

**PTA Meeting
February 2, 2009**

Call to order 8:45 a.m.

Motion to approve PTA minutes from December 8 was put forward. Motion was seconded and approved.

Teacher representative - Mrs. Stephens

The faculty thanks the PTA for the Striding Lions program. Everyone really enjoyed the program. The response to the gas leak from the students was great. Thanks to all of the parents for their support as well.

Village Representatives - Mike Welch, Matt Sinde, and Dan Moon are running for the RB High School Board on April 7. For more information visit www.improve-RB.com

Administration Report - Principal Colleen Lieggi

- The Ames school podcast is now online at www.district96.org Go to the Ames school link, Our Ames Family, Ames School Podcast. We will also be making a movie for new and/or incoming students.
- Kindergarten Registration takes place on Thursday, March 5.
- Summer School - First session will run from June 8 through June 26 from 8:30 to 11:30am. The brochure will come out within the next two weeks.
- Thursday, June 4 will be the last day for 5th graders/Clap Out.
- Science in a Bag - Thanks to Serena and Matt Ranft, and Mrs. Allen for this program.
- There will be a bullying presentation at Hauser on Wednesday, February 5
- Friday, February 6 is the 100th day of class
- Parent/Teacher Conferences are taking place on Friday, February 13
- The 5-for-4 laptop program - Update
 - The Project Manager position was approved. This program gives every 5th grader a laptop all the way through 8th grade. Site visits to schools will take place on February 11. As to the question of cost, the district pays for upgrades and software. Equipment costs will be about \$150,000 in the first year. The salary of the project manager is within the District's salary structure.
- Preschool screening will take place on February 19 and 20.
- Young Authors books are due on February 27
- ISAT testing will take place on March 7 - 11
- The movie night has been rescheduled for March 6
- Tropical Paradise Day is March 19
- March 20 is a half day of school
- A Language Task Force is looking at adding language to elementary schools in the district. Dr. Lamperis is heading the task force.
- Christine Kawiecki is working with the Berwyn YMCA on after school programs
- Evacuation update - A teacher smelled gas, the school called the Fire Department. The Fire Department came out and made the decision to evacuate the school immediately. Everyone waited outside and when it was determined that Nicor would have to come out, teachers grabbed coats, and everyone made their way over to Blythe. The office staff made the calls to parents. School Reach could not be used since all forms weren't turned in. Ames followed its emergency crisis plan and it worked well.

Officers Report-

- Thank you's
 - Mrs. Lieggi and the Ames School Staff/Faculty for handling the evacuation process so well and ensuring our children's safety
 - Mrs. Lauritsen for the wonderfully entertaining Holiday Festival starring our children
 - Kelly Cicenias and the Holiday Elves for organizing and running yet another successful Holiday Gift shop
 - All of the Room Representatives for organizing the Holiday parties and the classroom ornaments
 - Karen Dachota and Michelle Bushe for Spirit Wear Sales - round 2 earned Ames an additional \$163
 - Donna Keller for organizing Junior Great Books. Books have been ordered for our JGB library

- Striding Lions Volunteers
- Liz Gomorczak and her efforts with the Box Tops program
- Innisbrook on-line sales alone earned Ames \$1614 totaling over \$6800
- Serina Ranft, Ms. Allen and the "Science in a Bag" volunteers
- Re-scheduled Ames Movie Night, "Kung Fu Panda", for March 6th at 6:30 in the Ames Gym
- Cyber-bullying parent program at Hauser Feb. 4th 6:30-8:30 pm
- Positive feedback from VFW to be new location for election days
- Dr. Lamberson's request for School Representatives for committee development
 - Before and After School committee: Christine Kawiecki.
 - will meet twice per month (Feb.-April)
 - Positive feedback so far and good reasons to work with the Berwyn YMCA including lower costs and better student/teacher ratio
 - Communications: **need 2 volunteers**
 - will meet twice per month (Feb.-July)
 - IBO (International Baccalaureate Organization): need volunteers
 - will meet 6 times per year for the next 2 years... www.ibo.org
- Upcoming Board of Education election events: An all candidate forum will take place on February 23 at 7:30 pm sponsored by Network 96 at Ascension Lutheran Church.
- Paver Program update - The flyer design contest winner was Hannah Ranft. Teri Culloden will have a paver sample at the Ames movie night.
- School Reach phone system is up for review
- Hauser after school events - The kids are going wild so the school will put up signs as a start.
- "Way to Go" messages are on the new web site. These messages are positive messages that roll continuously on the site.
- Calendar draft for 2009-10. The Friday half-day before Thanksgiving may change to a half day of conferences to increase conference time.
- The Consumer Price Index is at .1%, affecting the schools so the district is working on saving money

Board of Education Representative report -

- See the Board of Education minutes on the District 96 web site for complete meeting details.
- Hollywood parents spoke about hardships with the Flexible Boundary plan. They have 2 kids at different schools.
- Note: all instruments set aside for hardship are being used.

1st Vice President -

- Lisa Muldowney - The Striding Lions program went well. We would like feedback.
- Some District 96 kids will be in a musical, The Princess Who Wouldn't Smile, on February 13, 14, 15 and February 21 and 22. Tickets are \$6.

Cyber-bullying parent training event at Hauser Auditorium	February 4 th 6:30-8:30pm
RBHS Dance Company performance at Ames	February 11 th 9:30 am
Book Fair & Storyteller	February 12 th 7:00 pm
EARLY RELEASE DAY (AM Kindergarten only) parent/teacher conferences	February 13 th
Book Fair ends	February 13 th
NO SCHOOL Presidents' Day holiday	February 16 th
Board of Education Meeting at Ames School	February 17 th at 7:00 pm
Preschool Screening at Central	February 19 th & 20 th 8:30-3:00 pm
School Spirit Day/Bank at School	February 20 th
Science Fair & Program	February 26 th 7:00 pm
Young Authors Books Deadline	February 27 th
End of 2nd Trimester - Report Cards	February 27 th
NEXT PTA MEETING: Meet the candidates (Dr. Lamberson attending)	March 2 nd 8:45 am
Kindergarten Registration	March 5 th 7 pm
Movie Night "Kung Fu Panda"	March 6 th 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned 10:15 am