

**PES PTO Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, December 13, 2011

**Attendance:** Jen Parrella, Jean-Marie Hudson, Karen O'Leary, Leslie Draheim, Heather Johnson, Laura Legg, Cathy Winter, David Zilkha, Amanda Cloud, Christine Koobatian, Mauneen Kania, Hollie Ward, Jen Nikolich, Christine DaCunha, Beth Rosen, Tara Carter (16)

**Classroom Representatives:** Ms King AM, Ms Kamide, Ms J Kloss, Ms K Kloss, Ms Macharelli, Ms Broden, Ms Tyler, Ms Conner, Ms Haddad, Ms MacCallum, Ms Matthews, Ms Musante

**Start time:** 7:05 PM

**President's Report (Cathy Winter)**

- ❖ Cathy Winter welcomed everyone.
- ❖ Thank you everyone for all that you do to help support the PTO throughout the year. It's wonderful to see so many faces here tonight.

**Teacher's Representative Report (Cathy Winter for Carolyn Matthews)**

- ❖ Thank you to Tara Carter and Karen O'Leary for all their help with a successful author visit from Kate Klise. Author Kate Klise visited PES November 15th. She signed purchased books and gave an insightful presentation to all classes.
- ❖ Thank you to the Grant Committee for the books that they approved for the Library collection. The children will most definitely enjoy them!!
- ❖ The teachers thank the PTO for the grants received this year, teachers are very excited!
- ❖ Thank you for encouraging teachers and staff to wrap at the holiday shopping night. The teachers/staff that were able to make it had a great time. It was much fun to see the kids out shopping for their loved ones.
- ❖ Teachers say their classes greatly enjoyed the Kate Klise author visit and the Cultural Arts "Food" program.
- ❖ From Mrs. Bronson – a reminder about the dress rehearsal for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade chorus – Jan 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at PHS and the concert on Jan 17<sup>th</sup> (warm-ups begin at 6:40 at PHS).

**Principal's Report (Theresa Forish)**

- ❖ Please see the December PES Principal's Newsletter sent December 20<sup>th</sup> – which includes information about our behavioral support program and star student approach. The newsletters explains PES's 'logical consequences' approach to misbehavior. Children have been positively responding to this new approach and we've seen a large difference in behavior from a year ago. There are still some punitive consequences, but more logical and constructive consequences. These consequences are causing students to think about their actions and to not do something just because they are afraid, but because they understand why. This is aligned with the new state mandate to have a safe school climate plan.

**Secretary's Report (Tara Carter)**

- ❖ Please remember to sign in on the PTO Sign-in sheet and Room Parent Sign-in sheet and add your name to the raffle.

**Treasurer's Report (Jen Nikolich)**

- ❖ Please reference the financial sheet behind the agenda.
- ❖ Recent income source includes the book fair and recent expenses include the author visit and food play.

**Vice President's Report (Beth Rosen)**

- ❖ If you chair a committee, we have post mortem forms on the PES PTO website to capture your feedback. Please download a form to fill out.

## Committee Reports

### 1. Holiday Fair

- ❖ This night was a lot of fun for our children. Also, we made over \$1,200 profit this year (vs. \$830 profit last year).
- ❖ Thank you to all those who helped support the Holiday Fair

### 2. Stop & Shop A+ Program

- ❖ PES was doing very well with this program at first, but Memorial has recently pulled ahead of us. We recently solicited about 50 new names over a weekend. If you can give an hour of your time to help solicit names, please speak with Rachel Van Ness (Rachael.VanNess@ct.gov) or Jen Nikolich (Jjnikolich@aol.com).
- ❖ If you registered in the program last year, you must register again this year. Registration can be done online: [http://www.stopandshop.com/our\\_stores/bonus\\_bucks/designate\\_school?execution=e1s1](http://www.stopandshop.com/our_stores/bonus_bucks/designate_school?execution=e1s1) or by contacting Rachel VanNess (Rachael.VanNess@ct.gov).
- ❖ Participation does not cost any money, nor does it affect any Stop & Shop gas points.
- ❖ Family members, relatives, friends, neighbors and acquaintances can sign up for our school as long as they shop at any Stop & Shop. Please urge them to participate. All that we need is their last name and their 13 digit Stop & Shop number (located on the back of their rewards card).
- ❖ For each valid 13-digit card number (with last name) you submit, you'll have a chance to win one of 2 - \$100 Stop & Shop Gift Cards!! We'll draw the winners on March 30, 2012.
- ❖ Over \$2,000 was raised via this program last year. Last year PES ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in New England in terms of money raised via this program. Other schools have raised over \$5,000 via this program.

### 3. Southbury Needy Fund

- ❖ Two years ago Ms. Conner's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class donated their holiday presents to the Southbury Needy Fund. Now, this tradition has spread throughout the entire school. There was an assembly for all students to see the gifts collected. The Southbury Needy Fund says thank you to the PES community for their donations.

### 4. Yearbook

- ❖ There are two differences this year:
  - Orders can be placed online with a credit card
  - Cover personalization will be offered for all grades at an extra \$5 cost per book
- ❖ After the holidays information will come out about ordering books
- ❖ There is a past yearbook in the front office and the library if you would like to review.
- ❖ If you've taken any school pictures, please send them to Donna Went ([describner@yahoo.com](mailto:describner@yahoo.com)). Every effort is made to make sure all children are represented via a candid shot in the yearbook.

### 5. PES Website

- ❖ If you are shopping online, please first look for the store link on the PES website. Clicking through to the store via the PES website donates a percentage of your purchase back to the PES PTO. Many popular stores, such as Amazon, Macys, Sears, Khol's, etc. are present. See <http://www.pespto.org/Prg/fundraisingmall2.cfm?fmcat=5> and search by Merchant Name.

### 6. Spirit Wear

- ❖ There is a nice bulletin board up in the lobby with Spirit Wear items.
- ❖ The final deadline for Spirit Wear is this coming Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ A new vendor is being used this year.
- ❖ Online ordering is also possible via this link:  
[http://colorgraphix.com/stores/display\\_home.php?storecode=pes](http://colorgraphix.com/stores/display_home.php?storecode=pes)
- ❖ Contact Sue Grom with any questions ([gsgrom@charter.net](mailto:gsgrom@charter.net)).

## PTO Open Positions

- ❖ After School Enrichment
- ❖ Family Fun Events
- ❖ Perpetual Fund
- ❖ Rock Cats
- ❖ Grant Finders

**Next month's PTO Meeting**

- ❖ Next month's PTO meeting is Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the PES Cafeteria.

**Key Dates to Remember**

- ❖ 1/9 – Board of Education Meeting, PHS 7:30pm
- ❖ 1/10 – Grades 4 & 5 Concert dress rehearsal, PHS 7pm
- ❖ 1/16 – Martin Luther King Day, No School
- ❖ 1/17 – Grades 4 & 5 Concert, PHS 7pm (6:40 warmups)
- ❖ 1/18 – Snow Date for Grads 4 & 5 Concert

**Raffle Winners:**

- ❖ Lunch with Theresa Forish: Jean-Marie Hudson
- ❖ Dunkin Donuts gift certificate: Mauneen Kania

**End time:** 7:55 PM (approx.)

- ❖ Respectfully submitted by:  
Tara Carter, PTO Recording Secretary