

PTO Meeting Notes – 12/21/09

In attendance: Tangular Irby, Kimberly Wood, Melissa Johnston, Kathy Richards, Jenifer Phelps, Deb Goldberg, Judy Stickels, Genevieve Lattimer, Tanya Fleeting, Jacqueline Alexander

Introductions

Minutes from November meeting approved

President Update (Deb Goldberg)

- Great participation last month at meeting. Great to see so many new faces here. Still actively looking to close some gaps we have and address fundraising.

Principal Update (Tangular Irby)

- Thanks to all who attended
- Reminder: Kids need to be bundled up this time of year.
- **Student of Month Assembly today.** Leadership and movement team did a great skit about being respectful and responsible. Kids organized the entire program.
- **March CMTs.** Information will be going out to parents as soon as possible.
- **Elementary Task Force.** Last meeting for public forum held. Meetings are public so anyone can come and listen to discussion. One definite result is people want full day kindergarten.
- Volunteering/Room parents.

Vice Principal (Kim Woods)

- Newsletter going home tomorrow. May be bi-monthly. Next one will come out before school vacation in February.

Teacher Update

- Question about Room parents. Only 4 have official room parents. Many parents volunteer. In the past PTO has taken care of communicating request for room parent volunteers. It's on the PTO membership form to sign up. Jennifer suggested a form go out that says "can you give 3 hours of your time".
- 2 major celebrations are holidays and end of year. Leveling books in classroom is a project parents could help with. Possibly taking them home.
- **Membership list to Genevieve so she can put together a list of members who are willing to volunteer.**

President's Report (Deb Goldberg)

- Peggy had surgery. Looking for someone to take over school store on Tuesdays for a couple hours. Arrive 11:30 ... 1st group comes at 12:00. Commitment until 1:00. **Ms. Woods will ask Mrs. Roebelin to follow up with Lacey Lopez.** Genevieve will also volunteer for one week.
- We are in need of a treasurer.
- Task force. Preparing to present recommendation to BOE in Feb.
- PTO/PTA Meeting with Dr. Feser was beginning of month. Good meeting. Budget time again. Trying to get Dr. Feser to come speak with us about the budget. Learned that our BOE representative (for JFK) is Cristina Santos. Poquonock PTO talked about Sage Park had a police officer come and speak to them about bullying. He talked a lot about

signs they see in children in elementary school. Deb will see if he can come speak in March at our PTO.

- Poquonock also does weekly emails to everyone. They are using a yahoo account. Virtual backpack ... set up on website. You can click on that and get anything that's happening.

Treasurer's Update (Deb Goldberg acting)

- Committee chairs are going to have to help with categorizing deposits and checks to Deb.
 - Check with Stephanie on bus expenses for last year (Field Trip category)
- A lot of discrepancies in the budget. Deb will do some research.
- Read-a-mania won't be \$100 as budgeted. They are doing rewards that don't cost anything
- Membership. People forget. Resend membership application form out. **DG – Give form to TI to distribute to staff.**

Ways & Means - (Sandi Gudrian not present)

- Family Game night ... possibly March
- Peggy was going to call Friendly's **Deb check with Peggy**
- Villari's – **Judy will set up**
- Bart's night. **Genevieve will set up.**
- Barnes & Noble – Enfield. **Deb will contact.** Maybe January.

Box Tops - (Nancy Farooque)

- Nancy Farooque will be taking over box tops
- Expecting a check for \$400+

School Store – (Peggy Noponen)

- Peggy is going to be out through end of Jan. Need volunteer for school store. (see notes under President update)

Publicity - (Judy Stickels)

- No newsletter published in December due to lack of content. Hoping to publish in January.

Read-A-Mania - (Genevieve Lattimer)

- Participation Oct 31% Nov 41%. Mrs. Schreiber was the highest class.
- Teachers suggested: Mr. Potter can do something ... Free recess ... No homework night
- What is obstacle. Is it the calendar?

Library – (Deb Goldberg acting)

- Spring book fair is changing to Apr 12-16th. Night would be the 15th. Buy one/get one.
- Question: In the past the PTO has given \$25 for buy one/get one book fair for each classroom. Wasn't necessarily for book fair but for anything. Teachers would get \$25 per classroom.
- Book fair at Roger Wolcott was a breakfast event and they promoted that grandparents come in. Increased sales by 25%. Called it bagels/books & browsing and told students to "bring someone special".

Membership – (Anjanée Wright)

- No update

Hospitality – (Tanya Fleeting)

- No update

Music Liason – (Deb Sales)

- No update

5th Grade Rep – (Open)

- No update

Cultural – (Charlene Lambert acting)

- No update

Family Resource Center (Jennifer Phelps)

- Breakfast with kids and Principal/Vice Principal starting in Jan.
- Family Fitness Night ... didn't have a lot of parents, but those who attended had fun. Possibly combine with Clover to do a joint event.
- Would also like to help out with game night. March – not 24/25/26.
- Suggestion for raising funds: Organization that sends flyer to all people in school asking for donations of clothes/toys ... things to get rid of. They will weigh the stuff and pay you. Jennifer will get that information and pass it on to Debbie. Coordination would be the difficult thing.

Miscellaneous Discussion Topics

- Lining up people to speak for meetings next year.
 - Internet safety. Jan (moving to another date)
 - Mrs. Bress – Feb
 - Captain Kearse on bullying - Mar
 - Dr. Feser or Panel of parents (previous 5th graders who are now in 6th grade) - Apr
 - Summer reading - May

Next Meeting: January 11th – 6:30pm
