

Kensington Parkwood PTA Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2009

Meet & Mingle

Approximately 25 members were present.

Introduction & Presentation

Susan Anderson welcomed all in attendance and introduced Mr. Maurice Howard, IT Specialist Office of Chief Technology Officer for Montgomery County. Mr. Howard presented a multimedia presentation that was created in a collaborative effort with Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery County Police and the State Attorney General's Office to educate parents on how to keep their children safe when using the internet. He highlighted the many risks associated with unsupervised internet use including cyber bullying, internet predators and unwanted exposure to sexual and violent behaviors. He also offered concrete solutions as to how parents can minimize these risks. He stressed the importance of constant parent involvement, especially since this is an ever-evolving arena.

Business

The November meeting minutes were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Susan Anderson tabled the Gifted and Talented resolution for the next meeting. A copy of the proposed resolution was available. Please contact Michele Santy if you have any questions or comments.

Susan announced that according to our bylaws, we must have a five-person nominating committee selected by the March meeting. Please call Susan Anderson if you are interested. In this role, you are expected to present a slate for next year's Executive Committee at the April meeting and the election will be held at the May meeting.

CLUSTER UPDATE: The White Flint sector discussion is still open. Bill D'Albora reported that the cluster representatives presented their priorities to the board to be considered when making next year's budget decisions. The top three priorities included class size, maintaining hours-based staffing (for relevant schools), and school maintenance.

TREASURER'S UPDATE: A copy of our current budget was made available. Please remember that Michelle Tamaro sells Giant, Safeway and Shoppers cards. It is a great way for the PTA to earn money.

Committee Reports

Bingo Night: Bingo Night is scheduled for Friday, February 20th. A few more volunteers are still needed. Please contact Katie Mitchell if you are available.

Learning Differences and Special Needs: Penny Rigler is planning on buying some Rich Lavoie DVD's and possibly arrange a few screenings. Debra Egan noted that KP used to have a lending library for parents before the renovation. It is something we may wish to build on going forward.

Holiday Bazaar: Susan thanked Jen Park and Karen Puente for coordinating such a successful event.

International Night: Susan extended our gratitude to Dani Fofanah and Tammy Pasquinelli for coordinating such an entertaining and educational evening.

New Business

Vandalism: Susan announced that someone drove a car into the blue benches by the pick-up area. There has also been some destruction of the field. Barbara Leiss is going to add a level of security near the loading deck to dissuade trespassers. Please report any suspicious activity to the police.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.