

**January 2009 PTA Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 12, 2009**

**Call to Order: Loretta Fox**

**“Special guests”** Lisa Taddei, director of dining services for Chartwells, and Skip Daino came to speak to the PTA about the new lunch payment system. A few notes: Everyone has to enter their I.D. number into the system, even if they are paying with cash. Online service will be available soon. There will be a \$1.75 fee per transaction for putting money on an account online. Letters will come home when a student is low on funds or has charges on their account. Students will keep their I.D. numbers for as long as they attend Abington schools. Overall, the students have been adapting well to the new system.

**Administrative Report:** Dr. Kline reports that the new food service program is going well. She thanks the PTA for the recent assembly, “The Brain Show.” Pictures from the assembly are available online. The Promethean Boards and Listening Centers have been purchased! The school has been encouraging the children who are bussed to read during pick up time. Recently, a High School sports “star” came to read to the students, which went over very well! The 5<sup>th</sup> grade just finished the PSSA Writing today (2/12). Kindergarten CogATs are coming up. Letters have been sent home. March 16 - 23: Grades 3 – 6 PSSA testing for reading and math. Letters will be coming home soon. Placement for next year will begin in April. If interested, send letters with input regarding your child's placement by March 31<sup>st</sup>. March 2 – No School for students (inservice day).

**Teachers' Report:** Mrs. Wolf thanks the PTA for “The Brain Show” Assembly. It was “lively and fast paced” and the students and teachers liked it! Mr. Marinello encourages parents to contact him with any questions they may have in regards to the American Heart Association Fundraisers. Forms are due by Monday, February 23. Thanks for the generous support of the Reading Olympics. The students really enjoyed this event!

**Treasurer's Report:** Erin Brown reports that she went to a PTA Treasurer's training this past month. The training was extremely helpful and insightful! Also, Erin will be simplifying the monthly Treasurer's Report. Of course, Erin can always generate a complete report or specific area report whenever requested!

**Committee Reports:**

**Sweetheart Dance:** Julie Nahill reports that the Sweetheart Dance (on Friday, February 20) slips and money are due this Friday, February 13. The new option to order corsages (provided by “United Floral”) has gone over very well and is quite a bargain!

**Publishing Center:** Loretta Fox reports that the PC is busy and always is in need of volunteers!

**Family Fun Night (Bingo Night):** A huge success! Thank you to all those who helped!

**“The Brain Show” Assembly:** Loretta Fox reports that this assembly was a hit and that we will be looking into booking the assembly (with different questions, themes, etc.) for next year!

**Spring Fair:** Theresa Keenan-Flite, new to Copper Beech, reports that planning is well underway for the Spring Fair. Volunteers are needed and a few “main positions” still need to be filled.

**Casino Night (Adult Fundraiser):** Ellen DeStefano reports that fliers went out for the “adults-only” fundraiser (held on Saturday, March 28 at Homestead Hall in Jenkintown). Prize donations are requested.

**Sixth Grade Activities:** Look out for the Stromboli fundraiser!

**Boys Night Out (formally known as the Mother-Son Social):** Friday, March 20. The Eagles mascot will be there, among other things!

**Celebrate the Arts:** Friday, April 24. Loretta Fox reports that the theme will be “A night in Italy.” Ideas are needed: music, dancing, craft, story-telling, etc...

**Co-Presidents' Report:** Loretta reports that the Promethean Boards and Listening Centers purchase total is \$11,125.85, which is approximately \$125.85 over the amount approved by the PTA to spend on these gifts for the school. A motion was made to approve the extra \$125.85, which was approved and seconded. Loretta also points out that Erin's training brought many things to light, including the fact that there are changes to be made to our PTA in order to be compliant with the PA PTA and the National PTA. Our By-laws are overdue for being updated and revised. Our “Co-Presidents” need to be retitled “President” and “President Elect”, with their terms staggered (which has already begun with Loretta only serving as President for one year and Nicole staying on for two years). We are considering incorporation of the PTA to protect us as members individually. We are looking for volunteers to conduct the Annual Audit! We'd like to add a line to next year's budget for Leadership training for the President, President Elect, and Treasurer. Such training would be beneficial to these elected offices. The approval amount sought will be approximately \$300 per person attending training. The total amount would be adjusted annually in the budget, depending on how many officers require training. Lastly, in order to maintain our 501C3 Standing as a PTA, anything the PTA does/pays for must be Educational (supplementing classrooms), Operational (supplies, training), or Charitable (services students may not receive otherwise). Paying for permanent fixtures is not permitted.

**Additional Comments:** Stacy Simmons raised awareness about the ASD's Autistic Support Programs.

**Next PTA Meeting: Thursday, March 12 @ 7:30pm**