

PTSO Mtg.
1/27/09 @ 7:00 p.m.

Present: John Boya, Lori Bennett, Joanna Pine, Sandy Mitchell, Jane Hinckley, Peggy Evatt, Vonnie Liddle, Jamie Reynolds, Mary LeBlanc, Connie Mahoney

Jane thanked the PTSO for adding her to the agenda and stated she wanted to speak not only as a parent with concerns but as a teacher and the president of the faculty association. Jane stated her main goal is to encourage as many parents as possible to seriously consider attending the board meetings in the next few months. She reported that our school is looking at approximately \$22,000 cut from state aide and if we as parents want our children to have the same opportunities as students in years past have had, want the best education possible for their children and don't want to see programs cut from the budget as a way to help defer the cost cuts, it's imperative that we show how concerned we are by attending these meetings in groups with as many parents as possible. Jane asked the PTSO to assist her in reaching out to the parents by putting her plea into the minutes for our members to read and asked us if we had any creative ideas to help people with the desire to come out and get informed about what the schools plans are. Jane reported it is important to share accurate information about the budget and school programming with the community and to find a way to clear up any misinformation. Jane also shared that the school wants to keep the budget as low as possible prior to it going out to the voters, therefore it is crucial that we as parents go to the meetings and know what cuts are being discussed and/or considered, because if we wait until after the fact it will be too late!

Please consider attending the next few board meetings, they are on Tuesday, February 10th; Tuesday, March 17th and Tuesday, April 21st in the Cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.
Encourage someone to come with you too!

Clay for the Ball fields: Dave reported at the parent advisory meeting that took place prior to the PTSO meeting that the load of clay we had delivered this fall cost \$500 and that the varsity classic gave \$200. The PTSO decided to donate \$300 towards the clay. This clay will be put on the girl's softball field and some of the clay will be used to repair the pitcher's mound and home plate on the boy's baseball field.

Extra car magnets: The PTSO decided to give the Board of Ed at ILCS and LL each a car magnet. Additional discussion took place regarding possibly giving each coach a car magnet at the sports picnic.

Senior Night will take place Feb. 4th and only one game will be that night, it's against Bolton. The PTSO has decided that we will have all our gear out that night to sell.

A suggestion was made that the PTSO have a banner to put up at events that would say, "sponsored by the PTSO". Everyone at the table thought that was a great idea.

Mary reported that the PTSO is in pretty good shape in regards to Spiritball.

Lori shared a thank you note from the student council for our contribution to Fruit Bowl Fridays.

Lori also shared a thank you note from Robin Brand regarding the PTSO's donation of one of our hooded sweatshirts; it provided "warmth" to a student in more ways than one!

As a way to promote the ski hill, John Rathbun asked the PTSO to consider using the ski tow if we were going to have another family fun night.

Skate and Game Night: The PTSO is going to discuss at our next meeting when we might be able to have another "skate and game night" like we've done in years past. It's easy enough to do and it's fun to get the kids together up there, they had such a great time last year! Dates seem to be filling up fast, which is good because it means the kids are busy; hopefully we can find an open date to schedule this event.

Lori reported that the PTSO supplies have expired. We'll need to replace the hot cocoas for the event.

Vonnie reported the Ski Tow would not be closing; it will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from noon to four and will also be open during school breaks.

The next PTSO meeting will be at 7pm on February 11th **in the school cafeteria.**