Plympton Elementary PTO

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Anina Thompson, president

In attendance

10 parents

5 PTO board members

Principal: Mrs. Taddeo

Assistant Principal: Mr. Audette

Teacher representative: Mrs. Pinto

Guest Speaker

* Dr. Nicholson—presented her educator plan at the last SC meeting, student learning goal, district improvement goals.

Goal is to increase communication within the community and attend 1 school council and 1 PTO of each school.

She will also have a Superintendent round table group which will be similar to the student council. There will be monthly meetings, with two representatives from every school and community representatives as well. She will send out an agenda, what’s planned for next 6 months. The reps would be the filter to and from superintendent.

Also, there is a plan to roll out of ALICE program. By June of 2014 ALICE will be done. Need help from teachers (elementary especially), parents, best way to talk to the little kids about this. Will involve things like what is the security we need in our buildings—metal detectors? 2X4 near door? police officer at elementary? Then that will need to be aligned with the budget. What will the budget look like? January is the target. Submit your name to principal if interested. Could possibly have sub committees. A lot of it would be support—example, make phone calls to support budget? Attend a SC meeting to help? May vary from month to month.

Approval of Minutes

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

Treasurer’s Report  
by Laurie Moynihan

* Laurie Moynihan went over the treasurer’s report.
* Membership drive still going on. At $2285 now.
* Hannaford—deposit of $147
* Mixed bags from last year--$83.52 from online orders
* Teachers and gift cards, spec grants
* Kindergarten play date and first day breakfast
* Paper costs for PTO notices
* Birthday crowns

**Executive Board Report**by Anina Estrada

* Ice cream party a couple weeks ago. Went well. Free event.

**Principal’s report**

by Mrs. Taddeo

* The first PCM (Plympton Community Meeting) was past Tuesday. The whole school comes together for this. Start off with a visual presentation—slides from the 1st day of school, things going on in classrooms, library. The 4th grade volunteers in the library have been taking pictures all over the school. We will highlight a class—this one was Mrs. Duffy’s SEI class, why we do Columbus Day. Mrs. Paradis gives prizes to those students who participated in the library challenge. Mr. Audette announces which class won the extra recess. Mrs. Hagen-Alves does a skit—this one was what Positive attitude looks like. Go over the Plympton pride values. Pick winners out of all the kids who got “pride tickets” that month. All the kids who received a ticket are hung up in the hallway on the bulletin board. Welcome any new staff that may have joined or students. All the students in Kindergarten were new. Also any student in grades 1-5 were asked to stand if this is their first year at Plympton. Had about 44 new students (not including Kindergarten). Had 2 students whose families are from Columbia. They shared some of their family stuff. The PCMs happen once a month. There is a link on the website for all the past PCMs.
* BOKS—We were able to expand to 4 mornings per week. There are 130 kids in all. In the nice weather, they have had it outside.
* Volunteer programs have started—Bentley buddies work with ELL kids,JBA is back—doing 2 enrichment things with grades 3-5.
* NHS students are here on Mondays. Some are former Plympton students.
* November 5 voting here.
* Red and white day was yesterday—this was through the athletic department at Waltham High school. Six or 7 students from WHS were here, spent lunch and recess with the kids. Kids loved it!
* Last night was the ALICE presentation. Plympton will be trained on Dec 9.
* Mr. Biddy is doing well. Danny LeLievre is the acting lead.
* Oct 16 is a meeting for Mrs. Taddeo re: recycling—a grant was approved—she will share with us any info.
* Nov 7 city wide spelling bee. Plympton will have a team. Adults. 2 parents and 1 staff.
* There have been 2 public meetings about the upgrade of the Drake playground. We had suggestions from kids and parents. Before any decisions are made, they will be in touch with the school, ask for suggestions, and get collaborations.

**Teacher’s Report**  
by Ms. Pinto

* Teachers thank us for all the PTO does—the second grade bus to NEAQ in November and the third grade bus to Plimoth Plantation.

**Multicultural Report**by Mrs. Hagan-Alves

* Not here

Standing Committee Reports

1. Restaurant Night Out
   * September—Beat Da Wrap $175. Next week is Uno’s on 10/17.
2. Clip and Save:

* Box Tops: Papa gino’s will sponsor our monthly raffle.
* Campbell’s Labels For Education: we are sending in some now.
* Coke Rewards: anybody want to be in charge of entering these? Get in touch us. It’s easy, just entering codes online.

1. Visiting Artists   
   * Kindergarten: In May NEAQ touch tank, dental hygienist (free)
   * 1st grade: The “Dinosaur Lady”
   * 2nd grade:MOS magnets
   * 3rd grade: star lab from MOS
   * 4th grade: april Funomena—natural and man made disasters
   * 5th grade: discovery museum
   * Marie Curie—this will be for for the whole school. Date TBA
2. Fundraisers
   * We have had a lot and we will have more. Need a lot of money to pay for all activities, especially with more and more students.
   * Flower power around $400.
   * Genevieve—ends next week. Can do online or send in order form.
   * Pies—went home today. Due in 2 weeks.
   * Wagon Wheel—the first weekend of every month. They’ll send us checks the 15th of every month.
   * Stop and Shop A+ program going on again. Enter your S&S card online. Goes through January.
   * Hannaford also doing a promotion. Need to buy 4 certain products and get $3 towards PTO
   * Kids Stuff—Dave and Stacey Fox will run it. These are the Coupon books. This will start around 10/28 and run for 2 weeks. The Kindergarten students get the books sent home. Everyone else gets an order form and a letter.
3. BOKS—from the trainers’ view—all is well. They do need more parent or teacher volunteers, for the Tues/Thurs group especially, trainers and just parents to help.
4. Green Team—we will be revamping the Green Team. Stay tuned!

**New business**

* No new business.

Next Meeting

* November 21 at 7:00 p.m., school cafeteria

Adjournment

* The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.