

HANCE PTO MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2005

I. WELCOME

Co-Presidents: Cathy Devor
Val Ostrowski

II. BRIEF PRESENTATION BY OFFICER SCOTT RICK

Officer Rick is our school representative, serving Hance and Richland Elementary schools. He explained the proposed merger of the Richland Police Dept. with the Brad/Mar/Pine Police Department. His direct phone number is 724-625-3157 ext. 21.

III. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION WITH DR. JAMES MANLEY,
Superintendent of our Pine Richland School District

Dr. Manley gave some details regarding the new Upper Elementary School:

- 190,000 square feet, with a capacity of 1200 students
- Team classrooms, with each child having 2 teachers/team
- Focus on global education/incorporating virtual field trips
- Specials at the end of the day: band, orchestra, chorus, drama, dance
- Scheduled to open during the 2007-2008 school year
- The students will have recess
- Most likely, a third bus run will be added

A strategic plan is being developed to determine the goals and directives needed to shape the future of our school district. The first meeting was held on November 7th, with more to follow. Visit www.pinerichland.org for more details.

Dr. Manley and Dr. Johnson have been visiting all the first grade classrooms as part of a continuous effort to make sure our reading program in the primary grades is solid. (Last year, they read to second graders.)

The district website is in the process of being updated to make it more user-friendly.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 4: Fantastic Fun Friday: Wear your favorite color

November 7: Strategic Design Process Meeting at 7:00 PM at the Spirit Room

November 7-9: Hearing Screening for Grades K-3

November 10-11: Parent Conferences

November 10: Market Day Pick-up 4:45-5:45 PM in the cafeteria

Fall Fundraiser Pick-up 4:45-5:45 PM in hallway near stage entrance

November 14-18: Outreach Week: KDKA Turkey Read-a-Thon Service Project

November 24-28 NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving Break

December 5-9: Holiday Shop

Outreach Giving Tree Project: New Hats and Mittens Collection

December 8: Market Day Pick-up 4:45-5:45 PM in the cafeteria
January 12, 2006: Hance PTO Meeting 7:00 PM in the Library
Speaker: Terry Wentz, RN, BSN Hance School Nurse

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Fall Book Fair Kim Mullen, Mary Pyle, Tracy Reich
We were able to send \$515 worth of books to Vic Pitre Elementary in Louisiana.
- B. Grandparents/Grandfriends Days Emily Willard, Peg Kozej
This event was hugely successful, and is scheduled to become an annual event.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Vote on Hance PTO Cookbook Proposal
Vote passed unanimously to move ahead with the Hance cookbook. Julie Grguras will be heading this project. More information will be coming shortly.
- B. Holiday Shop Update
Will be held during the students' library time. Watch for information in the Friday Folders.
- C. Field Day and Spring Staff Appreciation Committee Chairs are needed ASAP
Secured committee chairpersons for Field Day (Julie Grguras, Laurel Anderson, and Tracy Reich) and the Spring Staff Luncheon (Nancy Buszinski.) Thank you for volunteering!!

VII. RAFFLE AND OPEN DISCUSSION

The PTO voted unanimously to give \$50.00 to each classroom to purchase activities for indoor recess.

The stadium blankets were won by Wendy McCarthy and Regan Shebeck. The deadline for Hance Happenings is November 18th. Please send items to: ngrosskinsky@zoominternet.net.

All yearbook photos can be sent via email to: rshebeck@zoominternet.net.