Plympton Elementary PTO

May 9, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Anina Thompson at 7:04 p.m.

In attendance

6 parents

3 PTO board members

Principal: Mrs. Taddeo/Mrs. Hurwitz

Teacher representative: Mrs. Pinto

Approval of Minutes

* The minutes from the April meeting were announced and approved.

Treasurer’s Report  
by Laurie Moynihan

* IRS lien resolved in our favor
* Money Received:  
  + $439 from Box Tops
  + $25 from Wagon Wheel
  + $125 from game night at health and wellness night
* Money spent:  
  + African dancers from multicultural budget
  + Donation to the Waltham High School All-Night Party - $100

**Executive Board Report**by Anina Estrada

* The Board met to discuss the fundraisers for next year, as well as the remaining events of the year.
* Spirit day – we working on the schedule and budget for Spirit Day.
* Fundraisers: the Board reviewed all the potential fundraising companies for the Fall fundraiser and hope to make a decision about which company go to with by the end of the school year.

**Principal’s report**

By Mrs. Taddeo and Mrs. Hurwitz

* Kudos for teacher appreciation. Well received and greatly appreciated. Outside teachers were amazed at all the wonderful decorations.
* Junior Achievement – citizenship/business skills. This program ran several years ago, and then was discontinued. It was re-launched last year as Junior Achievement in a day. Volunteers come for the day and teach business skills to the grade. May 15th will be 2nd  grade. May 17th will be grades 3 & 4 and K will be held in late June.
* BOKS rocks! BOKS meets every Tuesday and Thursday. Recently, Ghenya received an initiative award at the Reebok HQ. Plympton was 1 of 4 schools to receive this award.
* MCAS continues. 4th grade just finished and next week is 3rd and 5th grade will have MCAS.
* School budget – the budget was approved by school committee and now needs to be approved by the city council.
* Class for next year: the school is currently watching enrollment numbers for next year. At the moment, there are 84 kindergarteners registered for next year. We are slated for 4 kindergarten classrooms, and 3 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classes in the fall.
* Mrs. Hurwitz is retiring and Alex Audette will be the new vice principal. Will be here on June 4th to visit with the students and then coming to the PTO meeting. He is from Rutland, but is aware of the commute. He is married with a 1 ½ year old child. His wife is a stay-at-home Mom. He has both public and private school experience and has a lot of experience with adolescent boy. His qualifications are great for this position.

**Teacher’s Report**  
by Mrs. Pinto

* Teachers were speechless over all the decorations and festivities for Teacher Appreciation Week. The PTO went “over the top!” The teachers were so thrilled. Thank you, thank you, thank you! This year’s committee chairs were MaryBeth Walsh and Kristie Hanley. They created a Hollywood theme with red carpets and stars. In addition to the amazing decorations, they organized a lunch, a dessert day, a snack day, and so much more. They pulled off Teacher Appreciation Day of the Century.
* The kindergarten class had a dentist visit this week. The kids were all very happy to receive a new toothbrush.

**Multicultural Report**by the PTO board

* This year’s International night was the first time that it was open to the school Our school has a great blend of cultures. It was so nice to see everyone sit together. It gave you a warm and pleasant feeling. Moms and Dads participated as well.
* The Coaches Across Continents fundraiser raised over $400.

Standing Committee Reports

1. Restaurant Night Out
   * May restaurant night out is at Margarita’s on May 14. A coupon went home with kids.
   * June: June 13 from 8am – 8pm. This is the first time we have Panera as a Restaurant Night Out. A parent whose child has certain food allergies suggested different locations. We are excited to try a new place.
2. Clip and Save:

* Box Tops: Will be sending in another shipment of BoxTops before the end of June.
* Campbell’s Labels for Education: We plan to cash in some of our points to buy kick balls recess for Mrs. Taddeo.
* Coke Rewards: Great job sending in your coke caps. Keep up the good work!

1. Visiting Artists   
   * Had Phenomena for the 4th graders really enjoyed it.
   * May 21 – NEAQ for k and planetarium/sky lab for 3rd grade in gym
   * May 17 - Ms. Antonellis got a grant for Newton, so some monies are being diverted to a revolutionary war thing for the 5th grade
   * Barry Burbank was supposed to come, but we haven’t heard back from him. Not sure if he is going to come or not
   * Spirit Day – visiting artist – because of so many grants this year, we have a surplus of $580 and will be used to fund a visiting artist for Spirit Day. Scott Jameson – magic and juggling and bubbles. (scottjameson.com)
   * Looking for an assistant visiting artist coordinator. If you are interested, please talk to Elizabeth Lear.
2. RIF
   * Did not have a RIF grant this year because we did not make the cut off. We were allowed to purchase RIF books from the RIF discount, but the PTO paid for the books. Only enough books to have two RIF distributions. One in February and one in April.
3. Fundraisers:
   * Gift Cards: Had a gift card fundraiser and raised about $85. May have another fundraiser before the end of the year.
4. BOKS – going great. 2 weeks left for this season. We are hoping to expand into two sessions for the Fall. Another trainer program is taking place on April 23.

**New business**

* Ice Cream Social/Movie Night – May 31: Ice cream donated by Pizzi Farms. Movie is Wreck It Ralph. 5th grade selling candy and glow sticks. Rain date will be the same day and will be held in the school instead of outside.
* Spirit Day – June 14. Craft, spray park, battling cages, volunteers MUST be CORI-approved. Only Plympton School kids are allowed.
* Linda Harper, new MIS person, presented a new way to return emergency cards that are sent home in September at a recent meeting. The emergency cards going home will already be filled out with the previous year’s information and you will simply update the information.
* Mrs. Brophy returning on May 20.

Next Meeting

* Thursday, June 4, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., school cafeteria

Adjournment

* The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.