

PTCA Report

October 13, 2011

PTCA Mini-Grants:

The deadline for the first round of PTCA mini-grants was Monday, October 2. The PTCA received over \$16,000 in requests for mini-grants from teachers, staff and parent committee chairs. Requests range from a few hundred dollars for DVDs and books to \$1,000 for technology such as iPads, cameras and projectors. The PTCA Executive Committee will meet on Thursday, October 13 to look over the requests and determine grant recipients and the specific amounts that will be awarded. We are thrilled to be able to give teachers, staff and parents this opportunity.

PTCA Membership:

Currently, we have collected \$4,760 in membership dues. Our projected goal for 2011/2012 school year is \$7,000.00. We continue to strive to meet this year's projected goal.

Families	Staff with Children	Staff w/o Children	Total Membership
	10	19	191
Elementary School Campus	7	11	18
Middle School Campus	3	8	11

Yard Sale:

This year's Annual ANCS PTCA Yard Sale was an enormous success! We raised \$12,243.50, over \$2,000 more than last year. The sale was held on Saturday 9/24 from 8am-2pm and on Sunday 9/25 from 12-4pm. As always, there was a huge turn out for volunteers for this event. There were over 90 volunteers who filled 175 time slots needed to run the event over 5 days. However, only about 75% of the volunteers showed up for the shifts they had signed up for. We will do a better job with reminders next year. This year, the 5th graders took advantage of the crowds at the Yard Sale and sold baked goods to help fund their end-of-the year trip. On Sunday after the sale, left over clothes, books and house wares were picked up by several different charities, including the Girl Scouts, Haitian Relief and the Kidney Fund. The Yard Sale has grown so big over the past few years that we now feel the need to have uniformed officers next year given the amount of cash and the lack of ability to monitor the room. Unfortunately, there were a few incidents of shoplifting and price changing this year. The Yard Sale has definitely become an established and known event in the community -- it just keeps getting bigger -- so next year we need to plan for more people coming through the building, and possibly more time for setting it up (i.e. no morning meeting for two days instead of just one).

Ritmo Blu Performance:

The PTCA sponsored performance of the group "Ritmo Blu" was held on Tuesday, October 4 at the Elementary Campus. As Ms. Zelski noted in her letter

PTCA Report

October 13, 2011

in the Courier, it was “an amazing ... performance... that got us moving, smiling, & learning about cultures around the world.”

Related Arts Committee:

The new co-chairs of the Related Arts Committee are Leigh Finlayson and Sue Reeves. The Related Arts Committee has had several meetings so far this year and hosted a 3rd Friday Coffee. Related Arts Curriculum Night was a huge success. A big thank you to parents who attended and to Sheri Davis Catering who volunteered to prepare such wonderful food. A good time was had by all and many parents were able to get to know our amazing RA staff and to learn more about our RA programs. We are getting ready for Winter Fest to be held this year on December 8 at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Having the event in such a big space allows us to have the whole school together for one special event, rather than split it up over two nights. Having Winter Fest at Ebenezer also allows ANCS a nice outreach into this historic community. On Sunday, December 4 at 2PM at the Elementary Campus, the RA committee and volunteers will decorate the auditorium on Winter Fest form.

Health and Wellness Committee:

The Health and Wellness Committee has met several times since the beginning of the school year. This new committee has an Elementary branch, chaired by Michelle Bowers and a Middle School branch, chaired by Leslie Grant. The date for the 5K race has been set for Saturday April 14, 2012. More info to come on this event.

PTCA Committees and Events:

PTCA Co-Presidents Anita Downing and Melissa McKay-Hagan met last week to begin to streamline and better organize the PTCA committee structure. Some of the "committees" on the PTCA page of the website were really just *events* and so we made the change on the website after OK'ing this with Matt Underwood.

-PTCA Committees:

Advisory Parent Reps (Middle) and Room Parents (Elem)- now combined this on the website, Boxtops and Loyalty Programs, Grandparents and Special Friends Day, Health and Wellness, New Family, Partners Principal's Coffee (Middle) and 3rd Friday Coffee (Elem)- now combined on the website, Programs and Traveling Trunks, School Store, Sustainability, Teacher Appreciation, Technology, Yard Sale

-PTCA Events:

5th grade graduation celebration, 8th grade graduation celebration, Bingo night, Car wash, Grandparents and Special Friends Day, Halloween dance, Ice cream social, School Photos, Talent show, Valentines Day dance, Wreath auction, Yard Sale

PTCA vs. Governing Board School-wide Subcommittees:

In our reviewing of the PTCA Committee structure, we noticed that according to the current ANCS Governing Board By-laws, the following are Governing Board School-wide Subcommittees and reside under the Board, not the PTCA: Building and Grounds and Related Arts. According to the website and according to the

PTCA Report

October 13, 2011

Related Arts Committee, they were told that they now reside under the PTCA. Building and Grounds has not reported to us so far this year, even though they have been copied on our emails.

The PTCA Executive Committee feels that this issue needs to be cleared up sooner rather than later. The PTCA cannot function efficiently without knowing which committees and events it oversees and what to make room for in the PTCA budget for next year. Related Arts and Buildings and Grounds are two very big committees that do a lot for the school. Related Arts has just chosen its co-chairs and will begin reporting to the PTCA this year, but we have no line item in the budget for them besides the \$2,500 we agreed to donate from the Yard Sale proceeds to reserve Ebenezer Baptist Church for Winter Fest as we did last year. Not having money in the PTCA budget for RA could pose a problem since one of the tasks of the RA committee is to buy supplies and, along with the art teacher, help coordinate art projects for the annual Auction. We would like to request that RA remain under the PTCA, but that the expenses that they incur for art projects for the Auction be paid for out of the Auction budget, not the PTCA budget. We would also like to request that the Building and Grounds Committee remain under the Governing Board because of the size and importance of both this particular committee and its budget. The PTCA is happy to help coordinate volunteer efforts that fall under this committee such as Building and Grounds workdays.

PTCA Executive Committee Meeting:

We have scheduled an Executive Committee meeting on Thursday, October 13 in place of the meeting on the calendar for Monday, October 17. On the agenda are the upcoming PTCA meeting in November and mini-grant applications.

Upcoming PTCA Events:

- Third Friday Coffee (Elementary School)- Friday, October 21
- Halloween Dance (Middle School)- Friday, October 28
- November PTCA Meeting: Tuesday, November 15, at 7PM at the Middle School Campus. On the agenda are PTCA committee and event updates and a Parent Math Workshop by Ms. Jenkins and Ms. Cannon.

Submitted by:

Melissa McKay-Hagan and Anita Downing, PTCA Co-Chairs