informed members that the PTA Council Executive Board is reviewing HCPSS policies regarding education for pregnant students.

Principal – Jim Weisner

Mr. Weisner thanked Marcia Ravasio for organizing the luncheon for teachers during conferences.

Mrs. Mercer, guidance counselor, spoke about an Emotional Intelligence workshop which will be offered on Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at West Friendship Elementary School from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Enrollment is currently 594, down 6 students from September.

The Sing Along is scheduled for Dec. 21 at 2:00 p.m.

The school's website is being updated by Ashley Armstrong and Lisa Flynn.

DAP Day (Disability Awareness Program) is scheduled for January 11, 2008. Activities include a handicapped basketball game, speakers, and Fidos for Freedom (working dogs). Greg Thomas motioned to give \$200 for DAP. Adrienne Taylor seconded the motion.

The Fall Book Fair at Barnes and Noble raised \$1146 this year, compared to \$600 last year.

Membership – reported by Angel Bivens for Jennifer Peffall

We currently have 358 members. PTA membership is down from last year. Of the 358 members, over 80 MWES staff members have joined. There have been no complaints about the charge for the directory. We have 594 children enrolled, so many families have not joined. Suggestion was made to only have one piece of paper to fill out next year. Directory addendum will be coming out soon. Suggestion was made to staff table at Back to School nights in order to increase visibility. We might consider charging \$10 for single member, \$15 for dual membership.

Reading Campaign – Adrienne Taylor

Mrs. Flynn talked to all pods about the Reading Campaign scheduled to begin in January. Flat "Ducklings" have been distributed to all children. Guest Reader Day will be on January 25, 2008 from 10:00 – 10:30. Adrienne will meet with Mrs. Leslie, reading specialist, to discuss other activities during the campaign.

Reflections Program - reported by Angel Bivens

There were 42 entries this year. There was an awards ceremony for all entrants.

Basket Bingo – Adrienne Taylor

Karen Buron is heading up the donations committee. Bingo will be held on April 4, 2008. Tickets will be donated by printer (Ray Bowers).

Walking Program – Jane Jones

There's been lots of rain lately, so the kids have not been walking.

Ducktales – reported by Angel Bivens

Articles are due on January 11, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. Suggestion was made to cancel meeting in December 2008 because of low attendance at the December meeting.