

# **SSA General Meeting Agenda**

## **Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**

### I. Welcome and Opening Remarks by Co-Presidents - Susie Horowitz and Becky Crump

- a. Executive Board Introductions -- all board members present were introduced
- b. Introduction of Parents present at meeting

### II. Principal's Report

- a. Dr. Stallons gave a report on the teachers' retreat. The SSA had previously approved grant money for a teachers retreat. This year at Spodee there are 13 teachers new to grades 1-3. 20 teachers attended the retreat. The accommodations were a bit rough, with bunk beds and sharing bathroom with the kids but Dr Stallons felt the retreat was a success. Throughout the weekend the teachers engaged in team building activities, both large team and small team events. Activities such as the rope course helped emulate high stakes and stressful situations and allowed the teams to learn to work together. The feed back from the teachers was positive, they enjoyed working together in a fun environment outside of the school setting.
- b. One Open House -- Dr Stallons surveyed the teachers regarding having one Open house as opposed to two. Overall the teachers were pleased with having one. The parents in attendance this evening also felt like one night was better. Dr Stallons may survey additional parents regarding their thoughts on one night versus two.

### III. President's Report

- a. Great Start - New Family/Yahoo/BooHoo

All new family events went great! A big thanks to all for the support and help.

- b. Great American flyer updated school ID is 3146214, orders are due 9/20. No prizes will be given this year. However, the class with the most sales wins the opportunity to pick the charity this year. Great American will match 3% of the profits this year to give to the charity of choice. Three charities have been chosen. They will be highlighted during the morning announcements. Stand strong bracelets will go out as a reminder to order from the flyer. You can order anytime online or submit the form back to school by 9/20. However, the online school store is open all year!! We get between 40% and 50% on everything except a few of the personal items.

- c. Mum orders are due 9/12.
- d. Tutti Frutti Fundraiser 9/13, this is the first first restaurant fundraiser 20 % of sales will go to Spoede. Tutti Frutti is located at 7708 Delmar Blvd, by Deweys Pizza and the hours will be from 3 pm till 11 pm.
- e. Spring Soiree is February 22, A downtown location has been donated and selected as the venue. The volunteer website is up and running for volunteers that have signed up to help with the Soiree. You can sign up on line, submit ideas, etc. After an initial period of time the website will then be listed in the Gazette to invite anyone to volunteer and sign up for the remaining duties.
- f. Creve Coeur Days Foundation - This is a grant program run by Creve Coeur. Spoede was contacted and invited to present 2 grant ideas. We are soliciting funding for both the garden and the family projects.
- g. Ladue Education Foundation Breakfast will be held on October 15, 7:30 -9:00 at the Frontenac Hilton. This is the 7th annual breakfast, the guest speaker will be Dr. Donna Janke. Additionally, the Ladue Education Foundation 5K will be held October 5, homecoming weekend.
- h. There are currently 2 SSA grant requests that have been submitted to the Executive Board<sup>1</sup>: 1) \$225 from ESL for snacks and 2) There are 3 upcoming Love and Logic seminars this group has requested \$250 so that they may provide babysitting for attendees.

#### VI. Kathie Dolan

Student Wellness- reminder to pack healthy snacks for your children

Junior Achievement- this program is for parents to participate in teaching, this program will start in the Fall.

#### V. Vice Presidents' Report

##### a. Past Events

- i. Ice Cream Social - Tutti Fruiti provided the yogurt this year. They were great to work with. 600 cups were provided, however, as always, we still ran out. The student supply drop off always works well during this event; however, the yogurt serving part of the event is crazy. Potential idea of surveying parents as to what they want to see from that evening, in lieu of yogurt.

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<sup>1</sup> Grants under \$500 may be decided by the Executive Board.

- ii. New Family Program - 3 play-dates were held at the park throughout the summer. We need additional mentors for this program.
- iii. School Pictures- went great, no major problems, retakes October 24. But you can order on-line at anytime. \$1100 made for SSA last year. This is a fundraiser! SSA earns 20% of picture profit.

b. Upcoming Events

i. Buzz Book Disbursement: The Buzz Books should be in Friday folders next Friday. Mr Bolen is helping supply the kids' artwork for the book.

ii. Fall Family Fun Day, Sunday Oct 6, Theiss Farm, baskets from each grade will be auctioned, teachers names have been submitted for "kiss the mystery animal".

c. Ongoing Activities

i. Outdoor Learning Center --On Mondays every grade level goes to the garden once a month. Winter crops are being planted this year. Currently they are working on pollinators right now for the bugs. A request was made for the teachers to give garden times to the parents so the parents can come during these times.

d. Room Parents Sign Ups-- Still need party coordinators and Treasurers for each class. September 24 at 7pm room parent informational meeting in the Library.

e. Rockshop hours 8:40 am -8:55 am k-1 in the first graders hallway. Outside the cafeteria at lunch time for 2nd-4th graders. Open every Friday except Early Release days.

f. Spirit Wear link on the SSA website and on the Gazette, Strawberry Stitch makes the spirit wear. They plan on setting up a booth at some of the upcoming events.

g. Grocery Rewards - Dierbergs cards we make 5%from these gift cards. We have had 70 new families sign up for the Schnucks program which gives 3% back to Spoede. This year we are able to do standing orders for gift cards. Also, remember to designate your Target RedCard to Spoede. There are only 23 families that are currently enrolled in the

Target program, however, we received \$700 from this program alone last year.

- h. We are in need of a School Picnic Chair. This event is held in May at the end of the year and is always well attended.
- i. We are in need of a Plant Sale Chair. This sale is also in May.
- j. Wish List -- trying to get a link in the SSA Gazette to the wish list for the teachers.
- k. Book Fair is March 7th. A request was made to Dr Stallons to move this date to the conference date. The Fair ran during the conferences last year and it worked great. We had a lot of traffic and therefore great sales.

#### VI. Treasurers' Report

- a. SSA Dues exceeded the goal for this year, 201 families \$4676.99
- b. Dierbergs \$115 collected from Script program
- c. Schnucks \$125 for August from the Script program
- d. Box Tops --send them in!!
- e. Approval of Budget, budge was approved!

#### VII. Secretary's Report

- a. Courtney Buxner and Lisa Goebel, both new members of the board.
- b. Turtle tribute- Spoede turtle tribute fund is a special way to celebrate a special event, available all day any time just contact Lisa Goebel.

#### VII. Parent-District Council Report

- a. Lolita/Lisa August 29, PDC (parent district council) Superintendent runs the counsel meetings and provides a report on what is going on in the district. Last meeting they spoke about adding TAs throughout the district. There are 36 new teachers, 25 administrators total, total number of transfer students to the district was 87 and they are not expecting anymore. Spoede got 14 students total. There were no transfer students taken in fourth because all classes are at split levels. All splits occurred before the transfer students were taken. Spoede is getting TAs in the fourth grade, how many and when is yet to be determined.

Nov 12, is next general meeting same time same place!