

Arnold Elementary PTA Board and Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2011

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

1. Welcome – Lisa Body
2. No Minutes to be approved.
3. Officer Reports:
 - a. Lisa Body – Thank you and introduction of Board.
 - b. Deb Manning –Upcoming events need volunteers for Fall Festival and Walkathon.
 - c. Mike Murphy – His report will be made during budget review.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Walkathon – Melanie ? - Need help spreading the word. Goal for Walkathon is \$10,000. Donations can be made online and by cash or checks. This is a major fundraiser for the PTA.
 - b. Fall Festival – Karen Strandquist -No volunteers to coordinate Haunted House. Possibility that it will not happen this year. Lots of great ideas for booths. Consider possible sign up for teachers ?
 - c. Enrichment – Tiffany Dean – Lots of participation. Looking for someone to shadow her in the Spring because she will likely be stepping down next fall.
 - d. Celebration Books – Taken out of budget but hope to continue to provide the library with donations. This is a self-funded program.
 - e. Cultural Arts – Committee members attended showcase for the Maryland State Art Council for Footworks. The committee is trying to coordinate 4 assemblies this year. This will include an Artist and Residency program for the 5th and 2nd graders. In following years, this will be for the 4th and 2nd graders.
5. Principal's Report:
 - a. Thank you for attending. This is the largest attendance for the opening PTA meeting.
 - b. Thank you to the Cultural Arts committee for attending the Showcase.
 - c. Several changes are coming. There are 6 initiatives to be absorbed over the next couple of years.
 - d. Still focusing on Arts Integration and Advanced Learning.
 - e. We have now acquired funds for a Kiln.
 - f. Two Hundred Seventy Two families were represented out of 330 at Back to School Night.
 - g. Initiative of Attendance is that an “unlawful” absence does not require that teachers provide work. Please don't ask staff to do this.
 - h. Citizens Advisory Committee has changed to a new structure. We need 2 representatives from each cluster to attend 4 meetings a year. This is a school wide initiative.

6. No Old Business

7. New Business:

- a . Mike Murphy - Reviewed budget. Encouraged attendees to get word out that PTA funds are for programs to benefit students. Will likely have an interim budget and new or additional initiatives.
- b. Approved budget.

8. Announcements:

- a. Consider adding the Citizens Advisory Committee and putting it under the PTA. This would be informational rather than voting. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

9. Meeting Adjourned