

St. Andrew's Parent Teacher Organization

10-13-2009 Meeting

Persons present: Chris Reese, Eric Oakland, Chris Maki, Joan Tjernagel, Pam Bain, Betty Lou McMaster, Deanna Lankow, Heather Reese

1) Purpose of the P.T.O.

a) Provide a forum for parents and teachers to collaborate on ways to enhance the educational experience at St. Andrew's.

- For example, Shayne Plath is providing Home Economics classes to students monthly. Shayne is currently funding the activities herself and is looking for donations. It may be helpful if Shayne would provide a list of items needed the week before the projects and parents could send supplies to school.

b) Encourage parent involvement in school activities.

- Coaching sports
- Science Fair, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Spring Festival – Teachers continue to lead the activities, with assistance from parents in setting up/taking down.
- Music Lessons? If any parents would like to offer lessons to the students.
- Teacher Appreciation Week
 - Donuts/Coffee/Orange Juice for breakfast
 - Provide Lunch
 - Parents take recess duty
- Parents offer assistance in classrooms

c) Generate new ideas to grow St. Andrew's Lutheran School.

- Parades
- Open House
- Target Marketing – Where are tomorrow's kindergarteners? - Make contact with other preschools that do not have grade schools.
 - St. Luke's
 - Rose of Sharon
 - The Harbor
- Need to send photos to the Bulletin newspaper for all activities. They are happy to print photos for our activities if we submit them.

d) Continued connections to St. Andrew's Lutheran School – Keep parents and students involved.

- Monthly movie night
- Game night
- Talent show with concessions
- Scavenger hunt
- Parent night
- Hot lunch with parents

e) Create fundraising opportunities for the school.

- Would it help to have fundraisers for specific items? Wish list from teachers?
- Scripts – Send out reminder; Maybe have a presentation at the November PTO meeting.
 - Great for Christmas – purchasing presents or giving gift cards
 - Can be used to pay Kohl's bill (only retailer that will accept scrips for credit card payment)

- iii) Box tops – Betty Lou will be submitting Box Tops at the end of October, so we need to get in as many as possible by then. (Box Tops are submitted October and February.)
- iv) Milk Caps/Labels for Education/Box Tops
 - (1) Have competition with award for classroom with most collected
 - (2) Send home collection sheets for students
 - (3) Currently have a collection box at St. John's in Hastings; Maybe Christ the Lord would allow us to put a collection box in their building.
- v) Fall Carnival – need photos of event, see if anyone took pictures.
- vi) Fun Run?
- vii) Kid's Read-a-thon?
- viii) Garage sale
- ix) Working with local businesses
 - (1) Culver's – Set up day & time where St. Andrew's would get a percentage of sales from all St. Andrew's customers. Maybe a Sunday after church. Each person needs to bring flyer to have their sale count. Need to provide servers to bring food to tables. Deanna will contact Culver's.
 - (2) Wendy's – St. Andrew's night. Other schools have a certain night where a percentage of the sales go toward the school. Need to contact Wendy's to see if we could participate.
 - (3) Subway?
 - (4) Lillian's (Betty Lou)
- x) Tupperware, Current, Pampered Chef fundraisers
- xi) Grants

f) Outreach Ideas

- i) Students sing at other churches – Salem, Christ the Lord, St. John's
- ii) Students sing at nursing homes – possibly caroling at Christmas
- iii) Adopt a family at Christmas
- iv) Food Shelf
- v) Feed My Starving Children (3rd Grade and up)
- vi) Samaritan's Purse (Shoebox) Operation Christmas Child Nov. 16-23
 - (1) Fill shoebox with items for a child (specify girl or boy) – toothbrush and paste, soap, small toys, crayons, pencils, hard candy, book
 - (2) Include a check for \$7 for shipping each box.

2) Communication

- a) Monthly Meeting – Chris will send out a calendar for the year with dates to give everyone advance notice.
- b) E-mail & Phone
- c) Send meeting minutes home with students for the first meeting. Put them on the website for future meetings to conserve paper.

3) Encourage more participation in P.T.O.

- a) Bring kids to meetings – puzzles, games, movies, homework
- b) "PTO Meeting Tonight" stickers sent home with kids
- c) Classroom with most parents present at next PTO get a treat?