

**September 12, 2012 P.S. 334 – The Anderson School – General PTA  
Approved Minutes**

1. Attendees: 70 parents (There was a second meeting in the evening, in which 18 parents attended.)
2. Minutes: The June General PTA minutes passed unanimously.
3. Principal's Report:
  - a. Hired many new teachers
  - b. Morning grade meetings will start mid-Oct.
  - c. Anderson is a "Reward School." This is based on test results and makes us one of the top schools in the state. All of our grades were in the top 5 in all categories, and we were number #1 or #2 in many categories.
  - d. Meet the teacher night is September 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - e. Engrade will be up and running once all the new teachers are trained on it. It allows for online posting of homework assignments and course information for grades 5-8.
  - f. A new grading policy which the staff worked on over the summer is being finalized. It will shortly be shared with the SLT and then the rest of the school.
  - g. Results of Homework survey from last spring will also be shared soon.
  - h. We've also created a list of books tiered according to Fontas and Pinnel reading levels to help make appropriate book choices.
  - i. Various projects are underway using money from grants. These include work on the auditorium audio-visual system, installation of new smartboards and additional desktop computers and a wellness room with treadmills and other exercise equipment. We are also painting the schoolyard to include tracks, hopscotch and other recess-friendly designs.
  - j. We are instituting Playworks program at recess. Playworks staff member is Jose Flores. Mr. Flores will be out at recess and will also visit classrooms, train staff, learning leaders and student coaches. The idea is to make recess a more structured experience for all children.
4. Budget:
  - a. Need several new committee members, including at least one for K-2 and one for 3-5 - let a member of the Exec Board know if you're interested.
  - b. Meetings held in evenings; will give you insight into our spending
  - c. Don't have to be a numbers person
  - d. Many meetings mid-March thru May; rest of year it's fairly quiet
5. Fundraising:
  - a. welcome picnic was a success
  - b. 10/2 will be picture day - all money donated to the school. 6<sup>th</sup> grade will have a different day because of overnight trip.
  - c. 10/19 Halloween movie night

- d. Thanksgiving Eve - will be holding event again with inflatables, etc.
  - e. 12/1 -Kid Art winter event
  - f. Election Day bake sale - we might do if someone is interested in running it
6. Direct Appeal:
- a. Fundraising happens a year in advance - money raised this year will be spent next year.
  - b. First campaign is at Meet the Teacher Night.
  - c. Similar to last year's iPad raffle, we will give away 3 iPad minis (entered if you donate at MTTN); give \$150+ get an Anderson umbrella
7. Auction:
- a. It will be on April 13, 2013
  - b. Need lots of help, as always but especially with soliciting donations.
  - c. First meeting: Thursday, 9/20 from 8:20 AM to 9:00 AM after drop off in the cafeteria
8. WITS:
- a. WITS will be a part of school lunch program this year - same as last year
  - b. First meeting is 9/24 at 8:30
9. Learning Leaders:
- a. certifies parents/caregivers to help in library, lunch, recess, art, etc.
  - b. There will be training at the school on October 12<sup>th</sup>, from 9-11:30
  - c. Lunch 12:10-1:10 (you can volunteer for as little as 1 hour)
  - d. Contact Liz John if interested
10. Green Team:
- a. Won Golden Apple award last year
  - b. Organizes compost in the cafeteria. This pilot has been expanded to 60 schools this year. We reduced 16 bags of garbage a day to 3 at our school
  - c. Need a lot of help - mainly to educate the kids about what goes where
  - d. Green team meetings 1x per month on Thursdays
11. Community Affairs:
- a. Joli Golden reported that our schoolyard will be open to the public some weekends/holidays due to work being done in the ps87 yard
  - b. We continue to invest and make roots in our current building/location.
12. Presentation by SLT rep
- a. The School Leadership team is comprised of parents, teachers and staff and focuses on curriculum and budget issues.
  - b. Parents should hear from their SLT reps within a week of a meeting to let them know what happened at the meeting

- c. All are welcome at SLT meetings but if a parent wants to speak they should contact an SLT member ahead of time to be added to the agenda.

13. PTA President's Report:

- a. We need 2 K reps to the PTA. If you have a Kindergartener and are interested, we are currently taking nominations
- b. Stuart Agtsteribbe was nominated and approved as a VP of Communications
- c. \$10,000 expenditure for air conditioners was unanimously approved

14. Adjournment: We adjourned at 9:38 am.