

**MINUTES OF WOODLAND PTO MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

Prior to the regular PTO Meeting, there was New Parent Orientation, which began at 7:01 PM. At the New Parent Orientation, PTO President Danielle Scala:

- Introduced Jeffrey Heaney, Woodland Principal and Christine Rzasa, Teacher Liaison to the PTO;
- Provided an overview of the PTO and membership, the forms of support provided by the PTO to the Woodland community; encouraged volunteerism; outlined the forms of communication and sources of information from the PTO and the district through eblasts, teacher websites, the PTO website, the school calendar and Woodland directory; and identified events sponsored by the PTO throughout the school year;
- Outlined various school procedures, including morning drop off and visiting Woodland;
- Introduced School Spirit Day; and
- Discussed Simply Gourmet, Back to School Night and the Book Fair.

The New Parent Orientation concluded at 7:25 PM.

PTO AGENDA ITEMS

The PTO meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Danielle Scala.

Welcome (Danielle Scala)

TEACHER LIAISONS (Danielle Scala/Christine Rzasa)

Mrs. Rzasa and Mrs. Brower are the Teacher Liaisons to the PTO and will communicate information between the teachers and the PTO and attend PTO meetings.

PTO MEMBERSHIP AND FUND DRIVE (Danielle Scala)

- The suggested donation is \$25 per student and a \$100 donation provides the opportunity to win a Stonehouse Gift Card. The fund drive will close on October 1, 2015.
- Funds raised through the fund drive support arts programs, technology improvements, playground equipment, speakers, and special days among other things.
- The fund drive provides an important way to support the school community.
- PTO membership is mandatory for certain volunteer positions.

DIRECTORY (Danielle Scala)

A directory will be available with distribution anticipated to be in October. Information in the directory is gathered from data inputted into InfoSnap. Fiona Shanahan won the cover art contest.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES (Danielle Scala)

- Danielle Scala provided an overview of the opportunities to volunteer throughout the school year, including, Homeroom Parent, serving lunch, and volunteering at special events, such as Young Author's Day and Olympics Day.
- The PTO is using Signup Genius (www.signupgenius.com), an online tool, to solicit volunteers or provide sign-up lists for parties.
- Lauren Wishnia is the Liaison between the PTO Board and Committee Chairs. Most events planned for this year have chairs. A chair is still needed for Olympics Day.

SIMPLY GOURMET (Danielle Scala);

- Joanne Dufek is Chair of Simply Gourmet.

- Simply Gourmet schedule: Mondays (Pizza Day); Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Week 1-Friday are Simply Gourmet provided lunches; and Week 2-Friday is Bagel/Smoothie Day where local vendors provide food.
- All ordering is done through the Simply Gourmet website. An order can be changed up to 72 hours in advance.
- Simply Gourmet is a fundraising event to support the Woodland PTO. Volunteers are needed.

SCHOOL SPRIT AND SPIRIT CLOTHING (Danielle Scala)

- Abby Alvez, Danielle Rowell, Rosa Scali and Lauren Wishnia are chairs
- Friday is School Spirit Day and students are encouraged to wear Woodland wear or maroon colored clothing.
- Samples of Woodland School Spirit clothing will be available for display at Back to School Night and orders can be placed at that time as well. The last day to order Woodland clothing items is September 16, 2015. Youth shirts are \$10 and Adult shirts are \$12.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT (PNO) (Danielle Scala)

- Danielle Scala and Melissa Pecoraro-Segeron are chairs.
- The Parents Night Out Fundraiser is February 26, 2016 at the Primavera Restaurant with a four hour open bar, dinner buffet and entertainment provided by the Nerds.
- A discounted ticket price of \$95 is offered to Woodland families. After Back to School Night, ticket sales will be opened up to the general public.

PTO SPONSORED AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS (Danielle Scala)

The PTO sponsored After School Programs (as distinguished from teacher supervised programs) will be Bricks4Kidz and the On the Court X-Perience basketball clinic. These programs are fundraisers to support the activities of the Woodland PTO. Additional information is available on the PTO website.

CULTURAL ARTS (Patti Puglisi)

The PTO funds and coordinates the offering of various programs, assemblies and multicultural events at Woodland. This year's major program will be the presentation of Rachel's Challenge, an Anti-Bullying program, on October 8, 2015. Other possible program themes may relate to the schoolwide theme of the rainforest.

BOOK FAIR (Danielle Scala)

- Danielle Scala, Karen Madura and Lauren Wishnia are Chairs.
- The Book Fair is September 15-17, 2015. The schedule of classroom visits is posted on Signup Genius. The Book Fair will be open on Back to School Night and after school on September 17 for purchases
- Scholastic fundraisers benefit classrooms and the library. Teacher bins containing books that teachers would like donated to their classrooms will be available at the Book Fair for purchase and donation to the classroom.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT (Danielle Scala)

Back to School Night is Wednesday, September 16, 2015. Grade K-2 classroom visits are at 6:30 PM. Grades 3-5 classroom visits are at 7:30 PM. It provides an opportunity to meet teachers, paraprofessionals and Homeroom Parents, and visit Specials' teachers and the Book Fair.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Danielle Scala)

Information on upcoming events may be found on the PTO website.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (Mr. Heaney)

Mr. Heaney addressed the importance of the home-school partnership and encouraged parents to support the PTO financially and through volunteerism. He provided an overview of the 2015-2016 school year, which include(d):

- A pep rally on September 4.
- The themes for the school year based on The One and Only Ivan, a book read by Woodland students, which allows interconnection among the Woodland community through the theme of the rainforest.
- Reviewed efforts to promote and recognize good character and citizenship.
- Highlighted important upcoming events, including the Book Fair, Back to School Night and the presentation of Rachel's Challenge.
- Provided an overview of grade level access to technology.

He reviewed important policies and procedures related to: the role and guidelines for volunteering in school; The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; and Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) regulations.

EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION AND THANK YOU (Danielle Scala)

Appreciation and acknowledgement were given to the committee chairs of the following committees for soliciting volunteers, organizing events and dedicating time, effort and resources:

- Joanne Dufek for Simply Gourmet.
- Danielle Rowell, Rosa Scali and Abby Alvez and Lauren Wishnia for School Spirit.
- Danielle Rowell and Lauren Wishnia for the PTO Bulletin Boards.
- Rosa Krause for the Back to School Luncheon.

APPROVAL OF MAY 19, 2015 MINUTES (Danielle Scala)

On a motion by Lauren Wishnia and seconded by Gina Choi Blekicki, the membership approved the minutes of the May 19, 2015 Woodland PTO Meeting.

Danielle Scala announced that the next PTO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 9:30 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.