

**Bond Mill PTO
Executive Board
Meeting Minutes
1/15/09**

NOTE: Next PTO Meeting FEBRUARY 12, 2009 6-7PM

Present: Kristen Ruiz, President; Howard Rosenberg, Vice President; Mark Brackett, Corresponding Secretary; Monica Gribben, Recording Secretary; Justin FitzGerald, Principal; Pauline Belton, Assistant Principal; Kathy Jacobs, 5th grade teacher; Umbrenda Fisher, 4th grade teacher; Elaine Oakes, 3rd grade teacher; Kathleen Kennedy, special education teacher.

Guests: Dawn Bell, Debi Collins, Lucy Ertter, Jen Hinkle, Linda Landau, Chery Yff (Modell's)

Meeting called to order 6:01 pm

Guest Reports:

Chery Yff – Modell's: Presented information about Modell's "sport" award to recognize students. Modell's is interested in partnering/fundraising with Bond Mill Elementary to give back to the community. "Team Week", which Bond Mill participated in last year, is one opportunity for fundraising.

Dawn Bell – Playground Refurbishment: Did not get Lowe's grant. Will use money from a donation to get a playground group to come to the school.

Jen Hinkle – Write-a-Book: Judging is in process. The county deadline is January 30, 2009. The school's submissions to the county will be printed in the PTO newsletter. Want to "advertise" the successful books for next year. Discussed ways to promote write-a-book through author's night or other means.

Lucy Ertter – Parent Liaison: Bring family to school week is week of February 9th. Combine with honor roll assemblies scheduled for February 9th.

Treasurer's Report (via email):

All funds received through 1/10/09 have been deposited. Data entered into Quicken and bank statement ending 12/31/08 has been reconciled.

Bank account balance on 12/31/08 statement was \$37,213.26.

Fundraising from Sally Foster and cookie dough net approximately \$11,600. These funds are split - 50% to PTO and 50% to school. This is well below our forecast and may impact the PTO budget.

President's Report:

- Mindcore – an education-oriented fundraiser (vs. product sales) that Beltsville Elementary does each year. Each grade gets 100 questions (and answers) to study for a month. Students seek pledges for each answer they get correct on Mindcore Day. It takes approximately 125 parents to quiz each student. Beltsville raises \$10-15K. Bond Mill to observe this year to implement next year.
- 14 Listening Centers arrived.
- PTO Today sponsors annual awards with monetary prizes. Suggest we submit an entry in the new PTO category (PTOs established within two years).

Action: Monica Gribben will draft Bond Mill's application materials.

- Fundraising committee (Liz Steenrod) needs to consider fundraisers for this year and next year. Dawn Bell, Kim Jones, and Lucy Ertter are willing to help. Dominos pizza cards and ValuCards were mentioned. There are many options for fundraising.
- Our PTO website should be up and running soon.
- Boundaries are going to be changed throughout the county in a systematic way.
- Georgetown recycling is not doing the job they promised throughout the county.

Action: Liz Dwyer to provide paper recycling funds for September-December 2007 to Justin FitzGerald. Georgetown Paper is to send a check for September-December 2008 comparable to 2007.

Principal's Report:

- Finishing Touch IV, offers extra help to students after school for eight weeks from January-March, has about 70 students.
- Second quarter honor roll assemblies scheduled for February 9th.
- County is working on parent portal to access student grades.
- Rosa Pena, ESOL parent liaison, has resigned.

Old Business:

- Digital cameras – None have been turned in yet. Justin FitzGerald has one to turn in.

Action: Submit request for used digital cameras for classroom use to West Laurel Yahoo Group.

- Bylaws - A motion was passed to form a bylaws committee to review the bylaws and make recommendations to the PTO board and staff regarding revisions. Dawn Bell agreed to chair the committee. The committee should be composed of approximately six PTO members; they will meet two to three times to develop their recommendations.

Action: Dawn Bell, chair bylaws committee, to announce committee in next PTO Newsletter.

- Fifth/sixth grade fundraising proposal – No decision has been made by the Board.

New Business:

Art Auction – Discussed art show. Parents can purchase student art to be put on products such as magnets, mouse pads, mugs, etc. Another option is putting student art on tiles, something the graduating class(es) could do each year. Consider combining initial tile installation with 40th anniversary celebration.

Action: Debi Collins needs to work with Kristen Ruiz and Justin FitzGerald to set a date for the art auction or art show.

Meeting adjourned: 8:13 pm.

Submitted by:
Monica Gribben, Recording Secretary
February 9, 2009

Action Items

Liz Dwyer:

1. Provide paper recycling funds for September-December 2007 to Justin FitzGerald.

Kristen Ruiz:

1. Submit request to West Laurel Yahoo Group for used digital cameras for classroom use.

Monica Gribben

1. Draft Bond Mill PTO's application materials for PTO Today 'New Group' Award.

Dawn Bell

1. Announce bylaws committee in next PTO Newsletter.

Debi Collins

1. Work with Kristen Ruiz and Justin FitzGerald to set a date for the art auction or art show.