

Lyon/Pleasant Ridge PTA Minutes  
May 11, 2007

President Chris Northwick opened the meeting at 9:15 a.m. in the Lyon School Multipurpose Room.

In Attendance: Kevin Dorken, Matthew Rich, Chris Northwick, Liz Price, Robin Hinrichs, Dee Dee Gross, Kay Laurie, Ana Cassorla, Stacy Saef, Angie Katsumakis, Breland Nelson, Tracy Murdoch, Brian Engle, Kristen Borth, Marcia Bellair, Cheryl Kasner, Amy Schneider, Sandy Brennan, Kristi Carroll, Maggie Wall, Eileen Grant, Vicki Schurer, Kathleen Butler, Lisa Dickholtz, Bridget Cienkus, Leslie Howell, Susie Feldstein, Angie Katsumakis, Sue Swaringen, Deb McMahon, Debbie Berg, Natalie Weber

**I. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the April 10, 2007 meeting were approved.

**II. Officer's Reports**

President—Chris Northwick reported that Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is this week at both schools. Joanne Eenigenburg organized our celebration. The staff had fruit in on Monday and breakfast at both schools today. The staff also received personalized notepads and raffles are being held for the teachers today. Chris thanked the Red Rooster. They donated some of the supplies for breakfast this morning. Chris also said thank you to Ana Cassorla and Kristina Hourihane for their work on International Night. It was a huge success.

Chris reported that PTA Council is a group that meets once a month to discuss PTA issues in the district. It is made up of the President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of each cluster PTA. They also have reps for Cultural Enrichment and Community Liaison. They meet regularly with the superintendent Dr. Hill and Brett Clark the Public relations director for the district. At the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting a report was presented from the Westbrook/Glen Grove PTA suggesting that the District sponsor a Family Night during next year's TV Turn Off Week. On this night there would be no district activities after 5:00 and no homework. Parents would be encouraged to plan an activity they could do as a family. PTA Council is also looking for fill some committee positions for next year. If you are interested, see Chris. She will be Pres of Council next year.

PTA Council is also looking into ways to increase recycling in the district. One area of interest is the recycling of milk jug at school. Next year PTA Council will have an environmental representative for the first time. Mary Ann Topping, who will be taking that position, will be contacting the school board to share the support of PTA council in persuing recycling across the district. Any additional parents in support of this or other recycling efforts across the district are encouraged to share their support with the School Board as well. (You can direct your comments

through Superintendent Hill at [ghill@glenview34.org](mailto:ghill@glenview34.org)) Kevin Dorken reported that a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class at Lyon had become concerned about recycling and that SWANCC had come to Lyon to explain to the students how the milk jugs could be recycled. Some of the options would require that the District's waste removal contract be rewritten which cannot happen until May 2008 when the present contract expires. Until then the District will work with PTA Council on intermediary solutions. Chris also reported that Tammy Burke gave a presentation to PTA Council about an environmental program called Baby Steps. She will report to us about it soon.

Chris reminded committee chairs that the PTA will be taking out an ad in the Pioneer Press in June to thank people and businesses who have helped PTA with donations of money and services this year. Please send names for the ad to Chris by next Friday.

Finally, Chris reminded all PTA chairs to please revise your job descriptions by the end of the school year. All of the job descriptions are posted online at [http://www.lyonprpta.org/board\\_position\\_descriptions.htm](http://www.lyonprpta.org/board_position_descriptions.htm), but some of the information may be a few years old. Please forward any revisions to Chris at [website@lyonprpta.org](mailto:website@lyonprpta.org). PTA is also trying to construct a database of information used in planning PTA events, i.e. vendors, contact phone numbers. Please send information that helps you plan your event and /or complete your job to Liz, Chris or the PTA email address.

Global Language registration information will be distributed the week of May 21<sup>st</sup>.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President—Liz Price reported that there are lots of handouts on the table: AN agenda for this meeting, a draft calendar for next year and a proposed slate of officers and PTA Board for next year. We will be voting on PTA Board today. There are still open positions on the Board. One vital position is the PR cultural enrichment spot. Let Liz know if you know anyone who would like one of the positions. Liz said thank you to Stacy and her team for putting the slate together. Things are looking very good going in to next year. Liz noted that next year's calendar is the 1<sup>st</sup> draft. Some things will be added later. Also if you notice errors, let Liz know. At this time, PTA meetings will all be on Tuesday mornings next year. This was decided to make things a little more organized, but if it adversely affects too many people, it can be reconsidered. Let Liz know. Finally, if anyone has not turned in their safe walking route maps, please get them back to Liz.

Treasurer—Dee Dee Gross presented the monthly financial report (see attached). She also announced that this is the last chance to make revisions on next year's budget. The executive board and the principals met on April 23 to discuss next year's budget. The new draft budget is available on the table. All committee chairs should review their projected revenue/expense lines. The budget will be presented for preliminary approval at the June meeting. The final budget will be approved in September after the books are closed at the end of June. If you have any questions about your budget for next year, see Dee Dee or Liz. This is also

the last time to get expenses in for this year. If you need to be reimbursed for expenses, get them to Dee Dee before the next meeting.

### **III. Teacher's Representative Reports**

Tracy Murdoch—Tracy Murdoch reported for the teachers at Lyon School. The Kindergartners have started doing research with Mrs. Raben. The students are researching animals of the Illinois forests, animals of the rainforests, and creepy crawlies. At the end of the research each class will be doing a digital documentary for open house. A lot of the kids are also interested in the cicada reawakening, so Sue Raben has also developed a unit about this. The 1<sup>st</sup> graders have been learning about the value of mothers and other mother figures. They are also doing a special Mother's Day project. In addition the 1<sup>st</sup> grade author of the month is Ezra Jack Keats, and they are also making how-to books to share at Open House. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are doing Glenview history, including learning about Glenview history and landmarks. The classes are making murals, dioramas, and digital documentaries. Some of the classed are also beginning to use Alexandra search engine that searches the Lyon School Library collection. Walter Wick is coming for an author visit on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Some of his books can be ordered to be autographed. The Fine arts is also making things to share for Open House. You can see art sculptures on the top of the bookshelves in the LRC. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders have also been using the Garage Band software to compose songs. Lyon is also planning for the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to make a Lyon School pod cast. Since there will be 9 sections of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade next year, each class will be responsible for one month. This will be a great month long project for the students.

Katie K.—Katie reported that the Pleasant Ridge staff says thanks you for staff Appreciation Week. She then reported on the numerous field trips the students are taking this month. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade went yesterday to the Chicago History Museum. This is a new museum that explores the history of Chicago through the senses. The students smelled the stockyards, saw views from the skyscrapers and heard sounds of Chicago. The kids really enjoyed it. Some of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grader went to Underwriters Laboratory last week. Other students will go next week. This field trip was suggested by a parent. On this field trip the students learn how products are tested for safety and how they fail. The last 3<sup>rd</sup> grade field trip is the architectural tour of Chicago. They will see all the buildings in downtown. This goes with their Chicago unit. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders are going on a walking tour of plants at the Grove. They will be identifying plants from a plant guide. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade went to Navy Pier yesterday. They have their 5<sup>th</sup> grade picnic on June 8<sup>th</sup>. The 5th grade enrichment class will be going to a pottery studio/store because of a story they have been reading about pottery. They will be making a vase like the one in the story. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade enrichment class is going to Heartland Animal Shelter because of a story they are reading. The story talks about a boy who helps out in an animal shelter. The students will be learning to care for the animals. *Novel Ideas* is coming back on Monday for 2 assemblies. The students submitted 20 stories after the troupe performed in April. The actors will present 4 or 5 of the kids' stories. Finally, the incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are

coming to visit Pleasant Ridge on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The present 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are being pen pals to a partner now.

#### **IV. Committee Chair Reports**

International Night— Ana Cassorla reported that International Night was a success. She thanked everyone for their help. There were 12 countries represented. Ana thinks that the committee made budget. They received about \$1200. in food ticket revenue. The committee was approved for expenses up to \$2000. Ana reported that there will be final financial figures for the next meeting. Attendance at International Night was hard to estimate. The committee gave out 280 kids' passports, but some people never came by the front desk. Ana estimated attendance at over 400 people.

Lyon/PR spring Book Fair—Breland Nelson reported that Spring Book fair will be May 23-24 in conjunction with Pleasant Ridge's Open House and Literature Alive! program. They will be using Anderson Bookstore for the first time this year. It is a nice independent bookstore that has been around for a long time. The committee is hoping that it will provide a broader variety and a good quality of books. The committee needs volunteers, especially for Wednesday night during the Open House. There will also be a Lyon afternoon on Thursday. Sue Raben and Shelly Riskin will be there then to help parents pick out the right books for their kids. There will also be a shuttle available for Wednesday night from 6-9 from Lyon so you can park at Lyon and ride to Pleasant Ridge. Set up for the Book Fair will be at 9 a.m. on Tuesday. The staff at PR is also working on Literature Alive, which will include a Poetry Café, representatives from the Glenview Public Library doing games in the gym and an autograph session with Dan Gutman. Dan Gutman will also be presenting 3 assemblies that day. The author visit committee is trying to promote student enthusiasm. Some of the teachers and staff will be dressing up. Kids will be encouraged to dress up as their favorite character on Wednesday May 23rd. Pleasant ridge will be turned into *My Weird School*. Susie Feldstein is looking for help for and supplies. She passed out a list of requests. There will also be a raffle that will collect dollar donations for Debra Gelfand fund. Watch the backpacks for more information.

Grant Committee-- Kay Laurie presented the recommendations for Spring PTA Grants. Kay said thank you to people on the committee. She also thanked the principals for their work on the grants. The spring grant applications were sent out in April. We received 6 new requests. Then the committee got information from principals and parents. They then did a quantitative analysis of all the requests—including number of kids in the building affected, district importance, principal input, level of innovation, etc. Since one of the fall grant items were funded through the district, PTA had \$1500. more for spring grants than was approved at the last meeting. These grants total \$16,500.00. Kay reviewed all the grants (see attached). Kay then made a motion that the grant recommendations be approved. The motion passed.

Nominating Committee—Stacy Saef presented the slate of officers and committee chairs for 2007-2008 (see attached). A motion was made to approve the 2007-2008 PTA Board slate as recommended by the Nominating committee. The motion passed.

School Board Meeting Report At next Monday's meeting 2 new school board members will be taking their seats on the Board: John Hinkamp and Julie Schectman replacing Scott Britton and John Travis. The next business meeting for the new Board will be Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm at the Administration Building.

Art Enrichment—Amy Schneider has offered to take her Lyon Art Enrichment program to Pleasant Ridge. She will give us a report on her plans at the next meeting.

- V. **Guest Speaker**— Brian Engle, the District 34 Technology Coordinator, and Tracy Murdoch, the Technology Coordinator for Lyon School, discussed safety on the internet. Brian's presentation will be posted on the PTA website soon.

#### **VI. Principal's Report**

Lyon School—Kevin Dorken reported that Lyon School busy with year end activities. In addition to what Tracy Murdoch reported above he stated that today a group of Attea students are working with the kindergarteners for their service hours. Both groups seem to be enjoying themselves. Rachel Carlson and Emily Fifield have a GEF grant to work with Spanish speaking parents on teaching literacy skills to their children at home helping them learn ways to support their kids' education. Next Thursday is Open House from 7-8 p.m. There will be lots of displays in each of the classrooms as well as art work displays in the gym. The students all enjoyed International Night. All the grade levels are also doing end of the year things. The kindergarten Ice Cream Social is June 1<sup>st</sup>. The other events will be listed in the newsletters. Please come.

Pleasant Ridge School—Dr. Matthew Rich reported that International night was awesome. He thanked the Local School Council who had the original idea, the PTA and everyone who helped. He's already looking forward to it next year. The District is beginning to look at TV Turn Off Week activities. In addition to the Family night idea, Pleasant Ridge will be scheduling the Talent show for that Friday. Literature Alive is scheduled for May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dr. Rich is presently learning to skateboard to be Mr. Klutz, a character in *My Weird School*. Please bring your kids from Pleasant Ridge on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and Lyon students on the 24<sup>th</sup>. School council has been working hard this year and has decided to focus on relations with students with disabilities and additions to the Character Counts training for next year.

#### **VII. Unfinished/New Business**

Environmental ideas—Tammy Burke, Mary Hershey and Marcia Bellair will present environmental ideas at the June meeting.

**VIII. Announcements—(Calendar Overview)**

May 23-24-- Lyon/PR Spring Book Fair/Open House/Literature Alive at Pleasant Ridge

May 29—Walter Wick Author visit at Lyon

June 5—Next PTA Meeting at Pleasant Ridge—End of Year Lunch

June 8—5<sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic

**IX. Adjournment**—Chris Northwick adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Hinrichs  
PTA secretary

## **Spring 2007 PTA Grant Recommendations May 11, 2007**

**1. \$3300 Casel's Sustainable School wide Social and Emotional Learning Implementation Intensive and Advanced Workshop**

**Submission** from **Dr. Jason Rehfeldt** (school psychologist) for Dr. Rehfeldt, Dr. Rich and three others to attend- Program will be developed from this workshop to help promote the mental health, well-being and resilience of all students in Pleasant Ridge and Lyon schools.

2. \$3120 **Integrated Student Digital Portfolios**— propose to purchase digital cameras for students to use to create a digital photo book of their learning experiences throughout the year. Benefits all PR children.

3. \$1,120 **Cbildcraft Sing and Read** Set consists of 17 titles. Each set contains a big book, six companion small books and a read along/sing along cassette tape and CD. This will help the Kindergarten team maximize the listening centers granted in the fall. For Entire Kindergarten Team to share.

4. \$175 **\*Life Fitness Materials \$175 for spring \$925 total** propose to purchase several new items of fitness equipment (instant pulse monitors, exercise tubing, etc) and a 1 year subscription to Brain Pop for use during Lyon PE. Benefits all Lyon children
5. \$578 **Document camera** to be used to project images of objects for learning –new age overhead projector. Benefits all Lyon children.
6. \$630**\*TWO additional 3-D US map kits**. Two additional two 3D relief maps will provide students with a unique opportunity to feel the differences in the earth’s surface--these maps would replace existing broken/battered relief maps. Benefits all PR children.
7. \$2144 **Poster Printer** poster printer for teachers to use to make permanent classroom exhibits from original artwork or documents such as concept webs, maps, poems charts and diagrams. Benefits all Lyon children and can also be used by Pleasant Ridge
8. \$695 **One projector for Lyon School** To be used by staff and students for presentations. They have one now and this will give them a second one.
9. \$1500 **Horseshoe tables for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades**- We supplied tables for the third grade in the Fall so now we are adding more for the other classrooms.
10. \$595 **A one year subscription for Brain Pop Jr. educational movies for K-3 learners** Teachers and Students have been using this site throughout the school year.. It has been free but as of May 1 this will be a subscription site
11. \$1978 **Language for Learning**— is a structured program with activities and lesson that provide students with practice in vocabulary development word and sentence variety, word knowledge development and basic language concepts. Benefits ELL learners and other Lyon children.
12. \$160 **Everything you need to teach money**— money manipulatives to help teach currency to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. Will benefit 3rd grade Special Ed students

13. \$250 **Everything you need to Teach Time**— math manipulatives to help teach time to 3rd graders. Will benefit 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Special Ed children.

14. \$255 **One Reading Pen** specialized instructional aid to be used to “read books” to students that are having difficulty with comprehension. Benefits Tree Special Ed students.

**Total for PTA Spring Grants: \$16,500**

## Approved 2007/8 PTA Slate

<u>Position</u>	<u>2006/07</u>
<b>Executive Board</b>	
President	Chris Northwick
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Liz Price
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Kristen Borth
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Maggie Wall
4 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Eileen Grant
Secretary	Robin Hinrichs
Treasurer	Denise Gross
Assistant Treasurer	Miriam Biales

## Standing Committee Chairs

Art Enrichment	Amy Schneider (L)
	Dianna Gordon
Benefit/ Social Fund Raising	Jen Farber
	Michelle Allison
Book Fair	Susie Feldstein (L)
	Stacy Saef (L)
	Jeanne Freeman (PR)
	Breland Nelson (PR)
Cultural Enrichment	Gloria Pedrelli (L)
	Kristi Carroll (PR)
Directory	Yuko Ami
Electronic Communications - website, e-mail updates	Kellie Kopach
Environmental	Linda Williams(L)
Fifth Grade Picnic Coordinator	Tammy Burke
	Pam Hartigan
Global Language	Gina Bronswick (L)
	Ana Cassorla (L)
	Denise Tener (PR)
Health and Safety	Beth Schmidt (L)
	Gloria Cabrera
	Rula Marziani
Hospitality	Meg Carpenter
	Kristina Hourihane
International Night	Ana Cassorla
Jump Rope for Heart Coordinator	Sabrina Briggs
Lyon Love/PR Pride	Deb McMahon
	Jennifer Wirtz

<u>Proposed 2007/08</u>
Liz Price
Kristen Borth
Maggie Wall
Chris Northwick
Robin Hinrichs
Miriam Biales
Laura Olson

Amy Schneider (L)
Amy Schneider (PR)
Jen Farber
Michelle Allison
Stacy Saef (L)
Natalie Weber (L)
Breland Nelson (PR)
Peggy Hopkins (PR)
Gloria Pedrelli (L)
Yuko Ami
Tammy Lundal
Kellie Kopach
Linda Williams (L)
Lisa Dickholtz
Laurie Pellochoud
Ana Cassorla (L)
Nicki Krysa (L)
Gina Bronswick (PR)
Jen Roberts (PR)
Beth Schmidt (L)
Michelle Langenbach(PR)
Rula Marziani (PR)
Meg Carpenter (L)
Susie Feldstein
Sue Swaringen
Sabrina Briggs
Deb McMahon
Jennifer Wirtz

	Mairead Smialek
Membership Database	Sandy Brennan
NSSED Liaison	Bridget Cienkus
Parent Education	Lisa Dickholtz
PTA Publicity/Welcome - head volunteer fairs, welcome coffees	Angie Katsumakis
Pumpkin Festival	Vickie Schurer
	Kathleen Butler
Staff Appreciation	Joanne Eenigenberg
Volunteers	Sue Swaringen (L)
	Lynn Howland (PR)
Ways and Means	
(fundraising programs & school pictures)	Cheryl Kasner (L)
(School Suppl)	Debbie Berg (L)
(Sportswear)	Laura Shaw (L)
(School Suppl )	Mimi Bommarito
(Sportswear)	Mimi Bommarito
Wish List	Kay Laurie

Mairead Smialek
Sandy Brennan
Kim Stetler
Liz Quilici
Kathleen Butler
Gina Divito-Snyder
Heather LeBoeuf
Karen Friedman (L)
Sue Swaringen (PR)
Cheryl Kasner (L)
Michelle Colletta (L)
Laura Shaw (L)
Pam Hartigan (PR)
Tammy Burke (PR)
Ellen Girard