

PTO General Board Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2008

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

Approval of the minutes:

Minutes were approved with no changes.

Introduction of New PTO Executive Board Members:

All new board members gave their names and roles.

Aftercare Director: Ms. Lee introduced herself and encouraged parents to speak with her on issues regarding aftercare.

Montessori Director's Report: Ms. Ellen introduced the lead teachers in the Montessori program.

French Director's Report: Madame Loetitia introduced the French teaching staff.

Principal's Report: Ms. Janice introduced the support staff. She reported a smooth opening of the school year, thanks to good support from the Operations staff. She reported rave reviews for the new broadcast system used to inform parents of school closures during recent storms. She said roof repairs were being made to the Broadway campus with the assistance of FEMA. She welcomed new parents and students.

Athletics Director: Tina Felix talked about Audubon's cross country, girls' volleyball and flag football teams. We are in the Metro sports league, along with other public and private schools.

Arts Reach: Tina Felix reported that Arts Reach started on September. She reported some problems with Mad Science but said they have been resolved and things should go smoothly going forward.

Master Plan: Carlos Zervigon discussed the Facilities Master Plan for Orleans Parish schools. He said the Broadway campus is in Phase I of the renovation plans. Carrollton campus is not scheduled to be renovated and will be returned to public use in 2010. He urged parents to support a plan to move Carrollton students to the Allen campus, currently being used by the Math and Science school when that school moves to a new facility. He invited parents to attend the next public hearing at 5:30 pm at McDonogh 35 on Sept. 18.

FAME Board Parent Rep: Sharon Nossiter, French parent rep, reported on the RSD's proposal to start an Foreign Language/Business High School in the Fall of 2009. She has been attending meetings to get information and Audubon has been invited to join an

Advisory Board to make plans for the school. The school will initially be operated by the Recovery School District but Paul Vallas, Superintendent, wants to have the school chartered in its second year of operation. The school will offer two tracks: an International Baccalaureate and an International Business degree. Edwin Shorty, Montessori parent rep, expressed approval for the plan because it would offer an option for both our French and Montessori students after middle school.

Daughters of the American Revolution, 1776 Chapter – Christine Brennan presented two American flags to the school on behalf of the DAR.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Ryan gave members a copy of this year's budget for review. He reported little activity so far this year.

Rarebird: Leila D'Aquin reminded the group of a survey on the Rarebird handed out at the end of school last year. She said they were working to improve the printing process. She said the paper had gotten off schedule due to the recent storms, but is now back on a weekly schedule.

PTO Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation: Leila D'Aquin said there is a new committee working to update Bylaws and Articles which have not been updated since school became a charter school. She said there is a set of acting bylaws in place for this year and the committee will continue to work on updates.

Fundraising: Lora Carapina and Shelley Kelly introduced themselves and said they are new to the committee so would need parental input and support. They went over their fundraising calendar, highlighting upcoming events including school pictures, Innisbrook gifts, Silver Graphics, Fallfest and Springfest. Fallfest will be November 15 and parent volunteers are still needed.

Room Parents: Laura Garbers said there would be a meeting September 18 after drop off for prospective room parents.

Membership: Christine Brennan urged parents to pay PTO dues, which are \$50 per child or \$75 per family. She passed out envelopes and said a representative would be posted at each exit to collect envelopes after the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm