

MINUTES

Bower School PTA General Meeting Minutes Tuesday, October 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Mentzer at 7:06pm.

In attendance

Mark Kohlmann - Principal	Karen Brand - Faculty
Lisa Mentzer - President	Pam Nielsen - 1 st Vice President
Karen Cook - Treasurer	Jen Diomar - Recording Secretary
Judy Bilitzki - Corresponding Secretary	Carol Hameister
Cinnamon Bende	Laura Simpson
Katie O'Connell	Kristin Siebert
Catherine Vince	Konnie Maskell
Salena Pierce	Rebecca Clevenger
Rosanna Grutzmacher	Melissa Sider
Debbie Schlueter	Debbie Haack
CJ Willcutt	

President's Report - Lisa Mentzer

The minutes from September 9th were reviewed and approved. Lisa thanked all volunteers who helped paint Bower's Peaceful Playground. School directories are ready to go to the printer and will be delivered to all PTA families within the next couple of weeks. Our first Restaurant Night at Buffalo Wild Wings in September raised \$303.50 for Bower.

Treasurer's Report - Karen Cook

The Income/Expense Statement dated 8/1/2009 through 10/13/2009 was reviewed. The budget will need to be amended after the Fall Fling to adjust positively or negatively from the original budget.

Faculty Report - Karen Brand

Classrooms are getting raffle baskets together for the Fall Fling. Each grade is putting together baskets based on different themes. Karen thanked the PTA for their help and support and also noted that 77 students participated in October's NTV Week.

Principal's Report - Mark Kohlmann

Mark also thanked the volunteers who made Peaceful Playground possible. Students are receiving training on how to play the different games so that all students are using the same rules. Conflict resolution techniques are being taught as well to go along with the program to solve disputes.

The bobcat logo was painted on the gym floor.

Mark reminded everyone that Friday, 10/23 is a half-day of school and the end of the First Quarter. Report cards will go home on November 2, 2009. Parent-Teacher conferences are being scheduled for the first week of November.

Congratulations to Sara Bassitt who was the Chicago Bears Teacher of the Week. Sara was nominated by a Bower parent.

Committee Reports

▶ **Fall Fling – Rosanna Grutzmacher and Debbie Haack, Co-Chairs**

One hundred tickets have been sold for Bower’s Fall Fling on November 6 at The Courtyard in Warrenville. E-mail confirmations will go out to all who have purchased tickets within the next couple of weeks letting them know they have been added to the Guest List. No paper confirmations will be sent home in an effort to reduce paper. Volunteers are needed for the evening of the event. Please contact Rosanna Grutzmacher or Debbie Haack if interested.

▶ **Reflections –Konnie Maskell, Co-Chair**

Reflections entries were due today and 76 projects have been turned in. Judging will take place on Thursday and an awards night is planned for December 2 at 7pm at the school.

▶ **Gift Wrap Fundraiser – Kristin Siebert, Chair**

Gift wrap pick up is Thursday, October 15 from 3-6pm. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Kristin Siebert.

▶ **Book Fair – Melissa Sider, Chair**

Next week is the PTA sponsored Scholastic Book Fair. Backpack information will be coming home this week. Please contact Melissa Sider if interested in volunteering to help. The PTA will take proceeds from the Book Fair in Scholastic vouchers to be used to replenish Birthday and NTV Books, as well as other items needed throughout the school.

Schedule of events (small cafeteria):

Teacher preview	Wednesday, 10/21	7:30am-9:00am
Student Wish List	Wednesday, 10/21	9:00am-3:30pm
Family Night	Wednesday, 10/21	5:00pm-8:30pm
Breakfast with the ‘Grands’	Thursday, 10/22	7:30am-9:00am
Open Shopping	Thursday, 10/22	9:00am-5:00pm
Open Shopping	Friday, 10/23	8:30am-12:00pm

▶ **Make a Difference Week – Katie O’Connell, Chair and Green Committee – Cinnamon Bende, Chair**

Make a Difference Week is next week, October 19th-23rd. Information will be coming home in backpacks this week. There will be a used gym shoes recycle drive throughout the week and a ‘no waste’ lunch on Wednesday where students should bring lunch containers and products that can be re-used (i.e. plastic containers that can be re-used instead of baggies).

In addition to Make a Difference Week, these committees are focused on long term, permanent changes to help our environment. For example, as part of the effort to reduce paper, backpack mail will soon be going home with a family’s oldest child at the school. The school will also start participating in a terracycling program for drink pouches (i.e. Capri Sun or Honest Kids pouches). Bower will receive two cents for each pouch that is put in the designated lunchroom bins. Other initiatives include ‘no waste lunches’ the third Wednesday of each month. More information will be coming home soon.

▶ **Upcoming events / Dates to remember:**

October 14	Market Day pickup
October 15	Gift Wrap pickup 3:00-6:00
October 21-23	Book Fair
October 19-23	Make a Difference Week
November 6	Fall Fling

Rebecca Clevenger won a jar of candy for attending the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned by Lisa Mentzer at 7:57pm.

Next Meeting – November 11, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., Bower School.