

**Slingerlands PTA**  
**Minutes**  
**March 8, 2011**

**I. Introduction**

- A. Meeting called to order 7:06 p.m.
- B. Introductions-Parents introduced selves
- C. Changes to Agenda-none

**II. Announcements and Reports**

A. Principal-Mrs. Bonacquist

- 1. Discussed budget crisis. Notice to 42 teachers that they possibly will not have a position in the fall. We are awaiting Governor's final budget. The District is facing a 1 million dollar deficit. Community forums established to address facility closing. About \$900,000 in savings by closing Elsmere or Clarksville. Slingerlands and Eagle will split the incoming students. Classes will be large. If Elsmere closes, a possible redistricting may have to occur. Proposal closure fall 2011. Stay tuned for next forum. Board vote to follow. Slingerlands parents look forward to welcoming all incoming families whatever the decision. Cuts are even among all areas of staff/support staff.

B. Teacher Rep-Mrs. Clarkson

- 1. Thank you to all parents for generosity. 5<sup>th</sup> grade fundraising allowed us to donate \$1000 to Merillac Shelter in addition to school supplies, socks etc. Teachers are also looking forward to Staff Luncheon.
- 2. Presentation of teacher wish list- ELMO, PE mats \$1150, Playground balls \$100, Theater experience \$500, picnic table \$900
- 3. ELMO presentation- many teachers use the projector for immediate visual sharing of materials (magazines, pictures, worksheets, model editing). K-12 appropriate. Heidi would like four additional ELMO machines which includes cart/projector at \$1250 each. Almost all teachers would like own machine. All Clarksville classrooms have ELMO currently, half of which could possibly be transferred to Slingerlands.
- 4. Future wish list includes continued technology support-SMARTBoard, Promethean Boards.

C. Co-Presidents

1. Sensational Staff Award-13 nominations received
2. Camp Fair Date Change- April 4<sup>th</sup>
3. 2011-2012 Executive Board & Committee Chair Vacancies-e-mail to go out to reach out to parent population to fill vacancies.
4. 1000 Book Program- upcoming vote in May to re-add this program to next year's budget.

D. Treasurer-see Beth Ryan for details

### **III. Discussion and Voting Items**

- A. \$500 Library funds Request-Mrs. Collen has requested funds to purchase additions to the Library collection. Motion carried to approve funding. PTA will look at increasing Library budget next year.
- B. Teacher requests- Playground balls to be funded as part of original Recess line item. Other requests to be voted on at May meeting.
- C. Playground Vandalism-Heidi provided pictures of vandalism. Everything that could be removed was removed. Deductible for insurance is more than the cost of replacing the damaged pieces. Ideas to resolve issue include exploring commercial graffiti solvent, waiting for spring to see what is still visible and repaint, replacing damaged pieces will run about \$2700, soliciting donations from paint company. Playground budget line item to be added to fund equipment maintenance in the future. Motion carried to use \$355 Ways and Means money to replace JUMP panels that were damaged.

### **IV. Adjournment- 8:30 p.m.**