PTA meeting minutes for February 6, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm by Melanie White. All said the Pledge of Allegience and took a moment of silence.

Board members present: Melanie White, Tracy Boggs, Kristin Pitirri, Courtney Maliki, Kim Evertt, Helen Senese, Linda Dansa

Principal's report - Mrs. Dansa

 Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring the recent Nickel City Reptiles assembly. There is a great photo on the school web page of several students holding a large snake!

 Kindergarten registration is going on this week. Evening registration hours available Weds, Feb. 7th.

 Universal Pre-K registration opens March 1st.

 The PARP (Parents As Reading Partners) program will begin in March. Mrs. Gall and others are working on a great program. The school events will align with the spring book fair theme of "Paws for Books" (dog & cat theme).

 Character Club's theme for this month is Creativity. Ms. Townsend, one of the high school art teachers, has been coming to discuss this topic with the students.

 A new Physical Education teacher has started in the building, welcome to Mr. Ceccarelli! He will be coordinating the Jump Rope for Heart event. All students will participate during PE class, but pledges are optional for families.

 Mrs. Dansa reminded everyone to encourage handwashing during this flu season.

BLT report - Heather Palmer

 The team discussed the community garden. They are considering planting ideas and are forming a committee to help with gardening. If you have a "green thumb" and would like to help with the garden, contact Heather Palmer or Mrs. Dansa.

 A "Sweet Blasdell Rocks" program is underway. Students will paint the rocks in art class and may take walking field trips to hide them in the community.

 A reminder that Student Government continues to collect Box Tops for Education. There is a collection box in the front hall. The money collected from these benefits Student Government.

 The BLT team also discussed the idea of a "Sharing" table in the cafeteria. If students have unwanted snacks (that are individually packaged and nut free), they could place them on the sharing table for others who may not have a snack.

Teacher report - Mrs. Senese

 The Pennies for Pasta fundraiser has finished, with students raising over $4000 to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Congratulations to Mrs. Schwendner's class, the top fundraisers,and winners of the Olive Garden pasta lunch!

 Student government is currently selling Candy-grams through 2/14, to benefit Make-A-Wish. The suckers are $1 each.

Council report - Kim Evertt

 At the last Council meeting, she was able to meet the new district superintendent, Dr. Richard Hughes. We are hoping to have him attend one of our spring meetings.

Old Business

Membership update - Tracy Boggs

 Still 39 memberships short of our goal. Online sign up is available, Tracy will post the link on Facebook.

Family Wellness Night - Brooke Rados

 Thank you to Brooke for organizing a fun evening! There were fruit & veggie tastings, smoothies, and wellness demonstrations.

New Business

Spring Fundraising ideas

The Buffalo Collective fundraiser is coming up on Mon, 2/19/18 from 6-9pm. Create a beautiful and unique piece of pallet art. Blasdell PTA earns 25% per purchase with a group of 25. You must register online before the event. There are 8 different art designs to choose from. Refreshments are available for purchase. Bring a friend for a fun evening!

Some other fundraising ideas discussed include sales of discounted KidStuff coupon books ($15/book, PTA profits $6/book) and Yankee candle. Student government will be selling Easter Candy.

Yearbook photos - Dawn Carcione & Brandi Fanning

 Continue to submit photos for the yearbook to blasdellyearbook@gmail.com. Photos must be submitted by the end of February, as the layout is finalized during March.

2nd Annual Me & My Guy Dance - Kelly White & Dawn Carcione

 For Blasdell girls and their "special guy" (father, stepfather, uncle, grandpa, etc); coming up this Friday, 2/9/18, at 6-730pm. Thank you to Kelly & Dawn for organizing this event. Any snack donations can be sent in Friday morning.

Spring book fair - Jonel Pappuci

 The spring book fair is 3/7/18 for Family Night, and students can shop on 3/8/18. Volunteers needed.

Chuck E Cheese - Lindsay Bzbziak

 The 2nd Chuck E Cheese fundraiser is Friday 3/9/18.

Family Movie Night - Kristin Pitirri

 Family Movie Night will be Friday, 3/23/18, 6-8 pm. Tracy will post a Facebook poll of some G-rated movies to get an idea of what families would most like to see. Some sugestions include Trolls, Wizard of Oz, and Inside Out.

Sandi Eisenmann proposed an event, either in addition to or in place of, the Me & My Gal Game Night. Pinehurst Elementary holds a mother/son movie night at the Palace Theatre in Hamburg. This year, they are opening the event to all 4 elementary schools in the district. The movie being shown is "Rookie of the Year." The dates available are 4/22, 4/29, and 5/6. The cost to the PTA would be $50. The only cost to parents would be concessions at the theatre.

After discussion by all meeting attendees, it was decided to keep the Me & My Gal game night as planned, and consider offering the district-wide mother/son movie night in addition. Ideas for activities to be held in the gym during game night include game stations ("minute to win it"), ninja warrior type obstacles, and kareoke.

Melanie White motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Kim Evertt seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Pitirri, Recording Secretary