

**Mary Lin General PTA Meeting Minutes**  
**August 21, 2007**

**Official Decisions:**

- PTA meeting calendar approved
- 2006-07 audit approved
- 2007-08 budget approved

I. Call to Order

- A. Thank you to last year's Board
- B. Introduction of current Board and Elects
- C. PTA Mission
- D. Rules of Order

II. Approval of Meeting Calendar

III. Technology Update

- A. John Downey provided an update on the technology upgrades to take place at Lin.
  - i. At this point we are waiting for APS. They have just completed installation of Thin Client Solution technology at the first wave of schools. Mary Lin is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave and the ordering/installation process should take 1-3 months.
  - ii. However, Mary Lin is proposing being a pilot school for a wireless solution, which could delay the process but would save about \$35,000 in wiring costs.
  - iii. Budget is still \$27,000 but we are waiting to get the full picture of what is available before spending the money.
  - iv. Mary Lin is also considering purchasing Smart Boards, and LCD projector, and a new printer.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- A. Audit approval – concern was expressed that the reconciliation was not done correctly. Liz Davey indicated that the problem had been addresses and all would be done properly going forward.
- B. Budget approval. Questions posed:
  - i. Why is this year's auction income anticipated to be so much than last year's (\$29,000 down from \$49,000)? Explanation was given that instead of raising funds for the sake of raising funds, the PTA is trying to be more mindful of what the actual needs are and raise what is needed. The goal is to not have a surplus of funds at the end of any year.

- ii. How is last year's auction income being spent on curriculum? It is being spent on Writer's Workshop, Core Knowledge, and science equipment (which has already been purchased).
- iii. Can the Visiting Artists budget line be increased? Kelly Mann explained the expansion of the grants program, though which funding for visiting artists could be requested by teachers or parents.
- iv. What does line item Study Trips pay for? And what if these funds aren't spent? These funds are given to teachers for students who are not able to pay to participate in field trips. Per Eric Dusenbury, if money is not used, the budget can be amended at any point in the year to reallocate unused funds elsewhere.

#### V. Communications

- A. Boyd Baker encouraged everyone to check out the new Mary Lin website, sign up to receive the Monday e-blast (which mirrors the Monday Rocket that goes home with the kids), and to send him any feedback or suggestions.
- B. Per someone's question, Boyd is looking into the possibility of turning the Lin directory into a pdf.

#### VI. Announcements

- A. Community partners/director – Traci Switzer encouraged business owners to sign on for ad space in this year's directory
- B. Cub Scouts – Gus Persons encouraged families in grades 1-5 to get involved in scouting. Scouts will be set up outside the school on Fridays to sign people up.

#### VII. New Business

- A. Status of funding/hiring a school nurse – Brian Mitchell explained that nurses are assigned to schools based on students' medical needs.
- B. Girl Scouts – announcements will be sent out soon; each grade level will need to start their own troop
- C. Redistricting rumors are unsubstantiated; Brian Mitchell has heard nothing about it. In addition, APS policy is that all current families would be grandfathered in; only new families would be affected by any future redistricting.