

## December 2014 PTO Meeting Minutes

1. **Open meeting**-Pam Murdoch and Kelly Crawford (2014-2015 co-presidents) at 6:32pm on December 18, 2014.
2. **Introductions:** People in attendance: Pam Murdoch, Kelly Crawford, Deanna Hynes, Irene Wong, Tammy Hopkins, Lisa Burnell, Gigi Arreo, Lisa Medendorp, Enza Zamora, Padma Gurudutt and Dr. Gehrig. Introductions were made and teachers and new parents welcomed.
3. **Presentation:** Deanna Hynes from the Crisis Center was in attendance to give a presentation on the state mandated program on Sexual Abuse. Deanna explained that all kids are required to be educated on sexual abuse according to the state and that U-46 will have the Crisis Center come and educate the kids in an interactive and age appropriate way. The main lesson will be that "my body is private". Many topics will be touched upon, including safety lessons pertaining to cars, walking, guns, stranger danger, as well as the difference between good secrets and bad secrets and about different kinds of touches. Describing and discussing wanted and unwanted touches and the need to tell someone. Parents wanting more info can google: **talking about touching** and that search should bring up a link to the CAC that gives information about the curriculum.
4. **Treasurer's report:** \$5009 was deposited from the collection of cash raffle tickets fundraiser with an additional \$300 for market day.
5. **Principal's report:** Dr. Gehrig relays that the 2<sup>nd</sup> week after getting back from break, about 80 students will take part in the ACCESS test, which is a test relating to language proficiency. She also let everyone know that Mrs. White's son, Greg, was doing well after his organ replacement surgery and there was a possibility that he would be home for Christmas.
6. **Teacher's report:** Mrs. Burnell was in attendance to represent the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. She had a pamphlet as an example standards. Common core narrows the scope of what is being taught but goes deeper for more knowledge. She said that by the end of 4<sup>th</sup> grade, students were expected to have mastered basic math facts. She also let us know that in ELA, common core is hitting non-fiction hard though content area, such as science and social studies. She also noted that there was an increase in need to know things such as idioms, metaphors, and technology. On another note, she let us know that the 4<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Springfield will be on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The following day is a day off of school for students.
7. **CAC:** Pam Murdoch attended the December CAC round table meeting. Pam relays that the superintendent search has been postponed until after the board elections. She also reported that u-46 alumni get a quicker look for jobs, not to be confused with preferential treatment.
8. **Upcoming Events:** *Movie Night*, January 16<sup>th</sup>. The movie will be the Lego Movie. It costs \$125 for the license. Volunteers will be needed for the evening and Pam is looking for someone to take the night over. *Bingo Night* is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup>, and there will be a need for volunteers for that event as well. We will discuss the Fun Run that was brought up previously more in January.
9. **BoxTops & Soup Labels:** Tammy reports that a check is expected from box tops. Also, Tammy reports that we now have enough soup labels to get a \$100 gift card and that Coke rewards are now being paid out in the form of cash instead of goods.
10. **Conclusion of meeting:** Pam and Kelly brought the meeting to a close at 8:11pm.