Thompson PFA Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2011

Michele Glynn, PFA Co-President, called the meeting to order at 9:19 am. She introduced herself and then introduced Mrs. Facendo, Thompson Principal, to the parents of incoming 6th grade students. Mrs. Facendo welcomed all to the meeting and encouraged parents to call her with any questions they might have concerning the school. She then introduced Vice Principal Kelly Ford. Mrs. Ford stated that Thompson has taken a huge step forward in technology this year. She discussed the computer-based PBL contest and the components required for individual projects. A large number of students participated in the contest and one of the many, fine winning entries was shown to the audience. Mrs. Ford will continue to enhance technology within the school next year.

Mrs. Facendo introduced 8th grader Nick Koehler who spoke enthusiastically about the transition into middle school.

Michele Glynn asked for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes. The motion was raised and passed. Michele said Interim Superintendant Thomas Pagano sent a thank you letter to all the PFA's for their support in helping to pass the budget. Linda Cendagorta gave the PIC report. The 2011-2012 school budget passed by a bit more than 100 votes. Linda thanked Kathy Noah, Budget Awareness Representative, for all her efforts. Karen Romanelli gave a brief Treasurer's report. Income of $1,150 was deposited from the Great Race. Expenses have been paid out for the 8th grade dinner and for other 8th grade activities. A copy of the updated budget was available at the front table.

Michele Glynn announced next year's PFA Executive Board: Co-Presidents: Michele Glynn and Karen Romanelli, Vice President: Linda Cendagorta, Treasurer: Cheryl Nadel, Corresponding Secretary: Val Mastropaolo and Recording Secretary: Liz Smith.

Mrs. Facendo announced that several wonderful members of the faculty and staff are retiring: Mrs. Lynam, Mr. Tomo, Mrs. Scheurer, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Zappala. Mrs. Thompson is currently recovering from a broken leg and the PFA is giving her a gift card so that she can download some books.

Mrs. Facendo said a committee will meet to discuss options for a pilot program that will be initiated as a new elective course offering in the fall. A parent asked if Study Island will be used as an enrichment to the classes during the 2011-2012 school year. Mrs. Facendo said that the NJ core content requirements are shifting and that Study Island does not adequately address these new topics. The district is looking into other enrichment sites that might better serve to enrich the curriculum.

Mrs. Facendo introduced the parents of incoming 6th graders to the guidance counselors, Mr. Gomulka, Mr. Anderson and Mrs. Roberts. Additionally, Mrs. Facendo introduced Ms. Black who is a member of the child study team at Thompson. Ms. Black encouraged parents to call or e-mail her with any questions they might have regarding the transition into Thompson.

Michele Glynn once again thanked the parents of incoming students for coming to the meeting. She encouraged the parents to join the PFA. Michele told parents that the PFA could use help on the Hospitality Committee, Granny's Attic Committee and the Great Race Committee and sign-up sheets were on the front table.