

**Arnold Elementary PTA**  
**September 1, 2009**

**Attendance:** Valerie Holland, Mrs. Biggart, Melissa Bowen, Liz Murphy, Diane Frazee, Dawn Kostik, Susan Kestler, Jennie Kantowski, Kelly Doetsch, Amanda Tosoni, Wendy Bright, Beth Hiltabidle, Melanie Price, Tiffany Snowden, Mary Thompson, Tammy Hartmen, Cornelia, Wikar, Tiffany Dean, Karen Cassidy, Erica Catterall, Jean Pioli, Lynn Peery, Dana Smith

- I. Welcome by President, Valerie Holland
  - a. Agenda provided
- II. Principal's Report, Mrs. Biggart
  - a. 460 students; 391 families
  - b. School intranet site is up and operating
    - i. Wish lists
    - ii. Homework help
    - iii. Field trip information
    - iv. E-books
- III. Destination Imagination, Elizabeth Wolin (Cape St. Claire)
  - a. enrichment program – problem solving teams of 5-7 children
  - b. emphasizes the importance of team work
  - c. all kid-driven
  - d. 5 challenges per year
    - i. Technical
    - ii. Artistic
    - iii. Theatrical
    - iv. Improvisational
    - v. Building
  - e. volunteer run – 2 parents per team
  - f. work on main challenge until regionals in April (where there's one instant challenge)
  - g. need a coordinator and volunteers
  - h. year long
  - i. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grader rising stars
- IV. Girls on the Run, Natalie Fritan (410-212-9205; Natalie @chesprocon.com)
  - a. registration until 9/15/2009
  - b. meets 2x/week at Arnold
  - c. 15 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls
  - d. Curriculum of life lessons
  - e. Train for a 5k (December)
  - f. Ms. Onal and Susan Noble volunteering
  - g. 2 10 week sessions – fall and spring
- V. Review of 2008-2009 needs assessment survey, Valerie Holland
  - a. see attached list
    - i. email communication re: PTA
    - ii. \$80,000 raised for school last year
    - iii. Parents ConnectED
    - iv. Volunteers using to stay connected to groups

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- VI. VP Volunteers, Wendy Bright**
  - a. program descriptions provided
  - b. list of chairpersons and contact information provided and updated.
- VII. Treasurer's Report, Amanda Tosoni**
  - a. review budget
    - i. rolled over \$9,771.71
    - ii. \$3,000. for grants
  - b. disbursement forms
    - i. Field trip information
- VIII. Instructional Volunteers, Mary Thompson**
  - a. need chairs for
    - i. Meet the Author
    - ii. Restaurant Night (Erica Catterall offered to do this)
    - iii. Spirit Wear
    - iv. Instructional volunteers
- IX. Teacher liaison, Dana Smith**
- X. Committees**
  - a. Dad's Club, Ernie Arizzi
    - i. Build a base of dad support
    - ii. Host a meeting
    - iii. "honey-do " list
    - iv. Needs activity ideas
  - b. Membership, Tiffany Snowden, Diane Frazee, Susan Kestler
    - i. Vera Bradley raffle,
    - ii. Terrapin Cover Contest
    - iii. Teacher focused raffle
    - iv. 391 families, 51 staff (28 neighborhoods)
  - c. Directory and Holiday Breakfast, Melissa Bowen
    - i. directory started
      - 1. will not be a CD this year but a PDF file
      - 2. hard copies available upon request
    - ii. holiday breakfast
      - 1. chorus/string performance
      - 2. art showcase?
      - 3. Planning session in October
  - d. Holiday Secret Shop, Yearbook, Box tops, Melanie Price
    - i. Swap shop for secret shop
    - ii. Classic photos for Yearbook
    - iii. Brownie leader organizing box top drive again
  - e. Restaurant Night
    - i. Erica Catterall volunteered to organize
    - ii. 2 evenings/restaurants
  - f. Room Parents and Field Day Beth Hiltabidle
  - g. Fall Festival, Jennie Kantowski and Laurie Douglass
    - i. October 10<sup>th</sup> 12-4pm, concern brought up about Broadneck HS homecoming

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- ii. new ideas welcome
- h. Book Fair, Jean Pioli and Wendy Bright and met with Lisa Killelea, new-chair October 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>
- i. Green Committee, Cornelia Wikar
- j. Celebration books, Cultural Arts, Square 1, Kelly Doestesch
  - i. Celebration books year-long with volunteers need in spring
  - ii. Square 1 we get 33% profit – may move to Artsonia next year with more product choices and ease of on-line ordering
  - iii. Cultural Arts assembly on 9/22 Billy B
- k. Enrichment, Tiffany Dean
  - i. Fall Schedule set
  - ii. Winter ideas welcome
- l. Father/Daughter Dance 2/19/10, Sherrie Wheeler
- m. Mother/Son Spring Fling, Tracy Kruk