

**Ames PTA Meeting
February 2, 2010**

Call to order 8:50 am

Approval of minutes from December 1, 2009.

- Motion made to approve the minutes from December 1, 2009. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved

Teacher representative – Mr. Chris Harvalis

- Ames School 1:1 Laptop Initiative
 - How are we using the laptops? The fifth grade is using the laptops for essays, I-Calendar, six-minute solutions for reading, wiki spaces
 - The laptops have made students more collaborative, responsible, and organized
 - How would the laptops be used for homework? There would be more time devoted to projects by bringing the laptops home. They would not be used for internet use

Administration reports – Principal Lieggi

- Thank you for the Artist in Residence Bill Buczinsky. The program was very good and the kids loved it
- Ames had a lockdown drill on Thursday, January 28
- PUMPED behavior incentive program had a hula hoop contest. You must have no conduct referrals to participate. To date, there have been eight conduct referrals. Last year at this date there were 20
- Haiti Relief Fund – Ames has raised more than \$600. The money went to the American Red Cross
- If you have extra snow pants or boots, please bring them in to donate
- The classes are making Valentine's Day cards for the soldiers in Iraq
- Presentation of ISAT data (2009)
 - Good scores are a result in part of consistency in teaching staff and administration
 - We analyze the test data for school improvement purposes. One important goal is to see a jump from the percentage of students who are "meeting standards" into the "exceeding standards" group
 - Another goal is to see 90% of the third, fourth and fifth grades meet and exceed for three straight years
 - Fifth grade math is also an area of focus. Teachers are working together on strategies, pacing and challenges
 - Third grade reading had a slight dip by 1.4%. The teachers are working on inference and short responses and providing more intervention to struggling readers
 - Fourth grade scores were up in all areas. The focus will be on non-fiction and technical reading strategies and on problem solving
 - There will be an evening parent workshop on Tuesday, February 9 in the multi-purpose room

Dr. Lamberson

- Thank you for your positive response to the landscape project at Ames. Thank you for responding to the survey about future kindergartners and preschoolers.
- The 2010-11 calendar will be similar to this year but we won't be following RB's Christmas break
- Lockdown drill – Our kids need to establish a skill set for this. If there was a school lockdown, School Reach will be the primary way of communication from Dr. Lamberson once he has contact with Colleen.

- Dr. Lamberson is looking at a potential 4-5 year plan for infrastructure improvements without a tax referendum
- Enrollment is just under 1530 students. Projected Kindergarten enrollment for 2010-11 is 130 to low 140s
- Question – When will voting be moved to the North Riverside VFW Hall? Stephanie Schulte is trying to initiate this with Cook County
- Crossing Guards – District 96 is in conversation with the village on how to resolve this issue. If District 96 takes this on, it would cost about \$118,000 out of District 96's budget

Officers' Report

- Readers R Leaders is a success!
- Volunteers are needed for the Bake Sale today
- Geography night will take place on February 24 at 6:30 pm
- Donuts with Dads will take place on March 10

Meeting adjourned 10:40 am

Announcements

Book Fair and Storyteller	Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 pm
Book Fair ends	Thursday, February 11
Early Release (AM Kdgn only)/ Parent Teacher Conferences	Friday, February 12
President's Day Holiday	Monday, February 15
Board of Education Meeting at Ames	Tuesday, February 16 at 7:30 pm
Early Childhood Screening at Central	Thursday, Feb. 18 and Friday, Feb. 19
School Spirit/Bank at School	Friday, February 19
Geography Night	Wednesday, February 24 at 6:30 pm
Report Cards/End of 2 nd Trimester	Friday, February 26
ISAT Testing	Monday, March 1 to Friday, March 12
PTA meeting and Nomination of Officers	Thursday, March 4 at 6:00 pm
Kindergarten Information Night	Thursday, March 4 from 7:00-8:00 pm
Young Author Deadline	Friday, March 5
Donuts with Dads	Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 to 8:15 am
Ronald McDonald Pop Top Contest Begins	Tuesday, March 16
Board of Education Meeting at Hollywood	Tuesday, March 16 at 7:30 pm
St. Patrick's Day Festival	Wednesday, March 17 at 2:00 pm
Science Fair	Thursday, March 18 at 6:00 pm
Spring Break	Monday March 29 to Friday, April 2