

Liberty Bell PTA Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2012

Denise Miller called meeting to order @ 9:18 am.

Board Members present: Denise Miller, Connie Mantz, Patricia Allen, Kim Adams, Amy Wilkins, Shawn Kressler

Mr. Hafner, principal, was present and started off the meeting by welcoming guests and thanking parents and board members for supporting Liberty Bell. He went over the schedule for Back to School Night. RTII - intervention information will be available in the cafeteria. Parents will have an opportunity to ask questions. Picture Day will be on Sept. 26, 2012 with the retakes on Tuesday, November, 6, 2012.

Mrs. Delp took over the year book. Mr. Hafner is asking for parents to volunteer for each grade to help with taking pictures for the year book.

On Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012, Liberty Bell is hosting the 1st Annual Joseph P. Liberati Mini-Golf Classic. This to honor Mr. Liberati's memory. All proceeds will go to the Joseph P. Liberati Scholarship Fund for SL students to earn.

Denise Miller then introduced the Board Members. We all introduced ourselves.

Mr. Hafner returned and introduced Mrs. Trilling, ESL, teacher. Mrs. Trilling offered a suggestion of having a Family BINGO night. She has a BINGO machine and cards to donate for the evening. Teachers and staff would be the callers. The night would be free for families. She had done these in the past and said they were successful. We could offer snacks, i.e. soft pretzels and have door prizes donated from local businesses.

The PTA could send home a flyer with more information and to ask for volunteers. It was discussed that we have BINGO night in January or February.

Denise Miller spoke to the parents about replacing the 3rd grade playground equipment. She told the parents that the school district asked the PTA to pay for half of the cost of the equipment. She spoke about Race for Education fund raiser to help raise the funds for the playground. The playground will be for the whole school. Megan Paugh and Vicki Maund are co-chairing the committee. Information packets will be going home sometime next week. The students' families will be asked to fill out address labels of possible contacts for donations. Next Tuesday, Sept. 18th, the students will have an assembly on Race for Education.

If we earn enough funds, we are hoping to remove other fundraisers off our calendar. The Board removed our Yankee Candle fundraiser, but reserves the option to add it back if needed.

There will be sign up sheets for helping to stuff and stamp envelopes or log in donations for Race For Education on October 4 & 5, 2012. The sign up sheets are out to sign up today and will be available at Back to School Night.

Kristin Bruck asked about prize incentives. Megan said that there will be individual and class prizes. Kristin asked if parents can opt out of providing names/addresses. Megan said that parents can opt out, but the committee is suggesting a \$50 donation. Allison Ackerman said that she has 3 children in the school and is concerned about the amount of money that would have to be donated. There are other parents in the same situation. She was concerned that the students wouldn't have the same opportunity to earn prizes if the parents decided to opt out.

The incentives are still in the planning stages at this point.

The Fall Festival is on October 19th from 6 - 7:30 pm. We shifted the time so that students who have siblings in the Intermediate School can go to both festivals. There will be a DJ, trick or treat, food and other activities. A flyer will be coming out shortly.

At Open House tonight, the PTA will have a table with information on the Giant A+ program, Script, Race For Education and Kid Stuff books. We will collect names and Giant numbers from parents to help with sign up.

There will be a Welcome to School coffee social for parents of Liberty Bell students in Kindergarten and First Grades. We hope that the teachers will be able to join the social.

Spirit Wear - The PTA is looking for a new vendor due to having the order large quantities in the past. Denise asked for any referrals. The PTA would also like to have magnets also. Josephine Cacace mentioned that she has a connection and will give the information to the PTA.

The School Directory - forms were distributed and are being collected.

PTA Membership - Allison Ackerman is chairing the committee. She asked parents to please join the PTA. A portion of the dues goes to the school PTA.

A parent asked the question why we are a PTA and not a PTG. Amy Wilkins explained that a PTA has to follow the state PTA guidelines and a portion of the dues goes to the state PTA. A PTG is not bound by the states guidelines and 100% of the dues goes directly to the students. For example, with a PTG, if the

dues is \$5, the \$5 will go directly to the funds for the students. Whereas, a \$5 dues to the PTA, a portion will go to the school. It was asked if Liberty Bell PTA ever thought of changing to a PTG. Denise said that we are open for discussion, but it would not be pursued this school year.

Volunteer forms are being collected by Kim Adams. She said that we are still in need of volunteers. She asked that parents get back to her. Amy Wilkins suggested that parents who can't commit to a committee, keep in mind that they can still help out during an event or other area in need of volunteers. Even a 1/2 to an hour time of volunteering your time at an event would be a big help. Shannon Phillips mentioned that it would be beneficial if parents could get advanced notice of help or donations needed before an event.

Denise mentioned that the school nurse needs clothing donations in all sizes - 4T - 12/14. This will help should a child get dirty i.e. spilled drink, illness. Shirts/shorts/pants are needed.

Box Tops is underway. The money the PTA gets back will help with technology. The school is looking for a wireless head set or a sign for the front of the school.

Stacey Benner is collecting Danimal yogurt labels for a contest to earn play ground equipment. She is collecting the labels in a box and during lunch and will wash off the labels collected during the lunch hour.

Liberty Bell will have our first school store of the year before the PTA meeting in October.

The year book committee is in need of photographer for each grade. Vicki Maund offered to photograph the 2nd grade classes.

Patricia Allen, Treasurer, briefly went over the budget and mentioned that the PTA Board passed the budget for the year.

Spanish Immersion book sale will be on the agenda in October.

Kim Adams mentioned that Script gift card will be ordered on a Tuesday and available on Friday. She can send home with the student. We are looking into having the option to order on-line. At this point, parents can print the order forms from the website. It's a win win situation....purchase a gift card, Liberty Bell gets a percentage.

Next meeting is Thursday, October 11, 2012 @ 9:15am.

Meeting was adjourned @ 9:54am.