

**South Blvd. FLAIM Elementary - PTO  
Meeting Minutes  
August 28, 2007**

**Members Present: Rhonda Anderson, Heather Beal, C. Beatty, Denise Bennett, Rita Blacher, Sunny Bottoms, Dominic Caputo, Antoinette Chenevert, Renita Connor, Pauline Ewing, Jack Harrison, Sarah Hill, Lucretia Howard, Shannon Iron, Ana Paula Justino-Isaac, Susanna Lee, Phaon McQuarter, Patricia McBride, Elle Marrison, Janina Martinez, Juanita Meier, Cheryl Miller, Erica Payton, Cheryl Miller, Emmett Robbins, Summer Steib, Dee Ann Stephen, Michele van den Bold-Braud, John P. Ward, Lori Waselchuk, Darlene Wells, Julie White**

Call to Order 6:00 p.m.

**1) Welcome – Emmett Robbins**

**2) Introduction of the 2007-2008 PTO officers – Emmett Robbins**

**3) Principal's Report – Cheryl Miller**

There are now two pre-K classes. The school hopes that in a year or two, these will be immersion classes; one in French and one in Spanish.

In answer to frequent questions, Ms. Miller explained that the recent transition from a normal elementary school to an academic and foreign language immersion school is the reason why the older classes are smaller and why South Boulevard's test scores are not as good as Westdale's or Forest Heights'.

Ms. Miller asked the PTO to do a big push for getting the school's name out in TV, print media, etc. PTO will form a marketing committee.

**4) PTO Financial Report:** Bank account balance is \$1936.91. The PTO will fund the purchase of a new PA system at a cost of \$1100.

**5) Ice Cream Social Wrap-Up – Emmet Robbins:** Successful – PTO made \$80. Thanks to everyone who helped.

**6) Open House –** Discussed plans for getting information out to the parents from the PTO. Will make sign-up sheets available for parents attending.

**7) Fundraising Committee Update – Heather Beal –** reminds members about the first Papa John's night on September 5. Bouncing Tigers is scheduled for Sept. 19. Beal also reminds members to collect BoxTops and cell phone/ink jet and toner cartridges.

**8)** Magnet Mania – will be at Cortana Mall on Saturday, October 27. We will be asking parents to sign up to come and promote the school and answer questions for prospective parents. The school has named six Student Ambassadors (5<sup>th</sup> graders/3 French-3 Spanish) who will also be there to help promote the school.

**9)** Fall Carnival/Raffle – Ms. Miller says the teachers take care of the carnival. PTO runs a raffle and a popcorn machine. Heather – it was an enormous effort to do the raffle. We have Jo's records. Fall festival is scheduled for the 26<sup>th</sup> of Oct. Sunny volunteered to be the raffle chair.

**10)** Room Parents proposal. Heather Beal proposes to make the room parent structure run through the PTO. Heather – we should organize it for the Open House. Ms Miller will send out a flyer.

**11)** Grade level brown bag lunch proposal – Last year there was a lunch meeting at about 11:00 and a lot of people showed up. The bag lunch is an informational time where people could ask questions of the principal. There won't be an agenda. Suggestion was made to do it on a day for early dismissal. Meet at 12:30 then be able to take the kids home. September 19 is the next early dismissal. Decisions to schedule the Brown bag lunch on September 19 at 12:30. Paula Justino-Isaac will prepare a flyer to send out on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

**12)** Marketing and Student Recruitment – Ms. Miller – Much of the community does not know our name. We need to make a big push this year for getting our program known. Ms. Ewing and Ms. Miller will develop a marketing program strategy. Planning to go on the TV. Parent Magazine. 225. FOX channels.

The big marketing moment last year was at Magnet Mania. Miller- We should highlight our growing national recognition for a quality immersion program. School works with University of Minnesota – and we have a great reputation with them.

McBride – It will help our request to build a school dedicated to the immersion program. If the board realizes that there is a bigger demand – then they have to build a building to meet the demand

The website needs to be updated. It should include a video of the kids speaking. McBride and Battie are in charge of the website. Miller checked the international school website in New Orleans and was really impressed. Miller suggests to organize a website committee.

Emmett asks members to think of a catchy phrase – a motto, logo. Think about ideas and bring them to the next meeting.

Summer talked about the brochure and the yahoo group. Members should send an email to summerpto@cox.net to be invited to the group. You will have to create an email account on yahoo.com

**13) Volunteer Selection for Vacant PTO Officers and Committee Chairpersons**

Communications Chair –

Webmaster chair –

Open House –

Marketing chair –

Volunteer –

Sign up sheets were passed around. Lori Waselchuk will compile complete lists from the sign up sheets.

**14) Round Table –**

Banner announcing PTO meeting - Sunny - Researched the cost of a banner to be hung outside the school announcing the PTO meeting on the day the meeting is scheduled. Quote for a 2X4 foot is \$65. Miller suggests that coca cola will do it for free. Dennise will call coke.

Directory for South Boulevard with names and numbers for families - Ms. Miller suggests the school board's graphic arts department will do for cheaper than commercial rates.

**Upcoming meetings: Brown Bag Lunch is Wednesday, September 19, 12:30 in the South Boulevard gymnasium**

**Next PTO meeting is Tuesday, October 2, 6:00 p.m. Carver Library**

**15) Adjournment – Emme Robbins Adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.**