

MINUTES OF WOODLAND PTO MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015

The final PTO meeting of the 2014-2015 school year was called to order at 9:29 AM by Danielle Scala.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (Mr. Heaney)

Mr. Heaney:

- Expressed appreciation for a special Teacher Appreciation Week for all the recognition of the teachers through the decorated classroom doors, raffles and food provided by the PTO.
- Expressed appreciation for Science Day. He praised the Chair and volunteers for providing a comprehensive and structured program where students were very engaged and entertained.
- Provided an update of the administering of the PARCC Test. Testing went smoothly and staff resolved any issues. Warren experienced a small number of opt-outs. Fourth Grade students will also take the NJASK Science assessment on May 27. PARCC scores are anticipated to be available in October 2015.
- Outlined other events: Brain Show Assembly and the 1st Annual Teacher/Parent Basketball game are May 20; Fifth Grade Science Fair and Kindergarten Orientation are May 28; Fifth Grade event is June 3, and Field Day is June 5.
- Provided an overview of planning for 2015-2016 school year: outlined key events for the first few days of school including a pep rally to promote school spirit, teamwork, and important character education traits; introduced the One School-One Book initiative (The One and Only Ivan) by Mrs. Zaleski where all students will read the same book over the summer creating a basis for a dialogue among the school community throughout the year; and described changes in grade level teacher assignments and classroom structures.
- Addressed the importance of recognizing positive behavior by students in various ways, such as the Positive Picnic Lunch.
- Congratulated Mrs. Stolfi on receiving the Excellence in Education Award.

TEACHER LIAISON (Danielle Scala)

Danielle Scala conveyed appreciation from the teachers for the Teacher Appreciation Week events and for Science Day.

FIFTH GRADE EVENT (Danielle Scala/Alice Stout)

The event is coordinated by ALT this year. It is scheduled for June 3, 2015 (June 10, 2015 rain date) at Camp Harmony.

FIELD DAY (Danielle Scala)

Field Day, chaired by Gina Choi-Blekicki and Lauren Wishnia, is scheduled for June 5, 2015. The budget was increased due to a reallocation of \$1000 from the Fifth Grade Event that was approved at the February 10, 2015 PTO meeting. Homeroom moms and additional volunteers (maximum of three per class) are required. Refreshment and station assignments will be made at a later date.

SCHOOL SPIRT (Danielle Scala)

Danielle Scala noted that school spirt wear will be ordered in bulk from a vendor in a variety of sizes and would be available for sale at all events. On site purchases are believed to be more successful than online ordering.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Danielle Scala)

- The Brain Show Assembly will be on May 20, 2015.
- The Parent Teacher Basketball Game is May 20, 2015
- Kindergarten Orientation is May 28, 2015
- The Patriots Game is June 5, 2015 and Melissa Pecoraro-Segerson is chair.
- 1st Day of School Supplies must be ordered by June 15, 2015 and \$5 per order will be donated to the Woodland PTO.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 10, 2015 MINUTES (Danielle Scala)

On a motion by Alice Stout and seconded by Karen Madura, the membership approved the minutes of the March 10, 2015 Woodland PTO Meeting.

PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD (Danielle Scala)

Due to the departure of Alice Stout from the PTO Executive Board, Danielle Scala recommended Gina Choi-Blekicki to become the Vice President-Communications. The membership voted to approve this appointment. In addition, Danielle Scala announced the following new Executive Board officers: Karen Madura will coordinate communication with Grade Level Representatives and Homeroom moms; and Lauren Wishnia will serve as Liaison from the Executive Board to all Committee Chairs. Danielle Scala also thanked Alice Stout for her years of service to the Woodland PTO.

2015-2016 PTO BUDGET (Danielle Scala)

Danielle Scala reviewed the 2014-2015 budget and the recommended 2015-2016 budget:

- There will be a Parents Night Out Fundraiser to be held in February 2016 at the Primavera with entertainment to be provided by the Nerds. Danielle Scala and Melissa Pecoraro-Segerson will coordinate the event. A discounted ticket price will be offered to Woodland families and it will be opened up to the general public after Back to School Night.
- The funding for the Fifth Grade event and Yearbook will be set at \$3000. Fifth Grade parents will be asked to support the yearbook with contribution of \$20-25.
- The Cultural Arts funding is set at \$4500. The major programming event is Rachel's Challenge.
- The Dream It-Fund It budget is set at \$4,500. Patti Puglisi suggested a junior achievement program for the Fifth Grade.
- Other budget items highlighted included Woodland Olympics Day and Young Author's Day each with a proposed funding level of \$2,500.
- With respect to Teacher Appreciation Week, it was proposed that the \$400 allocation for the TAW breakfast be adjusted to \$250.

After review and discussion, on a motion from Karen Madura and a second by Melissa Schafhauser, the proposed 2015-2016 budget was approved by the membership.

On a related item, Tanya McAusland noted that the Education Foundation would be providing funding to retrofit portions of libraries to provide more interactive activities.

2015-2016 SOS FORM (Danielle Scala)

Danielle Scala indicated that response has been good and many people have signed up to volunteer, but noted that some committees are in need of chairs.

EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION AND THANK YOU (Danielle Scala)

- Kim Palmeri-Naman and all the volunteers for an exceptional Science Day on April 22, 2015.
- Tanya McAusland and all the volunteers for their hard work in putting together Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Alice Stout, Tracy Leftkowitz and Erica Greene for coordinating Woodland's role in the Fifth Grade Event and all the volunteers.

The meeting adjourned at 10:54 AM.