

Dogwood PTA Meeting Minutes  
July 27, 2011  
Recorded by: Kelly Long, Secretary

Called to Order by Laura Clausen at 9:30 am.

April minutes:

- Amendment made stating that Brandy Blank made the motion to approve the new 2011-2012 board with Catherine Arick seconding. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Amended minutes were approved by Elaine West.

Reports:

**Principal:** Mrs. Pittman is happy to be back home at Dogwood after serving 6 years at the school board.

- We are projecting 604 students this 2011-2012 school year.
- Dogwood achieved our AYP (average yearly progress) goal last year.
- There have been changes implemented in fourth and fifth grade.
  1. Fourth and Fifth grade will be departmentalized this year, working with a “team concept”.
  2. Fourth and fifth grade teachers will teach in their areas of expertise and each will also teach reading.
  3. These students will change classes three times per day with a 50 minute block for enrichment. Every teacher will teach a lab every week.
- We have six new teachers.
  1. Mr. Bozeman has come from middle school with an expertise in science.
  2. Mrs. Fredrick has a background in language arts/APEX.
  3. Mrs. Smith will be returning this year to teach science.
  4. Miss Betts will be teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
  5. Mrs. Lirett is a second grade teacher and our new webmaster.
  6. Dr. Heather Fisher is returning as a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher.
- Our gym is being air conditioned.
- We have a school nurse on staff this year.
- Teacher assignments will be announced at registration this year.
- Moments with Mom and Doughnuts with Dad are being revamped. One option was to replace it with a Daughter/Daddy dance and a Mother/Son game night. No permanent change has been decided.
- Two field trips per grade have been added this year.
- Immersion Day will be a new event this spring. It will focus on the history in Germantown.
- International Day will take place every other year from here forward.
- Parents are permitted to join their students for lunch, as well as, sit at their child’s lunch table (space permitting) during the first weeks of school and throughout the year.

**President:**

- Registration is Tuesday, August 2. A volunteer sheet was distributed.
- This year's kindergarten party is Saturday, August 6 at Germantown Municipal Park, 10:30am-12:00 pm. Brandy Blank is the contact person. Please pass this information along to any incoming kindergarteners.
- Kindergarten/Newcomers meeting will be Friday, August 12 from 9am-10am.
- By-laws Review
  1. #4 Board members must attend all meetings. When a chairman cannot attend a meeting, a committee member must come in his or her place.
  2. #9 Each Chairman will have at least a two member committee.
  3. #10 All PTA correspondences are to be approved by the President. All handouts or notes being sent to teachers, students, or parents must have the Principal's approval before they can be copied and distributed.
  4. #11 For any unbudgeted purchases made by a Board member, approval must be given by the Executive Committee.
- Our by-laws will be revised this year.
- If 25 or more copies are needed, a request may be made for the work room staff to make copies on the RISO machine. There are request forms in the PTA file cabinet and they need to be submitted to the work room staff two days in advance. We may make copies at any time on our own. There is no code needed. Please do not make mass copies on the other copy machine.
- This year's PTA themes are:
  - Reflections – "Diversity is. . . ."
  - Citizenship Essay – "I am a good citizen because. . ."
  - Safety Poster – "Playing it safe in a car"
  - Safety Multi Media- "Arrive Alive, Don't Text and Drive"

**Treasurer:**

- Review of:
  1. Tax Exempt Form – Please use it especially when making big purchases. If you encounter a problem, postpone the purchase if possible and call Laura Jaggar for assistance.
  2. Reimbursement Form – Please fill out the form completely and tape receipts to the back. Pass the form along via Laura's mailbox or PTA drawer at school.
  3. 2011-2012 Budget. Please be mindful of your budget. Plan a discussion with Laura if you feel your budget is insufficient.
- We will vote to approve the budget next meeting.

**Membership:**

- Price of PTA membership has gone up \$1 per family, raising the price to a total of \$11.00.
- Please sign up to work the membership table at registration.

**Room Parent:**

- The four parties this year will be Fall, Winter, Valentine's Day and End of the Year.
- Party attendance will be open to all parents. The classroom teacher will decide how many volunteers will be needed for all parties.
- Room moms can collect funds for teacher birthdays, Christmas and end of the year gifts.
- Class t-shirts will be worn on all field trips.

**Teacher Appreciation:**

- The Welcome Back Breakfast is scheduled for Thursday, August 4. Please plan to arrive by 8:00am for set up and to stay for board introductions.

**Fine Arts:**

- The community build date for the new Dogwood Park project is Saturday, October 1 from 8:00am-2:00pm. The rain date is Sunday, October 2.
- The Germantown Woman's Club has awarded the City with a \$3,700 challenge grant for the woodland study area for the new park. The committee will be raising an additional \$10,000-\$15,000 to complete the project.

**Yearbook:**

- Yearbook staff is currently working on a retail price for this year's book, the finished cost is \$39.00.

The next PTA meeting will be held Tuesday, August 16, at 9:15am in the cafeteria.

The meeting was adjourned.