

PES PTO MEETING

Tuesday, December 6th

7:00 PM

Attendance: Marisa Amara, Emanuela Beshi, Christina DaCunha, Linda Hocking, Michelle Manaru, Liz McConnon, Stefanie Schimenti , Kasey Schneider, Jen Snyder, Kellie Sood, Jill Wiebke, Cynthia Winer

Room Parent Attendance: Mrs. Moffa –N/A; Mrs. Musante –N/A; Mrs. Walters(Passarelli) – N/A; Mrs. Leary – Jill Wiebke; Mrs. Carta(Macharelli)- N/A; Mrs. Kamide- Emanuela Beshi; Mrs. Blake – N/A; Mrs. Fein – Kellie Sood; Mrs. Kean – N/A; Mrs. Haddad-N/A; Mrs. Pokrywka – Kasey Schneider; Mrs. Rosa –; Mrs. Corbin –; Mrs. Matthews- Kellie Sood – N/A; Mrs. Scalora – Karen O’Leary; Mr. Battaglia – Kelly Sood ; Mr. Ciccone – Christina DaCunha; Mrs. Spencer – N/A

Start Time: 7:05 PM

Teacher Representative Report: Mrs. Rosa

- Mrs. Mastropietro (LIBRARY) needs assistance on Tuesday mornings to assist with check out.
- Still feeling out teachers for date on Tip-A-Teacher
- Sounds like teachers are on board for Teacher Experiences for the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Principal’s Report:

- Thank you for the Planetarium – it was excellent and all of the kids really loved it.
- Thank you for the new projector that was purchased with a grant.
- Report cards will be going out next week
- Pearl project will also be finishing up and Danielle Slawitchek (volunteer of the year) will be presenting
- After winter break, focus will be on PES Pearls – looking for the kids pearls.

Treasurer Report:

- For the month of November, we ended positive with \$4,099 in net proceeds. This is a result of the Book Fair and the Fall Fundraiser close out of the online donations.
- The Book Fair took in \$1,981 which is slightly higher than what we forecasted (forecast was \$1,600). From a year to year compare, we earned less than last year by about \$300. This is mainly due to less enrollment in current year.
- The Fall Fundraiser on-line sales receipts amounted to \$2,500. Total Fall Fundraiser donations total \$5,432, which is higher than what we forecasted (forecast was \$5,000). From a year to year compare, we received less donations by about \$350, also due to less enrollment.
- On a year to date basis, we are still positive, with \$6,543 in net proceeds. Again, this is a result of the Eagle Sign, Book Fair and Fall Fundraiser - offset by many smaller items.
- We still have many larger events to go for the year, such as Teacher Grants and more Cultural Enrichment (expenditures) and DUTS, Holiday Bazaar, Plant Sale, and Tip-A-Teacher - as well as our Box Tops receipt.

President’s Report:

- The next Board of Education meeting is 12/12 and they will be discussing the new middle school model going forward. Details not finalized but discussions in the works about adding back in

Health and giving guidance to 6th graders. If you have an almost middle school, child you should consider attending the meeting.

- There is a new tab on the Region 15 website that will continually be updated in regards to the enrollment/space study.
- For people on Twitter, it's suggested you follow Region 15, Mrs. Forish etc.

Committee Reports-

Movie Night – Next movie night will be January 6th – Save the Date. 6:30. Kids are voting in school. Kim Cunningham has agreed to chair the movie night.

Stop and Shop/A+: We received about 40 new numbers during the challenge. The winners were drawn for the \$25 Amazon Gift card and they were:

Gabriella Guerra
Sam and Miles Montello
Justin Gregluoli
Zachary Kellogg

Cultural Enrichment: The feedback was very positive from all the kids on the Sky Dome. They showed, planets, talked about the stars and constellations and kept the kids very engaged. On December 14, the visiting artist is coming to school to discuss the copper tree idea and anyone who is interested is more than welcome to attend.

An a cappella group will be coming in January.

Square 1 Art: Products will arrive December 15th and are scheduled to be sent home with the students on the 16th. If you'd still like to order, you can but you will have to pay shipping.

After School Enrichment – Looking to start in January on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Board of Education Meeting Recap:

- Mrs. Botsford spoke about the Veterans Day ceremonies in all of the schools and how worthwhile and wonderful they were. The general consensus was that a day celebrating guests and honoring them was much better than a day off.
- John Romeo, the principal at Gainfield did his overview highlighting their TRACKS program which is the equivalent of our STAR program
- Finance committee - special education is driving up costs due to unexpected exposure
- Some discussion of school start times that will tie in with the enrollment study.

Grants: The PTO has dispersed \$2400 of grant monies for:

- New overhead projector
- Non-fiction text books
- Games to enhance counseling sessions (Mrs. Clifford)
- Cutting boards, tambourines, and neoprene scraps (Mrs. Bronson)
- Educational Technology Starter Bundle (enhances STEM skills)

There were 2 requests for SMART Boards for Special Education at \$3700 each. We are looking for a grant to assist with this purchase.

Possible grant to replace playground equipment that continually goes missing. Add \$200 into our budget to replace equipment in Spring and Fall. Christine Martino will chair and also find out if we have donations etc.

Family Fun – Hockey Night: 30-40 people were there from PES and the kids had fun. Looking for other ideas for Spring, maybe a restaurant night or Bounce (in Danbury).

Holiday Fair - December 9th 6-8:30. Kids shopping, wrapping station, bake sale. Please bring in baked goods before 3:30. There will also be a card writing station where kids can make 2 cards for \$1.

Tip-A-Teacher - Possibly a Wednesday night beginning of February (Feb. 1) – Fifties themed.

Library - Process of a potential Library makeover. Marisa Amara who is working with Mrs. Bronson and Mrs. Mastropietro was able to give highlights of what is being discussed. The idea is to better support 21st century learning by changing the function of the space and bring in new technology. This is a long term plan that would be broken into phases. There will be a detailed presentation at the next PTO meeting.

Open Committees: Merchandise, Amazon Smile/Free Money Programs, Square 1 Art, Holiday Fair

Key Dates to Remember:

Half Day – December 9th

Holiday Fair – 12/9 6PM

Board of Ed Meeting – 12/12

School Spirit Day – 12/13 PB&J collection

Movie Night – 1/6 – 6:30 PM

Next PTO Meeting – January 10th 9:30

Raffle Winners:

Christina DaCunha – Lunch with Mrs. Forish

Cynthia Winer – Dunkin Donuts gift card