

**Springer PTA  
Association Board Meeting  
Tuesday, November 14, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm in the staff lounge. Attendance sheet is attached.

**Call to Order and Welcome**

Kathleen Stukenborg, PTA Co-President, called the meeting to order.

**Student Council Update**

Michelle R., President, and Chloe S., Vice-President, presented the Student Council update. Books for the Gift of Reading program are due by Dec. 1 and will be distributed to needy schools. Friday, Nov. 17, is College Day and popcorn will be sold at lunch. Pajama Day and Stuffed Animal Day are also coming up. Nov. 30 is the next Student Council meeting.

**Principal's Report**

Bob Celeste covered the following topics:

- California Business for Education Excellence – a business group seeking schools to use as models for others; selection based on test scores, other criteria. Selected schools team up with other schools to share ideas. Springer has been selected for the second straight year.
- Measure H – many thanks to the community for supporting this measure
- Parent-Teacher conferences – the staff is preparing for upcoming conferences. This is an opportunity to take stock of where we are and how we are doing by evaluating students on an individual basis and the performance of the school as a whole.
- Step Up to Writing – students are gaining proficiency writing within program guidelines
- Lifeskills – will continue into December with respect for the environment and one another

**Committee Reports**

*Walkathon (Rich Siegel)*

- The awards ceremony will be held on Thursday, Nov. 16
- Money raised so far is approximately \$47,000 with another \$2,000 or so still to be collected
- 429 students out of 465 participated; 16 students walked 100 or more laps
- Students walked 21,677 laps, a distance equal to a trip from San Francisco to Miami and back
- Seven classrooms had 100% participation
- Rich will hand out 269 medals

*Technology (Andrew Towell)*

- The laptop carts have been deployed; the 6<sup>th</sup> grade has completed one project using the carts
- The library computers will be upgraded through the HP Buy program
- The smartboard trial has not been successful; might try another brand of board
- The best way to upgrade the computer labs is still under debate; laptop carts are not entirely compatible with the labs

### **Treasurer's Report**

Tina Klaassen reviewed the treasurer's report for October 2006; this report will be filed for audit. MSC (Karey Gutierrez, Cathy Rosen) to ratify the checks for October.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The October 2006 minutes were approved. MSC (Tina Klaassen, Emi Ishida-Chui) to file the minutes for October 2006.

### **One Liners**

- Judi Hultberg thanked the PTA for the edible treats every month.
- Beth Rubinstein thanked the PTA for making the teachers' wish list available at the walkathon. The teachers really appreciate this and have fun shopping for their classrooms.
- Karey Gutierrez shared that the Plate Night fundraiser was really fun. Over 40 families participated in the activity and over 100 families came to the movie night that followed.

### **Internet Safety Presentation**

Officer Susan Anderson of the Los Altos Police Department presented a very interesting and informative slide show and discussion on internet safety and internet predators. Highlights and important topics for parents and kids include:

- When kids are using email, instant messaging, visiting chat rooms or myspace pages, make sure you know who they are talking to. Ensuring their safety is far more important than respecting their privacy. If they are spending lots of time online, find out what they are doing.
- Kids are very intelligent about technology but not about how others may use it. Officer Anderson stressed over and over again that kids believe what others tell them online even though they may not be telling the truth themselves. They can't believe that an adult would lie to them.
- Implement guidelines for viewing websites (what's okay and what's not), chat rooms (what's the topic and is it monitored?). Use restrictions, blocking/tracking software if necessary and provide supervision. Keep the computer in a high traffic area and out of their bedroom.
- Educate your kids about the internet and what to do if they come across material that is inappropriate or makes them uncomfortable.
- Kids and teens cannot always articulate when they are in trouble or in a situation where they need help. Teach them how to reach out and who they can go to for assistance.
- Never give out personal information. It is very easy to give away information about yourself without even trying.
- Recommended websites: [netsmartz.org](http://netsmartz.org), [zabba.com](http://zabba.com), [trackingtheresa.com](http://trackingtheresa.com)

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Liz Malone  
Secretary