

CHCS Elementary Parent Council  
Minutes  
September 9, 2009

First Parent Council Meeting of 2009-2010  
Meeting Facilitator: Lisa Treadwell

Called to Order and Opening Prayer  
Lisa Treadwell opened with prayer.

Linda Wasem presented Lisa Treadwell inscribed gavel.

#### Introductions

A total of 36 people attended the meeting and gave their personal introductions.

#### Superintendent Report

Robert Bignell welcomed all attending and talked about CHCS 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. He went over the Spring Fundraiser (Third Day) and talked about the success we had raising money and in fellowship. He briefly talked about the Fall Campaign and noted that anyone wanting to donate non-specific funds could have a meeting with Mrs. Wasem or him at anytime.

#### Principal Report

Mrs. Wasem spoke of CHCS 25<sup>th</sup> year. She spoke of the role of Parents Council and that all parents are members of parent council. The Monday Meet and Greet was a huge success. The Ice Cream Social and Back to School Night were the largest attended event of its kind and it was hearting warming to see everyone having such a good time. The teachers and staff had seven hours training on the White Boards and we are very blessed to have them. Principal Advisory Committee nominations are until Friday September 11 and meet three times a year with Mrs. Wasem and Mrs. Will. Break Dress Code is September 16, 2009 with a minimum donation of \$2 going to Kiva. Kiva.org is a micro-lending organization that lends to poverty stricken area's around the world with a 95% payback. Cherry Hills Middle School and the Elementary School Fifth Graders will meet and go over the applications. We hope to build the fund up and continue to do this for many years to come. Mrs. Wasem also asked that we pray for the school and staff in our daily prayers.

#### Financial Report

Anne MacDonald reviewed the financial report for the current school year. We have a balance of \$11,793 after an \$8925 allocation to teacher classroom funds voted on at the last meeting of the school year. We discussed the handsets and the need for 3 more sets for the elementary school. Mrs. Wasem was asked what the sets cost and she said that she would wait until the next meeting to discuss the prices when she had the information.

#### New Business

## Fellowship Ideas

Cookbook- Mrs. Wasem discussed the idea of doing a new school cookbook since it has been 7 years since we published a book. If we do the book then it would have about 700 recipes. We would hope to breakeven with the cost of the book. It was tabled so people could talk more about it and maybe someone would step up and volunteer to head it.

Clothing Exchange- Lisa Treadwell opened discussion for having a clothing exchange around the start of school. Several other times were discussed including end of year, donating the clothing to the inner city by Heidi Gonzales, collecting them throughout the year and having a sale towards the end of school and having a room that parents could go in to look at and leave a donation on the honor system. Tabled for discussion at our next meeting.

Restaurant Fundraiser- Were addressed as a possible fundraiser but Mrs. Wasem stated that the school decided a few years ago that they did not want to overwhelm the parents with several small fundraisers and want to limit it to a select few.

Love-A-Lunch- Linda Thompson and Wendy Malinski stated that they still needed volunteers Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays. A sign-up sheet was passed around the room. Mrs. Wasem addressed the portion control issue that the vendor seemed to have during the first week and it has already been addressed the vendor. Love-A-Lunch is also contracting out Pizza Lunch on Wednesday. Meredith W. noted several comments about her experience 1) Website needs to be more user friendly because it takes too long with multiple kids. 2) Concerned about wasteful packaging. 3) Pictures of the items so the kids know what they are ordering. Linda Thompson addressed the issues saying the website has been changed and the packaging is actually less than the vendors we have had in the past. Melissa Cox asked if we could extend the ordering date for next month so the kids could try more items this month before they had to order for next month. Patty Dayton moved to table until next meeting.

## Guest Speaker Deb Will

Homework Policy- Mrs. Will handed out several handouts regarding homework and these can be found in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade daily planner. Last year they evaluated the policy and as a guideline Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays are homework days. Nightly homework guidelines as follows;

Grades 1&2 10-30 minutes

Grades 3&4 30 minutes-1 hour

Grade 5 1-1 ½ hours

Parents are not supposed to do their children's homework. The children are supposed to do it themselves. If you are having a problem with getting homework done one night then just write a note to the teacher explaining the issue. The idea is not to fight with your kids over homework especially on days when they are tired. Mrs. Will also stated that Mrs. Tenkley has put all spelling word list on Spellingcity.com that has several different ways to learn your words.

Adjournment at 9:40 am

Next meeting is scheduled at October 14, 2009 at 8:30 in the Fireside Room.