

**SMPTO Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2011**

- I. Call to order/Welcome by Susan Ritter
29 people present, including board, principals and three teacher representatives
- II. Introductions by all executive board members
All board members present
- III. Treasurer's Report
a. We currently have \$22,371. This month we spent money on the welcome back luncheon, \$50 to each teacher and school supplies.
- IV. Principal Reports
 - A. Mr. Boley (Principal-W.G. Rice Elementary) thanked SMPTO for the money given to each teacher and the teacher luncheon.
 1. On Thursday, November 10th, will be the 50th anniversary celebration of W.G. Rice Elementary. Mr. Boley is working on idea/activities for the kids to partake in that day.
 2. Everyone managed to get through the first week of school, the Every Bubbler CARES initiative is being rolled out.
 3. Mr. Boley answered a parent question regarding new teachers to the school this year. In addition, Mr. Boley reported that largest class at Rice contains 23 students.
 - B. Mrs. Adams (Principal-Iron Forge Educational Center) reminded new parents that IFEC consists of 4th and 5th grades only with seven sections of team teachers per grade.
 1. IFEC offers Chess Club, run by Mr. Barrick, the 3rd-5th grade counselor. The Homework Club is fully staffed and operating after school four days each week. In addition, the SM Parks & Rec Department offers some after school activities held at IFEC and Yellow Breeches Middle School.
 2. IFEC's Back-to-School night for parents is Thursday, September 15th.
- V. Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser (September 30th –October 21st)
 - A. SMPTO's largest fundraiser!
 - B. Last year one student sold approximately \$1,500 during the candy sale.

C. Janette Fulton updates SMPTO's website with the "Time-to-Sign-Up Database." SMPTO needs approximately 10 parent volunteers on Friday, October 28th, to help count/sort the candy orders. There will be a pizza lunch that day for the volunteers!

VI. Website Information

A. All parents must re-register their names and e-mail addresses each year on www.smpto.com.

B. The District is attempting to be "greener" with its communication letters to parents. SMPTO has partnered with Mr. Boley and Mrs. Adams to have SMPTO communications sent via parent email.

C. Through SMPTO's website parents are able to shop through vendors, like Amazon, and have a portion of the proceeds donated back to SMPTO. In addition, Target's Red Card offers SMPTO a percentage of sales.

D. Don't forget to register your Giant Bonuscard!! See Rice VP Meredith Rauhut. Karns' is not offering a new incentive program for schools this year. Karn's will allow SMPTO to pick a week and will give 5% of all receipts turned in that particular week. A parent in the audience stated Karn's may allow SMPTO to pick additional weeks throughout the school year.

E. SMPTO has a Facebook page. If you haven't already, "Like/Friend" us and tell your friends. Note: SMPTO uses the Facebook page for informational purposes and not as a chat/posting comment site.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Meryl O'Brien is in her 3rd year as "Box Top" Chair! Last year, Rice and IFEC collected and turned in over \$73,000 box tops with the school receiving a check for \$7,356!!!

1. Next week a new Box Top contest (Football Game) will start. There will be a winning class for each Rice and IFEC.

2. Meryl mentioned that if you or your sporting/event organization purchases Hanes t-shirts, SMPTO has the opportunity, based on returned receipts to receive 10 cents for each t-shirt purchased.

3. A discussion was had about tapping into the students at Yellow Breeches Middle School as a source to also partake and benefit with SMPTO in the collection of box tops.

B. IFEC Halloween Party (Chair-Coralita Wilson-IFEC Vice-President)

1. The IFEC 2011 Halloween Party will be held on Thursday,

October 28th! Mrs. Adams calls this “the most age appropriate event” that both the students and parents would love! Volunteers may contact Coralita or sign-up on SMPTO’s website. Note: All parent volunteers must come in costume!

B. SMPTO is in need of chairs for:

Breakfast with Santa

Groovy Movies

Walking Club

IFEC Book Fair and W.G. Rice Book Fair

Gertrude Hawk

Spring Fundraiser

May Fair and

Teacher Appreciation events.

Check out SMPTO’s website for further volunteer opportunities or see any SMPTO board member with any questions.

C. Spirit Sale Chair reported that we are going with a new design and a fall spirit sale will be announced shortly.

VIII. Upcoming Important Dates

A. Thursday, September 15th – IFEC Back- to- School Night

B. All SMPTO meetings held the first Thursday of each month in the IFEC library-babysitting provided by the INTERACT Club.

IX. Open Floor

A. A parent suggested the school collect old ink cartridges/cell phones. G.R. Wireless will pay for shipping of those items and the school could receive a sizeable check.

X. Adjournment at 7:55pm. Some parents stayed to socialize and enjoy some light refreshments.

Next meeting will be Thursday, October 6, 2011 in IFEC Library