

PTO MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 5, 2007

Attendance: Eileen Colonese, Joy DePaolis, Janet Schneider, Lisa Abrams, Randi Thureson, Maureen Callahan, Marina Wright, Sharon Lichota, Sandi Girolamo, Mr. Foresi, Dawn Wolfe, Ericka Ganley

1. Motion to accept last month's meeting minutes approved

2. CAMERAS

Confirmed that each teacher was given a camera, but not sure about the Memory Cards as they were not part of the initial purchase. The receipts will need to be reviewed.

3. PROFESSIONALS IN RESIDENCE

Mr. Foresi is looking in bringing in Nancy Boyle or someone similar that could serve as an expert in areas like Reading, Writing or Spelling for both teachers and students. They could work in a classroom for each grade level for an hour or so for a week and other teachers would get the opportunity to observe. Mr. Foresi will put together a list of possible candidates.

4. TILE WALL

Sonya Casarotto sent Mr. Foresi credentials for someone who can do the work,. Dawn Wolfe will follow-up.

5. ANNUAL REQUEST FOR LIBRARY

Motion for Annual \$250 for Summer Reading Program passed. Kick-off is Saturday.

6. SPENDING ADDITIONAL FUNDS

Several proposals were discussed.

- The new projectors brought up last month
- Getting different color T-shirts for each grade to be worn on field trips to help make it easier to spot kids belonging to John Paterson. Discussion on whether kids would then get to keep the T-shirts or whether they would be washed and kept at school for the next year's class.
- Shed for PE and Recess Equipment

Agreed to table decision until the fall.

7. MR FORESI'S REPORT

Mr. Foresi said that he was honored to work with such a strong PTO. He applauded accomplishments such as updating bylaws, the successful fundraising and PTO events such as last Friday's picnic which was an outstanding success. He thanked all volunteers for Cultural Arts, Hospitality and all other committees. Tomorrow is the Celebration of Learning from 10 – 11AM. Friday is the 4th Grade picnic and the rescheduled Kindergarten Field Day, which was postponed due to rain.

8. NEXT YEAR'S STAFF CHANGES

There will be a decline in John Paterson enrollment next year. The Kindergarten class is smaller and the 4th grade class larger than other years.

- Kindergarten will be 4 classes. They currently have 5, but Mrs. Triou is retiring, so there will be no changes
- 1st – Will need to add one teacher, no decision yet made on what teacher will move.
- 2nd - Kim Lewis will be leaving to become the new Explore teacher, taking the place of Mrs. Kozak who is retiring.
- 3rd – One teacher will be moving up to 4th
- 4th - Mrs. Lattanzi will be taking 1 year off to spend with her baby and Mrs. Zinn will not be returning, but will get one teacher from Grade 3.
- 2nd and 3rd Grade will have larger class size of 21 – 22 Children

9. STUDENTS FROM HARTFORD

Question was asked as to what is the program that brings in students from Hartford. Mr. Foresi explained that it was Project Choice and families needed to apply and be accepted for this program. The students are then distributed amongst the schools. The district decides on the number, John Paterson has about 6 now.

10. THANK YOU NOTES

Thank-you notes were received from the school secretaries Gina Prange and Paula Bowman and Nurse Breen for the Outback Gift Certificates. Mr. Bennett sent a note thanking the PTO for the funds raised to supplement the grant he received for the Rockwall.

11. BYLAWS

Vote to accept updated Bylaws was passed.

12. OPEN POSITION

Chloe Gonzalves will no longer be able to assist with the Book Fair. Heather Servidone will need someone to assist with this.

13. PTO RENEWAL DUE

Vote to renew membership passed.

14. 4th GRADE YEARBOOK

It was decided to cut back on the number of staff copies. We will purchase for each of the 4th grade teachers and few extra for the Library and Parent Resource Center, etc.

15. 4th GRADE PICNIC T-SHIRT

Paying for the T-shirts has been inconsistent from year to year. It was decided that this should be consistent and that if there is a 4th Grade picnic the PTO will pay for the T-shirts.

16. GARDEN SHOW

Decided on a date of Sept. 11th. It will go on all day and Parents will be able to view at night. It will be coordinated with a PTO night in which parents can come and find out information on the PTO and sign-up to become members.

17. FUNDRAISING EXTRAS

Eileen still has some SCRIPT left and a freezer full of cookie dough. Genevieve's has been booked for next fall.

LAST MEETING UNTIL SEPTEMBER