

Winter Parent Team Meeting Minutes
Math and Science Academy
8430 Woodbury Crossing, Woodbury, MN 55125
January 20, 2009 7:00 pm

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Lori Nixon.
2. Review and approve tonight's agenda. Approved as published.
3. Welcome and Introductions were given by the Parent Team Officers and Paul Simone. Parents in attendance also introduced themselves. Those in attendance were: Lori Nixon, PT Treasurer; Amy Sunderman, PT Secretary; Paul Simone, MSA Director; Cyndi Bluhm, Board Liaison. There were three other parents in attendance.
4. Minutes from the September 25, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved.
5. Board of Directors report by Cyndi Bluhm.
There was discussion on what to do with the anticipated surplus in the Parent Team's Budget for this school year '08 – '09. In the fall of 2008, three microwaves were purchased by the Parent Team with some of the surplus. There is still additional surplus expected. Various ideas were discussed such as Grant Writing Training for the teachers, Smart Board purchases and Assembly Speaker for the students. Mr. Simone said speakers can be expensive and require careful planning. The challenge is to meet the needs for all the grade levels and have applicable subject matter for all students. Parents are encouraged to think and offer other ideas they might have.
6. Budget/ Treasurers Report and Update on PT Sponsored Activities by Lori Nixon.
 - Income: 3% Admin Fee. A question was asked about the 3% fee charged by MSA to the Parent Team – Does this apply to both parent donations and BoxTops/Kemps Labels? Paul was going to get clarification on that for us.
 - Box tops - \$859.90 was collected: Lori asked if box tops could continued to be collected and another batch submitted yet this spring. It was discussed and it is possible. But depending upon the timing of when the check is received it may apply to next year's (and not this school year's) Parent Team budget.
 - Mol day went well.
 - The Healthy Snack program is going well too.
 - Fall Conference. There were expenses and the person was reimbursed. So, Lori will ask Julia to make sure the expenses are charged to the Conference Dinner.
 - Octoberfest & Spanish Day will possibly be combined for International Day.
 - Alumni Assembly – There were six graduating classes. This event went well and everyone had fun.
 - Spring Meeting – We'll have a good idea of our finances. We can send out an update of our finances.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

7. Enrollment Open House - We discussed if there were any other items needing to be covered for the Open House. Paul just filled us in on the details. NHS advisors and

students are taking care of the signs. Two parents are needed for supervising and cutting up bars and standing at the treat table. Paul has not heard from Lego Robotics and he's waiting to hear back. Sport Teams will put up their displays. MSA gets about 300 people through on the Enrollment Open House. An advertisement is being run in the Woodbury Bulletin for this Wednesday (1/21/09) and next Wednesday (1/28/09.)

8. Enrollment - MSA has received 180 enrollment forms for '09-'10 School year. There are 65 spots for 6th graders. Paul explained the process for "older" students enrolling at MSA. MSA makes an estimate for the number of people leaving and how many "open" spots are available. They do try to place "older" students who have younger siblings at MSA.

Historically, the biggest attrition has been for students completing 9th grade and entering 10th. But next school year with East Ridge opening, there is speculation on what will happen. East Ridge will have 9th grade as freshman (rather than at a Jr. High), so the big attrition may be for students completing 8th grade and entering 9th.

9. MSA received the following recognition: Minnesota Academic Excellence Award; in US News on Dec. 8th for Bronze Notice; Business Week – as Top Academic Performance.

There has been discussion at the board level on publicity of such matters. One parent suggested that minimally an internal announcement would be nice – to let the students and their parent know the excellence of MSA (their school.)

10. Announcement was made for the next meeting on April 16, 2009.
11. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 pm.