

## MINUTES OF WOODLAND PTO MEETING

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2020

The PTO meeting was called to order at 9:34 AM by Tricia Patricco.

### MR. HEANEY—

- Thank you for the Scholastic orders. It is a really great way to fill the library and the teachers really appreciate it.
- Thank you for all the help with the first and second grade musical. Mrs. Sutherland and the teachers did a wonderful job.
- Thank you to the PTO for organizing the Sweetheart Dance and for the class parties. The dance and parties will be held next week. The little events are enjoyed by all.
- The Parent/Teacher Volleyball game was fun. There was a lot of participation.
- There was some discussion about not having every game on a Thursday night. Thursdays are good for teachers but not good on a Monday or Tuesday.
- Next events coming up are Young Author's Day and Read Across America Day.
- Regarding new library; everything on our end is complete, but we are at the mercy of the manufacturer waiting on stationary bookshelves and flexible seating. The new library has been transformed into an amazing space. Asked for an SUG to be sent out to parents asking for help to place books and do inventory as well as scan and catalog them. There will be a grand opening planned with an early evening open house for parents.
- Information Dare assembly for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Detective Joe met with students and did a whole lesson on 911. He took the kids out in the hallway and presented different scenarios. Other topics covered were peer pressure, social media and sexting (5<sup>th</sup> grade). He presents these lessons in a good, positive way.
- Thank you to Mrs. Marucci for the Spirit to Overcome assembly to be held on February 18. This will tie into Black History Month.
- The dental assembly will be held on February 21<sup>st</sup>. The raffle this time will be a chance to win free braces for the year.
- Our Changing Climate assembly to be held on April 1<sup>st</sup> which will tie into Earth Day.
- Board meeting to be held on February 24<sup>th</sup> where expressive readers will be reading their chosen pieces.
- March events--March 19<sup>th</sup> is the annual parent/teacher basketball game. Food truck has been booked; K and 3 child abuse prevention program, Somerset Co. to come and talk to the kids. This is required by the county. March 27<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> is the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade musical.

- Field Day—Mr. T met with the field day reps. He has brought a lot to the school and has some great ideas. Planning for this to be a full day as the kids really enjoy it. PTO would like to support him and try to get him everything he needs to make this successful.
- Olympic Day—Assigned every homeroom a different country. Created a flag to pin onto the kids' shirts. Easy flags for the younger grades, harder flags for the older grades. Kids will assemble in the gym and make a fake torch and pass it around. Past activities included relay races, creation of own sports card, demonstration fencing (fencing school in Stirling), Special Olympics videos of people with disabilities and how they persevered, special celebration with the host country (this year is Japan), scavenger hunt in the library and classrooms on computers, closing ceremony where the kids got medals and wrote on a piece of paper one word that they enjoyed about the day. There was a 25 to 30 min. window of time for each activity, during lunch a ping pong table was brought in and teachers played against each other, this year maybe we can get a professional ping pong player.
- Next year will be Science Day/Earth Day.
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade report cards will be coming within the week.

**MRS. MCGRATH**—Read Across America Day; we have a committee of teachers and we need the PTOs financial support. A lot has been planned; 5<sup>th</sup> grade to make movie trailers; expressive reading showcase; K-2 Seuss Spill in the gym; therapy dogs for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; middle school students to do a craft with K students; Somerset County representatives to come in and read. Guest reader papers will go out for parents. We need a lot of support for Young Author's Day. We will have Chris Grabenstein, Margery Cuyler, Brian Pinkney (Author and Illustrator) and James Firentino (Artist). One guest reader on that Friday. Need craft ideas and hands on activities for each grade. Book donation program was very successful and we raised over \$1000 and we have more coming in each day. The new library will be opening; the rug has been installed; tables, chairs and moveable bookshelves are coming. Extended her thank you for everything.

**JENNA BELLISH**—Book order forms going out today for Young Author's Day. We need to order supplies for the crafts and do an SUG for parent volunteers. Ideas needed to welcome the authors to the school. A thought was to do fair project boards and have teachers sign up to make one.

**TRICIA PATRICCO**—Parent/Teacher Volleyball game, thank you to Dana for organizing. It went really well and a lot of people wanted to play. There is a possibility to migrate this to November, but we have to consider conferences and Thanksgiving to figure out a date. Bingo Night was a very successful fundraising event. Denise DeCorso and Ashley Abines did a wonderful job. The Sweetheart Dance will be next week, 80 people have purchased tickets so far and the deadline is today. The Panera Bread fundraiser will be on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Teachers/staff would be more interested if this was done during lunch or have an extra hour from 12-1. Talent show tryouts will be held at the beginning of March. Teacher Appreciation week will be the 1<sup>st</sup> week in May. Growth mindset theme, assigning quotes to each class. Need

to check with Mrs. Frank for room assignments. For the Fun Run if half the kids participated and each kid got \$20, that would be \$200. Online platform for donations in the works (Dana). We will give t-shirts to the kids that raised a certain amount and have t-shirts for purchase. Possibilities for activities include Mario Kart on the blacktop and a fun run obstacle course. Event could be held Thursday May 28<sup>th</sup> after Memorial Day and make it an after-school event from 5-7 with a food truck.

**DANA MARUCCI**—A & R workshop in April. People really enjoyed the last one. Mom’s Night Out at Cilento’s in June and a happy hour at the end of the year.

**THANK YOU**—Thank yous were extended to Sumitra Nicholson and Melissa Frega for the ongoing help with the Scholastic Book Club. Thank you from the 4<sup>th</sup> grade to the PTO for the Lenape Indian Program.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**—The minutes from the December 13<sup>th</sup> PTO Meeting were submitted for approval by Tricia Patricco, motion to approve by Kim Kardos and seconded by Paige Jasaitis, voted and approved. Next PTO meeting will be April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.