

SMPTO Monthly Meeting

April 11, 2013

Iron Forge Educational Center Library

Meeting started at approximately 7:05 p.m.

and ended at approximately 8:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order/Welcome

The board with the exception of Shawn Knavel, Dr. Adams, Miss Strawley, Teacher Representative, IFEC , Tara Trostle, Teacher Representative, Rice and four parents were present. Mr. Boley was absent and there were no representatives from the school board

II. Principal Reports/School Board Representative

Mr. Boley, Principal, Rice Elementary & Mrs. Adams, Principal, IFEC

Dr. Adams reported that the PSSA's were underway. Students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 are required to take PSSA's in reading and math. Students in grades 5 and 8 also take a writing PSSA and students in grades 4 and 8 take a science PSSA. Dr. Adams explained that there are three sections of the both the math and science PSSA tests that are administered on different days. Typically, the students take one reading and one math test per day. Rice and IFEC both test their students over a period of six days. Dr. Adams noted IFEC has found that starting the test prior to a weekend and ending the following week allows the students a bit of a break. The 4th and 5th grade math PSSA's are staggered due to the fact that they share calculators. Once the tests are completed, they are sent to Harrisburg for grading. In late August or early September, parents will receive a more detailed description of how well their child performed on the test.

III. Open Floor

IV. Treasurer's Report

Jen reported SMPTO has a checking account balance of \$28,431.91 and a savings account balance of \$15,013.79. SMPTO donated money in memory of Vincent Capozzi. SMPTO received approximately \$45 from Amazon sales, received spirit gear money, paid \$50 to the SPY summer program, a program designed to help at risk children. In addition, field trips at Rice are beginning and SMPTO helps to subsidize those. SMPTO paid for a meal and snacks at conferences, made payment to Scholastic for our portion of the book fair, applied for a games of chance license with the county in order to run the Great Wolf Lodge raffle and purchased school supplies for Rice and IFEC teachers

V. Correspondence

SMPTO is sponsoring an end of summer reading event at Amelia Given Library. SMPTO received a thank-you from the library for our support.

VI. SMPTO Board Elections: In March the slate of new officers was announced. Jennifer Varner is running for re-election as SMPTO Treasurer. Jennifer Metz is running for SMPTO Secretary and Kerrie Truax is running for IFEC Vice-President. A vote was held and the three candidates were successfully elected to serve two-year terms ending that will begin in August 2013 and run through May 2015.

VII. Committee Reports:

- a. Box Tops: To date, Rice has collected \$5,052.60 in box tops and IFEC has collected \$1,958.20 in box tops. Mrs. Geiger's class won the box top movie contest and Mrs. Pascalik's class won the trip to the rock climbing wall. At May Fair, an option for the box top contest is to have Dr. Adams and Mr. Boley dance to Psy's Gangnam Style song. It should be noted that SMPTO will use an appropriate version of the song ..
- b. Spirit Gear: Is always available for sale and will be sold during May Fair and online.

- c. Walking Club: Need a couple more volunteers to help for the remainder of the year.
- d. Groovy Movies: The last Groovy Movie is scheduled for April 12th and the students have chosen “Hotel Transylvania”.
- e. Dine-Out at Southside Deli Fundraiser: Will be held on April 15th. Call ahead to order and Southside Deli will offer extended hours that day.
- f. May Fair: Elizabeth noted that the walk-through regarding layout has been completed. There will be an extra bouncer this year and the bouncy houses are bigger. Dr. Sanker had suggested the Maintenance Director bring his antique fire truck to May Fair. That is currently being arranged. Elizabeth asked Dr. Adams to ask teachers to volunteer to help that day. Mr. Boley is scheduled to go in the dunk tank and SMPTO would like to see a few more teachers volunteers. SMPTO is good with prizes and ticket vouchers will be sent home to the kids that they can redeem at May Fair. Instead of a book sale, like held in previous years, SMPTO will holding a DVD /Video Game sale at May Fair. Kim Hiles will be chairing this event.
- g. Teacher Appreciation Week: Will be held the week following May Fair. In addition, Jess, Stacey and Shawn were thanked for all of their hard work researching, ordering and organizing all of the teacher supplies ordered. Delivery will be soon.

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

In February, Vincent “Vinny” Capozzi, a third-grader at Rice, died after a lifelong illness. His family has made a contribution to SMPTO so that a memorial in his honor may be created at Rice. SMPTO would like to honor Vinny prior to the 3rd grade students leaving Rice for IFEC. At May Fair, a table will be set-up for contributions to his memorial. SMPTO is hoping that 3rd grade parents and a parent will sign-up for ½ hour shifts to man the table. Due to Vinny’s love of the “Star Spangled Banner” a memorial garden, with stepping stones and plaque will be set up around

the school flagpole. Any additional monies collected will go to purchase patriotic or animal books that Vinny would have loved. The unveiling of the memorial garden will be on the last day of school during the Patriot Day Assembly.

It was suggested that SMPTO host a meet the candidates night for school board elections that will be held on May 21st. Dr. Sanker liked the idea and SMPTO is researching the possibility of hosting this event.

X. Open Floor

XI. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

The next SMPTO meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 9, 2013**, in the IFEC Library.

Babysitting provided by Interact Club.

Meeting Minutes pending approval May 9, 2013

Kerrie Truax

Secretary, SMPTO