**MINUTES OF WOODLAND PTO MEETING**

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 13, 2022**

**PRINCIPAL—MR. HEANEY**

The PTO meeting was called to order at 9:31 AM by Mr. Heaney.

* Introduced Kristin Stoyanov, Coordinator for the Extended Day Program. She is shared between Woodland and ALT and her job includes going into the classrooms and helping teachers with lesson plans as well as helping teachers create all different things in their classrooms to help with student engagement.
* Stated that she is a huge resource to our school and we would like her here full-time.
* Thanked the PTO for the assemblies. Omega Man was great and had some good messages. The kids really enjoyed having him. Dr. Mykee Fowlin was another assembly that we had where he talked about acceptance and not judging people and the kids enjoyed having him as well.
* Stated that Monday and Tuesday were in service days. On Monday, we looked at social and emotional learning, how to address it in class and how to assess that on a report card. The report cards will now have information on how your child is growing in social and emotional learning. On Tuesday, the teachers created student profile sheets. We have a lot of data on kids; for grades 3-5 we have the NJSLA which parents will be getting soon; we also have the Start Strong for grades 4-5 which we have results for. We have i-Ready data for grades K-5 that we also have results for and BAS which is a reading assessment. They also took a CASEL survey in grades 3-5 which asks how well you are connected with your school and how you feel about school. The teachers took all the information and created profile sheets for the kids. This information will be available to parents and you can ask about it at conferences.
* Stated that a Veterans Day assembly is being planned for November 15th.
* Stated that the Book Fair was awesome and the kids really loved it.
* Stated that Bingo Night is tonight and we are all set.
* Stated that the Halloween parade will be on 10/31 at 2:45 PM in the side parking lot. If it rains, it will be inside.
* Stated that the volleyball game will be coming up in November.
* Talked about the rezoning and said that in November the district will let everyone know about the zones and it will be in effect starting in September. Incoming fifth graders will be grandfathered in and can choose to stay in their current school but will not be provided transportation and siblings will not be allowed to stay. Once the zones come out there will be a meeting with those families that will be affected and the principal and guidance counselor of the school that will be accepting Woodland students will be present to help with the transition and answer any questions. A thought was to have the PTOs attend that meeting to help with the transition. Dana Marucci—stated that the PTO presidents are all communicating to try to make the transition easier for the students that are moving to another school and invite them to events that their new school is having during this school year. Also planning to do more district-wide events as another way to make the transition smoother.
* Stated that in the last leadership meeting we do need to be careful on how parents are handling the rezoning as some might not tell their kids until the end of the year. We really need to be careful about how people feel and how their kids feel and be cognizant that people will handle it differently. We need to do more things as a community and do more shared assemblies and shared PTO events between the schools and say that we are all one. Twelve years ago, Woodland was rezoned and about 40 kids did move to Central School.

**EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM—KRISTIN STOYANOV, COORDINATOR**

* Thanked everyone for allowing her to present at the PTO meeting.
* Stated that this is the second year for the extended day program and that she is the coordinator.
* Presented a slide show with an overview of the program.
* Stated that this program is funded by federal funds after COVID. The federal government gave extra money to school districts to use however we can to support any gaps that we see. Our school district decided to do the extended day program.
* Stated that this funding is in combination of Title 1 funding which is based on socio-economic needs. Three schools, ALT, Central and Woodland all qualify for Title 1 funding.
* Stated that these funds are to be used to provide services above & beyond that are typically supported by the general school budget.
* Stated that for this year the district has targeted funds at the 1st through 8th grade level in order to provide additional ELA & math support. At this time, we are not going to look at 1st grade because they are still adjusting, but we may look at them mid-year.
* Stated that children who are currently receiving a level of support in school and who would benefit from additional targeted assistance are the ones who qualify. These are usually general education students. We use this program as a pre-intervention similar to ASAP.
* Stated that a survey was sent out to all teachers where they are looking at students i-Ready scores in reading & math, their BAS (reading assessment) scores and their daily classroom performance to determine eligibility.
* Stated that all certified staff and any homeroom teacher who would like to take their student(s) from their homeroom class who would be willing to tutor will be instructing students in this program. They will get paid extra and the instruction has to be outside of school hours.
* Stated that I am trying to identify the teachers that are willing to participate now and after that is complete will start identifying students who qualify and then will pair up the teachers and students.
* Stated that the homeroom teacher will be the primary contact for the parents.
* Stated that the program is free paid for and by federal funding and is a wonderful way to get extra instruction.
* Stated that if the family says yes, then I will work with the staff and an eligibility letter will be sent home and a consent form will need to be signed and returned.
* Stated that teachers and students are paired up based on availability and a schedule is arranged at the beginning of the program in the fall with a reassessment later. There will be 12-week sessions. If the program started in November (after parent/teacher conferences) that will take us to January and then we would reassess and see if students would benefit from another session or if we need to get new students for the next 12 weeks.
* Stated that the sessions may occur multiple times per week in order to have the greatest impact for the individual student. There will be 2 30-minute sessions. It is up to the parents and the teachers if they want to do those sessions before or after school. Parents need to ensure that their child is brought to each session and picked up on time. Tutors also need to be at their session on time. If a student cannot make their session, it is the responsibility of the parent to communicate that information to the tutor ahead of time. The sessions are usually in groups (2-3 students) since the students like to be with friends and can collaborate with each other.
* Stated that progress reports will be done at the end of every 12-week session. There will also be constant communication between the parents and the tutors.
* Asked everyone to reach out with any questions and thanked everyone again for the opportunity to talk about this program.

**PTO MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISING DRIVE—DANA MARUCCI**

* Encouraged everyone to join the PTO.
* Reminded everyone about pizza and ice cream orders and pizza orders need to be in by Monday at noon for the week so the reports can be done.

**FUNDRAISING EFFORTS—ASHLEY ABINES**

* Square1 Art will be coming out soon.
* Bovellas cookies for Thanksgiving.
* Lynch Creek Farms will be set up soon.

**AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES—DANA MARUCCI**

* Code Ninjas

**SPIRITWEAR—APRIL PEARCE**

* Encouraged everyone to go on the website and reach out if they have any questions.

**EVENT PLANNING FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS—DANA MARUCCI**

* Stated that we need to get on top with the event planning so our budgets are in line.
* Stated that we need to make sure that chairs are getting in touch with April and Melissa.
* Stated that we need to talk to the Parents Night Out committee chairs to start planning and figuring out a date.

**SUCCESSION PLANNING—DANA MARUCCI**

* Stated that Sumitra is leaving and having Roula Ioannou as her replacement for Secretary. There are also some other members of the board that are leaving next year and looking to fill their roles.
* Stated that with the rezoning there are some parents that might be leaving who we would be trying to get onto the executive board or fill roles going forward. It will be tricky to fill some of the roles that need to be filled for the future at this point in time.
* Encouraged everyone to reach out if they have any ideas to get new parents involved or any parents that we can get involved into fulfilling some of these roles.
* Stated would like to have a co-president next year and kind of step back for her last year at Woodland.

**UPCOMING EVENTS—DANA MARUCCI**

* Bingo Night—tonight
* Trunk or Treat—in 2 weeks. We need more cars.

**THANK YOUS—**To Sumitra Nicholson, Melissa Frega and Anna Mohallim for the amazing book fair. To Stephanie Lindy for coordinating the book drive. To Anna Mohallim, Ashley Abines and Melissa Frega for the mums fundraiser.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

* The minutes from the September 13, 2022 PTO meeting were submitted for approval by Sumitra Nicholson, approved by Ashley Abines and seconded by Dana Marucci.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.