

Draft Minutes: KTSPA 2/6/2008 7pm  
Katherine Thomas School Parents Association

In attendance: Pam Peckinpugh, Pres. Lower and Middle PA, Julie Hunter, Pres HS PA, Ginny **McDonald**, Treas., Mary Rill, Robin Handleman, teacher and Sara Huether, Secty.

The minutes of our previous meeting passed with the correction that the wording "HS only" be removed from the discussion for the upcoming Family Fun/Festival. Minutes accepted as revised.

Order of business was changed to accommodate Robin Handleman with 'Old Business' of a new restaurant fundraiser.

Discussion of and approval given (with possible dates in March) for a KTS Cheeburger Cheeburger Fundraiser night at the nearby restaurant. Ms Handleman is negotiating with the restaurant, making flyers and coordinating this event. Restaurants have differing policies for fundraisers.

In this situation the restaurant donates 15% of sales between 5-9pm on the designated day. Patrons must show a KTS flyer for 'credit'. Robin will be there with more flyers for all friends and relatives coming on the designated night.

Thanks to Maureen Larson for coordinating the Armand's fundraiser.

Karen Beverage will be coordinating a Spring flower sale.

The PA is in need of a Coordinator of Restaurant/Business Fundraisers for next year. Please contact Pam or Julie if interested.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report by Ginny **McDonald** - see attached.

The new P.E. Tee shirts are just in and will be distributed soon to all students.

**The Yearbook is coming along. A discussion occurred about possible action if more money (than can be raised by selling yearbooks) is needed from the PA. Deadline for yearbook orders -- by 4/4/08 – or possibly before Spring Break.**

The Teachers Soup Luncheon was a success. Staff were very appreciative. Thanks to all.

A new microwave was purchased for staff of the High School.

Donna Dixon sent a note of thanks for her Appreciation Plaque.

**Peter Greif also sent thanks for his honor.**

High School News:

The Senior Trip (for juniors and seniors) will be to Hershey Park for a day (no overnight).

Graduation will be at the Marriott with staff assistance for arrangements, decorations etc. This will be KTS' first High School Graduation.

Class rings are available if desired. Info will be going home to Juniors about rings. There is a variety to choose from regarding ring design, stone and cost.

The idea of a Debate Team was suggested by parent Linda Harris but when Rhona Schwartz was presented with the idea she felt this wasn't a good time for such a club and that the skills involved in a debate are covered in English class.

The High School is hosting an Open House for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade parents on Wed 2/20/08 at 9-10am.

There was discussion of holding a fundraiser; by soliciting an item directly from Best Buy, Game Stop/EB or a digital camera and then raffle it off. Concern was expressed that we be sure there's no conflict with TLC's direct soliciting efforts.

Lower and Middle Schools

Smart Boards are continuing to be installed. All the middle school classes have access; either they are installed or available as portables. The timeline is being implemented.

Many children and staff are out sick .

Nominating Committee Donna **La Torre** will put flyers out soon for PA Election of Officers.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class is working on a class trip. Parents and staff are assisting fundraising efforts to raise money. On Valentines Day a flower sale is happening with the generous assist of Stephanie Botterell science teacher.

The KTS Open Houses are in need of parents to assist. Melanie Roberts organizes these periodic events for prospective families to visit our school. **These are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed am from October through May and take most of the morning.**

Discussion of The New Family Fun Night: date is May 16, 2008

The event needs a Coordinator – **really a point person.**

There was discussion after our last meeting about a change/update of the name ie KTS Family Festival or... other suggestions are KTS Family Night, KTS Dragon Night, KTS Family Fiesta.....this is from a desire that the name sounds fresh and inclusive of the whole KTS community. Ideas are welcome.

Booked are - Mr. Vadney for Bingo and Mr. Mark for Dance in the Black Box.

Equipment rental discussion: Wii available?, Dance dance revolution available ?, Moon Bounce for little kids? Dunk Tank, enough willing staff?

This is not a child drop-off event. Each child must have a designated adult responsible for them.

Discussion of ticket fee - agreement on \$5 per person or max \$15 per family

There was discussion about whether to continue the tradition of having a book fair at (the formerly named) Family Fun Night event.

Discussion of food and drink - pizza was agreed on with water and possibly popsicles. Possibly add a 'pot luck' table of easy to eat items available for menu variety.

Cupcake Walk was requested again this year.

With Board News - Mary Rill

During Spring Break sometime is the next Board Meeting.

Meetings are now open to visitors (but with no talking).

There is progress in finding a new location for childcare housed in our building which would then open up needed space in our building for KTS to use.

Respectfully submitted, Sara Huether

After meeting - Discussion of PA meeting times and attendance: **Attempts have been made to plan for pm meetings as well as day meetings. There are very few people actually coming to the pm meetings – and the majority of those coming to pm meetings also come in am. Currently, those parents who can do either am or pm prefer daytime meetings. The parents who currently volunteer to do most of the organizing work for events prefer am meetings.**

**The PA meeting calendar** is affected by weather and seasonal school issues like starting out the year when there's more attendees anyway. With a speaker or special topic or focus does this affect attendance? There is a clear need for school and school-related events and information to be accessible to all.

With the difficulties involved in having every other **meeting** in pm, **a suggestion was made to consider holding one big fall evening meeting and one big spring evening meeting next year. This is consistent with practices at other area schools.** It may be a good time to say again how important inclusion is. Some might need accessibility to help with certain projects or know 'who to call' for questions or concerns as they come up.

