

## PTO MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 6, 2007

ATTENDANCE: Randi Thureson, Lisa Abrams, Joanne Errera, Maureen Callahan, Dawn Wolf, Kerry Mamacalay, Janet Schneider, Eileen Colonese, Alisa Houldcroft, Sharon Lichota, Marina Wright, Karen Kenney, Sandi Girolamo, Cheryl Davis, Stephen Foresi, Marilyn Wilsey

1. Minutes of January meeting accepted

2. ***Treasurer's Report***

Motion to accept the treasurer's report (attached)

We received our commission check from CT School Pictures

Bank balance is just under \$20,000

3. ***Principal's Report: Mr. Foresi***

He welcomed Mr. Stephen Woods, the Board of Education Representative Mr. Bennett from Physical Education would like to purchase and install a rock wall for the gymnasium similar to the one at Anna Reynolds

The cost would be \$3050 plus \$500 for extra rocks and about \$1500 for the installation

We should look into some grants to offset the cost of this project-Dawn Wolf is working with Mr. Bennett to apply for some grants

He thanked the Cultural Arts Committee for a great program with Leeny Delsemonds-everyone really enjoyed it

The Box Tops program is doing well and the money made will be used for a purchase to be determined at a later date

In March the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking the CMTs (March 5-23)

The tests are scheduled in blocks and all testing is done in the morning

This may require some changes to the class schedules to accommodate the testing  
DRP-Degrees of Reading Power and Science will be added in the future

March also brings Parent/Teacher conferences (March 13-15)

If anyone has a conflict with the conference schedule please let him know

He re-introduced Mrs. Wilsey (2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher)

4. ***PTO Secretary Position***

Randi Thureson has volunteered to take over the vacancy; motion made and seconded. Unanimously was voted in

5. ***Ice Cream Social: Alisa Houldcroft***  
February 28<sup>th</sup> at the High School cafeteria  
We are working with Cold Stone Creamery to provide the ice cream  
Asked Karen Kenney to contact the newspapers to come in and take pictures
6. ***4<sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic: Alisa Houldcroft***  
June 8<sup>th</sup>  
Questions as to rain plan for that day  
Mortensen Community Center is booked as a backup plan for rain
7. ***Tile Art Project: Dawn Wolf***  
Dawn reviewed the three proposals that were presented at the last meeting and requested a vote to move ahead with this project  
Janet Schneider indicated she was in favor of proposal B; her motion was seconded.  
It was voted on and proposal B got the majority vote
8. ***Website: Joanne Errera***  
The website should be all set for next month
9. ***NEF: Dawn Wolf***  
NEF is the Newington Education Foundation  
Marina Wright (our PTO member) is on the board of NEF  
Dawn distributed brochures that outlined where the funds are awarded  
Dawn would like us to apply for more of these awards for our cultural arts programs  
The deadline is February 15<sup>th</sup> for Mr. Bennett to apply for a grant for the rock wall which would be reviewed in March for a decision  
Mr. Foresi asked Marina-some staff are wondering why they do not receive some grants when they apply and Marina advised that it could be a number of reasons. She stated that it is very important that the applications be filled out completely and submitted on time by the deadlines. She also indicated that when the board is reviewing the applications they are really looking for something that is going to stand out and have the “WOW” factor  
Marina also said that the board appreciates follow-up by those who do receive the grants by notes or pictures, etc.  
  
The town-wide Spelling Bee will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall and she encouraged participation
10. ***Crop Day***  
The event was cancelled due to lack of response and it seemed like many people may have wanted to attend but had conflicts  
Discussion as to the age at which a child should pay full price to attend-it was decided that 10 and over should pay full price since meals are provided  
Joanne Errera is trying to reschedule the date to May 19<sup>th</sup>

11. ***Pasta Dinner: Eileen Colonese***

March 20<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm

Eileen will be having a separate meeting for those interested in helping

12. ***Spring Book Fair***

March 27-29

Chloe Gonsalves and Heather Servidone will be organizing this event again

13. ***Fundraising: Eileen Colonese***

SCRIP is winding down and she said that she or someone is at school every

Thursday if anyone wants to pick any up

She is concerned as to why people are not buying them and the general feeling is that people don't plan ahead enough to purchase them in advance even though it is for places they would be going anyway

14. ***Parking Issues***

Mr. Foresi was questioned as to why staff members are parking in the front spaces and he indicated that it is simply a matter of not having enough staff spaces in the back in the staff lot.

Mr. Woods said that there are parking issues at all of the schools and the Board of Ed is looking at ways to solve the problems with funding over a ten year period because the parking is just not functional anymore

We have 4 new students this week

Eileen is looking for volunteers to attend a Fundraising Luncheon

Next year the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade will each be down by 1 class

Next meeting will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> and Dr. Perlini will be attending to present the budget

Meeting adjourned and good night