Plympton Elementary PTO

November 21, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Anina Thompson, president, at 7:03 pm

In attendance

10 parents

5 PTO board members

Teacher representative: Mrs. Bower

Approval of Minutes

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

Treasurer’s Report  
By Anina Thompson

* The Treasurer could not here be here tonight because she is at an awards ceremony hosted by the Waltham Education and Beyond Foundation. Each PTO in the city received a $500 grant for technology in the school.
* If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Moynihan.

**Executive Board Report**by Anina Estrada

* We have hosted a bunch of fundraisers so far this year. Meadow Farms has ended and pies were distributed before tonight’s meeting.
* Taking into consideration everyone’s busy schedule in December, there will be no PTO meeting in December.
* Every position on the PTO board ends at the end of this school year. We are looking to fill many positions for the board’s next 2-year term. If anyone is interested on being on the board next year, please contact one of the current board members for more information.

**Principal’s report**

by Mrs. Taddeo

* Nothing to report this month. Mrs. Taddeo was attending the awards ceremony at the Waltham Education and Beyond Foundation.

**Teacher’s Report**  
by Mrs. Bower

* Thank you for the buses to Plimouth Planation. This year, we needed 2 buses and we appreciate that the PTO donates the funds to cover the cost of the bus.
* The 3rd grade will be visiting the Museum of Fine Arts, thanks to a grant that Mrs. Mirabito received to cover the bus and admission, on and December 18.
* Grade 3 will host a Thanksgiving presentation on November 27 at 10:15. The presentation contains readings and songs with the help of the music and art teachers. Classes will be baking corn, cranberry and pumpkin bread for the presentation.

**Multicultural Report**by Alexi Joanidis

* Thank you to everyone who came to the international potluck.
* Story hour 3:15-4:00 starting on Monday, November 25. Geared for younger kids, but older kids are welcome as well. First one focusing on Brazil. Future meetings will be on Thursdays.
* Fundraising – like to raise $1000 to cover the cost of the multicultural dancers as a visiting artist – sell magnets for bumpers or fridge. Mr. Escobar’s wife has a business making cakes and could possibly sell cakes or hold a raffle to win a cake.
* Spanish speaking parents are interested in participating in the PTO. Looking for a Spanish translator, possibly Alexi, to involve the Spanish speaking community, which is a large part of our community.
* Big Brother/Big Sister program – had 8 matches last year. Some are continuing to meet outside of school. Jewish Big Brother/Big Sister are going to be matching girls up with women in the community. Volunteers are required to come to the school once a week for one-hour during lunch/recess.

Standing Committee Reports

1. Restaurant Night Out—Lori Pasto and Jessica Vautour and handling Restaurant Night Out this year – Panera was last week. Not sure how it went, but it was on the same day as the International Pot Luck.

Next year, we are looking for someone to coordinate scheduling the Restaurant Night Outs.

1. Clip and Save:
   * Box Tops: Mailed our submission of $537 on 11/1/2013. Next submission due 3/1/2014
   * Campbell’s Labels For Education: Still going on. Last year we bought an iPod touch with the points.
   * Coke Rewards: Keep them coming in.
2. Visiting Artists –These are paid for by the PTO. They are curriculum based and are being scheduled not. One change—the Star Lab from the Museum of Science will be in December due to scholarship timings.

* Kindergarten: Dental Hygienist, NEAQ
* 1st grade: The Dinosaur Lady
* 2nd grade: Electricity & Magnets
* 3rd grade: Star Lab
* 4th grade: Funomena
* 5th gradeChemical Changes

1. Fundraisers
   * Genevieve orders went out on Wednesday
   * Pies were delivered today from 3-6
   * KidStuff books – Thank you to Dave and Stacy Fox
   * Gift card fundraiser – David Williams – Starting soon – forms will be coming home. Cards received in a few days after orders are submitted. Can order online too.
   * Smencils are currently for sale. Makes great stocking stuffers.
2. BOKs - Re-enrolling in January to start in February.
3. The Green Team is coming back! Received a donation from Winter/Wyman. They’ve put a recycle bin in the teacher’s lounge at the teacher’s request.
4. The Halloween party was on October 26. Thank you for everyone’s help. Photo booth did not arrive. Living Social deal – might try to use the deal on Spirit Day. Everything went well.
5. The Bake Sale was November 5. We raised over $1000 for the scholarship fund. Thank you to everyone who helped. It was very successful. Special kudos to Jennifer Renaud who chaired the event.
6. Holiday shop will take place December 12 & 13, including black Friday shopping.
7. Directory is completed – electronic versions went out. Print versions are on order. Requested half the amount as last year

**New business**

* Looking for a volunteer for facilities committee. Looking for one volunteer from each school.

Next Meeting

* Thursday, January 16, 2014 at 7:00 in the school cafeteria.

Adjournment

* The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.