Plympton Elementary PTO

January 10, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Anina Thompson at 7:06 p.m.

In attendance

6 parents

5 PTO board members

Principal: Mrs. Taddeo

Teacher representative: Mrs. Pinto

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the December meeting were announced and approved.

Treasurer’s Report
by Laurie Moynihan

* We received the invoice for the 2nd grade field trip and the PTO covered the cost of the bus ($600).
* We received a $500 donation from a Plympton parent.
* We received a check from BoxTops for Education for $1,732 for collections since March 1, 2012.
* We received money from Good Search, Spirit Wear, Holiday Shop, and KidStuff coupon books.

**Executive Board Report**by Anina Estrada

* The Executive Board met this week. We discussed Spirit Day and the need for a planning meeting. Watch for an announcement for a Spirit Day planning meeting. All are welcome to help.
* We also discussed dates for fitness night, movie night, and the ice cream social. Committees will soon be forming to plan those meetings as well.

**Principal’s report**

by Mrs. Taddeo

* The morning success maker program (computer math) started back this week. The homework club will start next week.
* Before winter vacation, the Waltham High School dance club performed a Holiday presentation and the PTO covered a fraction of the bus cost.
* BOKS is coming in February! There is a training on January 24 and 3 additional teachers are attending. Mrs. Taddeo may attend the training. Sign up forms for BOKS will be coming home shortly. There will be a very short turn-around time for the forms.
* WIDA – English proficiency testing for ELL students is starting now and testing will go through February 13.
* Administrators are getting ready to create the budget for the 2013-14 school year. Plympton is not anticipating any staff cuts, but Mrs. Taddeo will keep us posted.
* Plympton has gone wireless.
* Penguin in the hallway – Barbara Bourque – a high school teacher that comes in for Mrs. St. Laurent’s class created the penguin with movable pieces, such as a bow tie.
* CT tragedy – students and staff weathered the tragedy as well as could be expected. Discussed as little as possible. One major change is that the door can no longer be left unlocked at any time.
* MCAS – Mrs. Taddeo has the dates. Testing does not start until March.

**Teacher’s Report**
by Ms. Pinto

* Nothing to report.

**Multicultural Report**

* Family literacy is on hiatus because of weather and most of the families walk.
* Coin banks are in progress. Should be coming home as they are completed.
* Community meeting on Tuesday – student with African descent. A boy brought his mother that brought in authentic African clothing.

Standing Committee Reports

1. Restaurant Night Out
	* December: Our December restaurant night out was last night at Uno’s. There was a good showing, but we do not know how much we earned yet.
	* January: Last night was restaurant night at the Ninety-Nine Restaurant. There was a good turnout, but we do not have a total yet.
	* February: The February restaurant is John Brewers on February 12. A coupon will be coming home the week before.
	* March: March’s restaurant is Papa Ginos on March 14
	* April: We are not going with Plaster Fun Time. We are trying to get Panera for April, which was a request from a parent whose child has food allergies.
2. Clip and Save:
* Box Tops: We received a check from BoxTops for $1,732 for collections from March 1 – November 1.
* Campbell’s Labels For Education: There are currently several special promotions with Campbell’s Labels for Education and we are trying to send out the maximum amount of sheets allowed. Also, if we send in 3000 UPCs before March 31, we are eligible to receive free books for the library.
* Coke Rewards: Coke Rewards are ongoing.
* Terracycle:
	+ We just shipped out everything we had on hand. In December, TerraCycle ran a special promotion that there were no minimums for deliveries, so we sent them everything we had.
	+ We are looking for a new TerraCycle coordinator. If you are interested, please contact PlymptonPTO@yahoo.com.
	+ We are expecting a check from TerraCycle at any time for $165. We will submit a request for another check in May.
* Funding Factory: Notices went home this week letting parents/teachers know that we are collecting ink cartridges, toner cartridges, cell phones, etc. There is a drop off box in the main office.
1. Visiting Artists

	* Kindergarten:
		+ Touch tank from the New England Aquarium in May.
		+ Dental hygienist – Wed. March 6 Mrs. Blanchard coordinating
	* 1st grade: Dinasour lady – Wednesday, March 20
	* 2nd grade: The Museum of Science came in December and did a presentation on magnets. The presentation was very engaging and fun. Participation from the office. We received a scholarship to cover all but $100 of the cost.
	* 3rd grade: The Museum of Science planetarium will be visiting on Thursday, May 21.
	* 4th grade: Phenomena – April 11
	* 5th grade: Not sure yet. May be the Acton Discovery Museums or someone else.
	* A local meteorologist will visit in the spring for grades 4 and 5
	* Feb 15 – the Clara Barton interpreter will be here for multiple grades.
2. Fundraisers
* Square One Art is being sent out now. The orders will be back to order around February vacation. All orders should be back before Mother’s Day.

 **New business**

* Family Trivia Day at City Streets on January 27 at 1:00. City Streets will donate 15% to the PTO. City Streets will have a DJ to play kid’s trivia.
* BOKS – Ghenya Sloan Kuchler will be meeting with Mrs. Taddeo tomorrow. BOKS will be starting after February vacation through the end of the school year. There’s a huge base of trainers who have gone to the training. Membership forms will be available in multiple languages.
* Spirit Day will be on June 14. We’re planning to have a Flag day theme. We will be forming a committee to meet soon. Stay tuned. REMINDER: all volunteers must be CORI approved.

Next Meeting

* February 5, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., school cafeteria

Adjournment

* The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.