

Ichabod Crane Central PTA
Minutes of March 11, 2009 Meeting

6:46: Quorum Established

6:47: **Minutes** from January and February Meetings quickly reviewed and approved. Cathy Kittle motioned to approve, Ann Mueller second; all approved.

6:48: **Treasury Report-** Michele Graham is not able to be here tonight, however she did email the report. There was very little action in the past month. We are unsure of the amount that came in for the Yankee Candle fundraiser as of yet. Report approved.

6:49: **Corresponding Secretary-** We received a thank you note from the MHG fourth grade teachers for the PTA's support of the museum project, along with an invitation to attend. It will be put in the newsletter to encourage people to attend the two "museum" events.

6:50: **MS PTA**

The internet safety meeting went fairly well. We hoped to fill the auditorium, about 75-80 people actually attended. The presenter was impressed as he expected about 6 people. Any little bit of information that we can get out there helps. It is not a scare tactic, any information he gives out is scary enough. One of the examples was a local story about a 13 year old girl who met a 50 year old man at MCDonald's. www.netismartz.org & www.cybertipline.com for a safety site and a tip line to prevent exploitation. Basically, keep an eye on the kids on their cell phones and playing games on the net. Predators are getting into these gaming areas specifically to look for vulnerable kids. There are also other preventatives. Tim Farly has a resource kit in the office for use. Parents don't know how to access or use the parental controls. We are planning a demonstration with the trooper to show parents how to use the parental controls on the computer and possibly cell phones. Right now, the follow up with the kids is scheduled for March 23rd but may change because of scheduling.

Tracey Freeman needs a vote about the assemblies. Capital Repertory presentation on the Underground Railroad. March 30th for MS (\$900) Holly Busta motioned to approve, all in favor. The second one is African Acrobats (\$425) also for the MS. The Reptile Program for the Elem. & Primary school (\$750 total for both programs). May 12th reptile show, morning, May 7th African Acrobats in the HS Aud. Motion to approve. All in favor.

The MS is doing a Walk A Thon with the Friends of Rachel group for fundraising for the MS PTA. They will split the profits down the middle. The date for the walk is sometime in April.

Would the MS PTA take over Nurse's and Secretary's Day? Kittle mentioned that they are appreciated during the Staff Appreciation Day.

7:02: School assemblies are covered.

7:03: **Yankee Candle fundraiser** is down about \$2,000. The PTA brought in \$17,400; PTA gets half of that. Everything has been sent in; it will be 4-6 weeks for delivery. We need to figure out something with the delivery and pick ups. Maybe draw up a note to request volunteers. Yankee Candle said that no one HAS to be there for the delivery. We do it to help get it organized. They don't divide by schools or teachers, it is divided by last name. So we will need help with that. That puts us at right before or right after Spring Break. They will be stored at possibly at MHG or MVB. Kittle suggested that if they did come in early enough, they can be distributed at the Fourth Grade Museum shows since the parents will be there anyway. Just let us know.

7:08: **Activities Committee-** We don't have much to report. We were talking about doing the Read In but it was postponed or may end up canceled. The alternate dates were taken by bigger events. That item is still up in the air right now. Except for the end of the year picnic, that was going to be our last event this school year.

7:09: **Museum Project-** We did vote to go ahead and allow those 2 extra teachers to get about \$200 each for their museum exhibit. If everybody can do their own separate receipt envelope, that would be great. Rondi (owns the book store in Kinderhook and will be doing the book fair at MHG) did say that there is no fee to have Thomas Locker at MHG museum. The book store will be there before and after. The book store typically gives the PTA a 20% discount that had gone to purchase books for the school libraries. Lately, what other PTAs have been choosing to do is either giving back part or all of that discount back to the customers. The majority thinks that we should pass the savings along to the customers. Generally, for an event with Locker, all his books are available. Right now, only MHG will be doing the book fair. Based on Tim. Wells' description on what MVB is doing, it is better to just keep the books at MHG. Kittle motioned that the savings to be passed on to the customers, Farley seconded, All approved.

7:17: **Author's Fair-** We have to discuss the full amount request. Wells requested \$500, but he actually needs \$490.77. It spans 3 days with at least 1000 people attending. Wells gave us a run down on the cost. We all think that this is a very nice event and we rarely get an event that has that many people attending. The dishware should be re-used next year, if possible. Kittle motioned to approve the \$500 for the event. Second-Mr. Farley. All in favor. None opposed. The dates will be May 19th, 20th & 23rd. Not sure of which dates at which school.

7:25: **Cookie Dough Packets-** Christine White and Carrie Dugan were confused about the last shipment that came in. Apparently, they were the promised Entertainment Books. Pick up for dough will be on a Saturday May 15. New send out packet date is March 27th and it will have to be returned on April 9th. A note will have to be sent out about the pick ups and the return date. Make it clear in the letter that there will only be 1 pick-up date.

7:29: **PTA mailboxes-** There were issues with the mailbox at MHG. It has not been overflowing as what was mentioned. Stickles still couriers mail, except for yearbook stuff, to Primary School.

7:30: We are looking for a volunteer for the MHG book cart. Whoever has done it in the beginning of the year, has not done it in a while. Please give an hour once a week to help the kids. Dot does MVB, but someone still needs to do MHG. A notice will be sent out for Volunteers for Kindergarten screening, this is also mentioned in the newsletter.

7:31: Nurse at MVB is in desperate need of sweat pants.

7:32: MS no longer needs petty cash; the issue was resolved.

7:33: Is there a line item in the Budget for Arbor Day? Yes. They raised it a little bit too.

5th Grade Field Trip- Because of the economic conditions, the fifth grade is not going to Mystic Aquarium this year. They will be going on a boat trip. The boat trip will be educational as well as fun. They are having the pancake fundraiser again but will be about \$800 short. There was some discussions as to whether there could be a dessert night, or a movie night. Thanks to the MS we do have a large screen for MHG. Debbie Rapp suggested selling Smencils. They can be purchased quickly and sold for a dollar a piece. The PTA will purchase them and they will be sold for the trip.

7:38: **St Judes Math-a-lon-** Can Farly get all the cash for that and give it to the PTA so they write a check for him. Freeman said that she will talk to the Treasurer (Michele). And then we will make a decision.

7:42: The Elks will donate whatever size flag the MS needs.

7:45: Busta will leave the newsletter for Mueller to box up for each school.

7:46: Meeting adjourned.