Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. with a motion made by Kathleen Ortt, seconded by Michelle Bias.

Attendees:
Kris Jensen, President; Janet Rodriguez, Vice President; Heidi Latham, Principal; Michelle Bias, Treasurer; Rochelle Courtney, Secretary; Kay O’Sullivan, Teacher Representative; Christine Wiott, Eva Ramee, Theresa Ryan, Natale Mogenson, Janet Thede, Tonya Lovelace, Christina Koethe.

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes were approved as is with a motion made by Christine Wiott, seconded by Kay O’Sullivan, all in favor.

President’s Report – Kris Jensen
- Survey Results will be broken down by committee in discussion. (A full summary of the survey results are available online at the Algonkian PTA website.)
- Kris said she is refreshed after a long break over the holidays and is looking forward to the new year.

Treasurer’s Report – Michelle Bias
- Checkbook balance: $33,188.94
  - Large items paid: Holiday Bazaar expenses $ 1,168
    Scholastic (Book Fair) $ 2,326
    Algonkian ES (Book Fair) $ 1,186
  - Large deposits: Holiday Bazaar proceeds $ 2,562
    Book Fair proceeds $ 3,513
  - Upcoming expenses: Holiday Bazaar – Santa’s Shop Assembly 1/14
  - Upcoming income: Bingo Mimi’s

Vice President’s Report – Janet Rodriguez
- Janet had nothing to report.

Secretary’s Report – Rochelle Courtney
- Rochelle had nothing to report.

Principal’s Report – Heidi Latham
- Ms. Latham reiterated that the two week break was great and that the staff came back to school well rested, the kids appeared to be eager to return to school, and the parents were ready for them to go back to school!
- Snow days are still possible!
- Ms. Latham passed around several thank yous for the treats at the monthly staff meetings – healthy snacks are greatly appreciated.
- She also said that the Holiday Gift Wrapping for teachers and staff was a great hit and very appreciated. Janet Thede and her mom did a wonderful job beautifully wrapping many gifts.
- The Holiday Bazaar was fabulous. It was a different holiday event, very nice event, with a variety of things for people to do: great shopping, the games, and the sing-a-long was very popular.
• This lead Ms. Latham to emphasize what a wonderful, gifted music teacher we have. Allison Pearson worked very hard to produce the sing-a-long. We should ask Allison for her comments on what she would do differently for a sing-a-long next year.

• At the February 2nd PTA meeting the leadership team from the staff will do a presentation on RtI (Response to Intervention). The presentation will take about 45 minutes and will include information about implementing RtI for 3rd through 5th grade. It will be worth it for parents of 3rd – 5th graders to attend.

• The presentation will cover how RtI has been implemented thus far and what happens when the kids go into BLT time and the data and feedback teachers are getting.

• Second H1N1 shots being given Thursday January 21st. Time to be determined

• Algonkian basketball league for 4th and 5th graders going home this week. League starts next week.

• Spelling bee coming up..

• SOL club starts next week and we need volunteers for the snack time.

• New promethean boards for our school are coming.

• If we need to communicate information to the staff we are to email Kay or Heidi who will in turn send a mass email out.

Teacher Representative – Kay O’Sullivan

• Nothing to report.

Staff Relations Committee – Eva Ramee

• We need a snack idea for this Thursday’s staff meeting. Ms. Latham suggested popcorn.

• On December 16th, the Staff Relations committee offered a sandwich luncheon for teachers and staff. Cindy Shruell coordinated the making of wraps that morning with the help of Eva and a little help from Rochelle.

• The staff wishlist was published to the website a little late. A few wishlists were published before Christmas. We want to keep the lists coming from the teachers. There was some discussion whether or not we should continue keeping a notebook in the office with the wishlists. People still want the notebook. Also, Ms. Latham saw no problem with having the teacher’s birthdate on the wishlist form.

• Staff Luncheon will be February 10th.

• The Holiday Gift Wrapping was a HUGE success. 13 staff participated and those who used the service brought a lot of items to be wrapped. There was no limit to the number of gifts a staff member could have wrapped. Janet had to run out and get more supplies and she and her mother stayed until 4 p.m. to finish. Thanks to Janet and her mother!

Social Committee -

• The Holiday Bazaar was really nice and went very well. The number of staff that participated was really appreciated. The snowy morning set the perfect backdrop. The event was very well attended.

• Santa was wonderful, even if he didn’t bring Rochelle a horse for Christmas.

• BINGO! January 22nd. This Bingo will be pajama-themed. Wear your pj’s to school that day and then wear them to bingo. Staff participation is requested. Also, Katy DeCarli and Meg Tuma are trying to come up with some type of participation contest – perhaps class based.

• Bobcat Family Fun Night will be Friday February 5th. This event is co-chaired by Christine Wiott and Christina Koethe.
  o There will be a chili cook-off, hot dogs.
  o It will be a fun, simple event with P.E. type games.
  o The staff will judge the cook-off.
  o There will be a bake sale.
  o We will have a room where people can play board games.

• Kris mentioned that the survey results showed no negative responses for our social events thusfar. The only comment was that Donuts for Dads felt rushed and could it start at 7 a.m. next year?

Parent/Community Relations –

• Kathleen Ortt needs parent volunteers for the SOL Club snacks after school from 2:45 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. She really needs two volunteers to get the kids to their classes after the snack.
• Algonkian Dad’s Club starts Monday! Craig Melton and Scott Courtney are our first dads to volunteer. Sign up is on Google Calendar – VERY EASY TO USE. We need to encourage dads to sign up.
• A few people expressed concern that their husbands would not be able to sign up online. If they are unable to use Google Calendar they can call Craig Melton.
• Survey results showed that the PTA Newsletter is an important information tool, but the website was not widely used. We will put an article in the newsletter encouraging the use of the website.

Educational/Cultural Affairs
• The December LEAP meeting focused on the STEM – Science Technology Engineering and Math program.
• Spring ASAP brochure will be coming out. The price has been raised $5 to $35. Pay will increase to $200 for teachers. We would like to get more Algonkian teachers to teach ASAP classes.
• The Book Fair went very well and all proceeds will go directly back to the library. The book fair was open during the Holiday Bazaar and it was “gangbusters”. We will get numbers from the librarian, Kori Paull, to see how the success compared to past book fairs.
• At the book fair there was a donation box “One for Books” where you could donate your change and Scholastic matched donations.
• Theresa Ryan said that four families received special books that were set aside from the donations.

Fundraising
• Natale Mogenson shared that Mimi’s Restaurant night receipts are not in yet but the restaurant managers said that it was a very busy night for them.
• Tuesday, January 12th is Carmine’s Restaurant Night. Mention that you are with Algonkian.
• February 1st is a student holiday – there will be a Chuck E. Cheese day from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Friday, January 29th Chuck E. Cheese will come visit at school.
• Box Tops: There has been a lot going on with Restaurant Nights so Natale has not been concentrating as much on Box Tops. There will be a Box Top contest coming up and the winner will get to call some games of Bingo.
• February 18th at 9:30 a.m. at the school is the fundraising meeting for next year. It looks like we will be replacing Sally Foster with another wrapping paper/gifts vendor.
• The survey results indicated that Sally Foster was not favored, and issues with the walk-a-thon were mentioned. All those issues have been dealt with, including sending a “bill” to collect pledges. Also, Kris emphasized that we did a lot of fundraisers close together on purpose to give people options of how they wanted to participate.

New Business
• Theresa Ryan needs to order stress balls. They should cost around $1 a piece. They will be paid for with instructional equipment funds.
• Tonya Lovelace said she would check at work to see if there are any stress balls that the company is not using as giveaways.
• Two different Teacher of the Year awards were discussed. One is sponsored by Shenandoah University and the other is the more prestigious Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award. Natale Mogenson feels that we it would be really great for one of our teachers to win the Agnes Meyer award. She shared that it does require a bit of work.
• Theresa Ryan needs boxes to hold the food donations for the Souper Bowl.

Michelle Bias motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Janet Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted, this 2nd day of February, 2010.

Rochelle R. Courtney
P.T.A. Secretary