

## PTO Meeting Notes – 09/14/09

**In attendance:** *JFK:* Tangular Irby (Principal); Kimberly Wood (Vice Principal), Mrs. Novak (Social Worker), Susan Schreiber (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher), **PTO Board:** Deb Goldberg (President), Coretta Sears (Vice President), Judy Stickels (Secretary), Peggy Noponen (School Store), Genevieve Lattimer (Read-a-Mania), Anjaneé Wright (Membership), **Parents/FamilyMembers:** Jacqueline Alexander, Raymond King, Marcie Wilson, Fiona Conliffe, Carmen Blake, Louise Murray, Chanda Cato, John Murray, Jacqueline Simpson, Valerie Moses, Lacy Lopez, Carol Reid, Patrice Jones

### **Introductions**

### **Minutes approved**

### **President Update (D. Goldberg)**

- Would like to set **PTO goals** for this year. If we can accomplish one or two things, what would they be? (i.e. Sign in the front of building or buying books for students who can't afford them at home.)
- **Price Chopper and Stop and Shop programs** for school.

### **Principal Update: (T. Irby)**

- **Paws for a Cause** – Matianuck Molly. Windsor Education Foundation - Fund Raiser. Different businesses to sponsor a dog. Administrators of schools got together and purchased a dog and gave it to the high school students to design it. Molly is touring all the schools. There will be an auction. Time and place will be announced.
- **Early Dismissal 9/15** for Professional Learning day for teachers
- **Open House 9/21** 6-7:30 JFK won't be providing a meal for our families this year due to budget cuts, but light refreshments will be served in the FRC.
- **Family Fitness Night** sometime in October – date to come
- **Child care** – confirmed that it will be provided at every meeting
- **Elementary Task Force** – Flyer went home with children's packets. Looking at things like configuring elementary schools differently. Not because people are leaving town, it's because enrollment is lower. If you can make any of the meetings, that would be appreciated. Next meeting Sept 30<sup>th</sup> at Sage Park. Childcare provided. Meetings also Oct 28<sup>th</sup> and Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Kennedy Constitution** – Have been working with kids in terms of the Kennedy Constitution. Showing responsibility/respect, in classroom, hallway, etc. Ms. Irby really noticed that it was making a difference after President Obama's speech. All the children were politely clapping. Also includes bus behavior. Posters are hanging everywhere in the school.
- **Enrollment** – numbers continue to change. Approximately 330 since school opened.
- **Picture Day** - October 5th
- **Q.** Can picture quality be better? (Irby) We can look at different companies if we hear that there are many problems.

### **Vice Principal Update (K. Wood)**

- October 2<sup>nd</sup> next issue for the school newsletter. Distribute monthly.

### **Cultural (S. Bell) – Not present**

- Town-wide cultural event scheduled in October (Steel Drum- October 16<sup>th</sup>)

**Publicity/Newsletter (Judy Stickels)**

- Genevieve brought RW PTO newsletter as an example
- Judy Stickels will take Publicity Committee with help from Fiona Conliffe.  
(Action: Email old issue of PTO newsletter to Judy. Responsible: T. Irby)

**Treasurer's Update: (M. Thomas) – Not present**

- No update

**Box Tops - (Committee Chair needed)**

- Charlene Lambert taking responsibility

**School Store – (P. Noponen)**

- **Opening 9/15** every Tuesday. Looking for volunteers 11:30–1:15.
- Highest priced item is \$4. Students can't bring more than \$10.
- T-Shirts \$7 - Hoodies \$12 – Variety of sizes
- Will be open during 9/21 Open House

**Library (Committee Chair needed) - Deb Goldberg filling in**

- \$84 with Scholastic to spend by end of Nov or we lose it.
- **Bookfair** is in October – need volunteers, especially during the day

**Ways & Means (S. Gudrian) – not present (Deb Goldberg update)**

- **Annual fundraiser** – packet will be going home to all students this week. This is the only fundraiser Sandi will be able to do. Need Committee Chair.

**Read-A-Mania – (G. Lattimer)**

- **Recap of Read-a-Mania** – Reading program to encourage kids to read for pleasure outside of school. Send home calendars every month. Kids check off days they read for pleasure. If they meet the monthly requirement they receive individual prize and one classroom also receives a prize based on formula for most readers. Would welcome input putting together individual prizes (i.e. extra recess or hat day).
- **Classroom prize** is a guest reader one day a month. If anyone knows of a guest reader, or would like to be a guest reader, please let me know.
- **Bulletin board in hallway** – someone to help with that would be great. Coming in once a month to update the percentages would be helpful.
- **Starts in October** – calendars will go out in next 2 weeks.
- Anjaneé Wright volunteered to be a guest reader for one month.

**Membership – (A. Wright)**

- Thanks to everyone here attending.
- **Membership** is to increase involvement in the PTO. Thinking of new ways to get people to come in. Many parents come in to pay dues but can't attend meetings. The dues are a family contribution to the PTO budget that pays for things like the 5<sup>th</sup> grade field trip, other student field trips, guest readers, town wide cultural events, ice cream social, etc. Money goes right back into the school and the students.
- Have gotten a few memberships back.
- Will have 2 tables at PTO.

- **Membership for PTO** will be \$8. Includes a recycle bag. Bags can be purchased for \$3 or 2/\$5. Bags are recycle bags generic to the Windsor school system. Will be available for sale at open house.
- Things to go into bag – PTO positions, Trifold on PTO, Membership Form, PTO Newsletter??

**General Topics (All)**

- What topics are parents interested in? If there are topics you would like to have discussed at PTO meetings, send note to Deb Goldberg or Tangular Irby.
- Parent concerned about H1N1 and any steps the school might be taking toward prevention of a spread. A parent expressed concern of children drinking from the water fountains. At this point we have no reason to be concerned, but if you are it was suggested that children bring in a water bottle from home. Tangular will follow up to make sure that students are permitted to use them in class. At Roger Wolcott, parents have been asked to send in Purell, antibacterial wipes and tissues, for their classrooms.

**NEXT PTO MEETING: October 19<sup>th</sup>**