

**South Blvd. FLAIM Elementary - PTO  
Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2007**

**Members Present: Heather Beal, Catherine Grandbouche, Sarah Hill, Susanna Lee, Emmett Robbins, Summer Steib, Michéle van den Bold-Braud, Lori Waselchuk, Julie White**

**Call to Order:** 6:00

**1) Welcome:** Emmett Robbins

**2) Motion to accept minutes** from December, 2007 - Lori Waselchuk

**3) Financial report:** Catherine Grandbouche – Balance \$4926.29.  
There are \$216 worth of checks addressed with an incorrect name. These checks are from different events. Catherine will go back to the bank and check to see if we could add another name on our account to more easily solve this recurring problem.

Total earnings for 2007: \$3742.59

**FLAIM PTO - 2007 earnings and expenses by project:**

	<b>Income</b>	<b>expenditures</b>	<b>Net Profit</b>
Recycling	\$ 342.95		\$ 342.95
Yard signs/ bumper magnets	\$ 1 771.00	\$ 1 097.60	\$ 673.40 **
Chik-Fil-A	\$ 50.00		
Movie/Pizza Night	\$ 1 256.00	\$ 722.88	\$ 533.12
Box Tops	\$ 120.84		\$ 120.84
Papa Johns	\$ 345.54		\$ 345.54
Ice cream social	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00
Carnival Raffle	\$ 2 061.86		\$ 2 061.86
Donations	\$ 125.00		\$ 125.00
Secret Santa	\$ 2 464.00	\$ 2 198.95	\$ 265.05
Playmakers		\$ 395.00	
Music System for school		\$ 322.92	
Misc expenses		\$ 157.25	

\*\* PTO dues collection is also reflected in this total. The magnet/PTO due income will be broken down at the next meeting.

**Box tops:** Michéle van den Bold-Braud – We should have earned \$151.30 in October, but will check with Ms. Miller to see if she received the check.

Two more submissions since the October collections totaled \$76.30  
Next Boxtop deadline is Feb 28, 2008. Goal is \$250.00. There will be a campaign to encourage each family to submit 25 box tops. Each student will receive a small zip lock bag. If they do this each kid will get a cookie. Michéle will send out the flyer on Thursday to promote the campaign/incentives.

**4) Foreign language instruction for parents:** Emmett Robbins - is investigating the possibility of teaching French and Spanish to parents. Ms. Miller and Emmett will get back to the PTO.

**5) Secret Santa Report:** Emmett Robbins asked if we should try to make more money by purchasing the inventory ourselves. After discussion, members decided that the service offered by the supplying company is worth the money paid to organize this event for the kids.

**6) Fundraising:** Heather Beal -  
Bouncing Tiger fundraiser is coming up, but we haven't heard from management. Waiting to hear – if they don't respond to our calls, we will cancel the event.  
Community Coffee labels – There is no one doing these labels. Diane Miller has volunteered to help with this. They are due January 31. Heather will call her to check to see if she can still process the ones collected for the school.

**7) Marketing/Recruiting:** Susana Lee - T-shirts will be too expensive to print on colored shirts. The less expensive company will print on white, light gray and light yellow T-shirts. PTO decided to only offer the FLAIM logo T-shirts printed on light gray and white. Susana will make the order form and print 260 copies and send them out on Thursday. Susana will also post the order form on the website.

Susana will post photos on the website.

**Discussion on Fall marketing flyers:** Heather Beal - Were they helpful? We'll know more once the deadline for applications is done. We should start getting ready for next year.

**FLAIM presence at local festivals:** Lori Waselchuk - Will check with Festival directors on the possibility of having FLAIM students, parents, teachers participate in two citywide festivals – Fest For All (Spring) and the Book Festival (Fall). Lori will call the directors of each festival. Our presence in the Baton Rouge International Day was a positive experience.

**Le Grande Picnic in Acadiana in Spring:** Michéle van den Bold-Braud - We should plan ahead and make sure to help parents and students attend. Michéle will find out when it is and report back at next meeting.

Michéle will talk to Mdme Ewing about possible plans to participate in **Lafayette's Festival Internationale**.

Susana Lee – Is investigating the possibility of getting photos of South Boulevard events in the Baton Rouge Parent magazine. Susana will also look into the cost of a quarter page ad in the following publications.

South Baton Rouge Journal  
Southeast News

Lori suggests that we should place ads in the March issues – which is the summer camp issues. Very popular issues for parents. Lori will check with Mdme Tomson if South Boulevard is going to offer summer language camps again.

**8) Dufrocq/South Boulevard merger** – The latest decision by the school board raised many concerns. Lori suggests that we create a School Board Liason position with in our committee executive structure so we can get a regular report of what is going on. We need to be at the next school board meeting, Thursday, Jan 10 – 5:30pm. Michéle and others are committed to attend.

These are issues of concern raised by various PTO members present.

Heather - no one in the PTO responded to our emails reporting on the School Board's merger vote sent out over the holiday. We need more active members on this issue.

Michéle - FLAIM won't fit at Dufrocq – realistically the planned student numbers already exceed the planned building space

Heather – The planned Istrouma site for the future preK – 8 Immersion school is unsafe. The school board grossly overestimates parent's enthusiasm for immersion. Very few of the strongest supporters will agree to send their kids to a school in such an unsafe neighborhood.

Plan of action to raise FLAIM PTO's concerns with EBR School Board:

1. Heather – will post a flyer explaining the School Board's actions; requesting feedback from parents. She will distribute them at school Thursday, Jan. 10 to get them back by Wednesday, Jan. 16

2. A committee of parents will then meet on Thursday, Jan 17 at 2:45pm at McDonald's (near the school) to construct an agenda and list of concerns for a meeting with School Board members. People who have questions or wish to participate in this planning meeting should contact Heather at 802-2892.

3. Michéle will request a meeting with School Board members between Jan. 22-25 (hopefully). She will get back to the PTO as soon as she gets a reply. Once the date and time is set, the committee formed at the McDonald's meeting will then meet with members of the School Board.

4. The PTO will publicize a special call for South Boulevard parents to attend our next monthly meeting when the liaison committee will report back on the outcome of the meeting with the School Board members. The date for this meeting is Tuesday, February 12. It was suggested that the School Board members be invited to this meeting as well.

Michèle – one of the goals for this process is to raise our concerns about the long-term plan of moving FLAIM to the Istrouma site BEFORE the general parish tax election in March.

Michèle will invite Ms. Miller to the meetings.

**9) Movie/pizza night - March 19 - 6-7:30pm** - Heather Beal – Instead of a movie, PTO decided to hire a magician who will perform for 30 minutes. Lori Waselchuk will look for the performer and report back to the execs. Outline plans for the evening:

Magician performs 6:00 to 6:30pm

Pizza, drinks will be served from 6:30 to 7:30pm

Popcorn will be sold for 50 cents during the evening.

Clean up will be 7:30 to 8:00pm

Heather and Sarah will work with Dominos for pizza

Summer will take care of drinks and paper products.

Lori will hire Magician

### **We still need a Pizza night chairperson!**

We will need help with publicity and pre sale of tickets (\$5 for the entertainment and food).

We will need volunteers to serve popcorn, pizza, drinks, collect/sell tickets, and cleanup.

Measures will be taken to prevent children from playing on the playground. The PTO will put up physical barriers to prevent kids from leaving the gym and adjoining breezeway.

### **10) Roundtable**

Summer Steib – PTO must put into place **a procedure for spending PTO money for unplanned events** between meetings. PTO execs will check the bylaws, report back and suggest an amendment to the bylaws if necessary. Heather Beal - We ought to make a decision at the beginning of the year if the PTO wants to do something for the teachers for Christmas. This year a few of the executives bought lunch for the staff a few days before the break.

Heather Beal – Last year we asked for suggestions from teachers and parents to prioritize how the PTO spends its money on needs at South Boulevard. We need to create a new list of suggestions and ask parents to rank them again. This process should be started at the next PTO meeting.

Michèle van den Bold-Braud suggested that the PTO consider setting up a grant program for teachers. The PTO would offer \$100 grants for innovative programs or events proposed by South Boulevard teachers.

Lori Waselchuk and Summer Steib suggested that the PTO still do something for Coach Lee's family. Lori will ask Ms. Miller about Coach Lee's family, if she has suggestions for our contribution.

**11) Adjourn 7:45.**

**Next PTO meeting is Tuesday, February 12, 6:00 p.m. Carver Library**