Plympton Elementary PTO

December 13, 2012

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

In attendance

4 parents

3 PTO board members

Principal: Mrs. Taddeo

Teacher representative: Mrs. Bower

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the November meeting were announced and approved.

Treasurer’s Report  
by Laurie Moynihan

At the last meeting, Matt Kiernan made a motion to review and re-approve the budget. The treasurers, Melanie Sherlock and Laurie Moynihan, prepared a new budget with a bit of hindsight from some activities having already taken place.

Matt Kiernan had some questions about the budget including Halloween party, scholarship fund, and holiday shop.

In reviewing the actual expenses, membership was happy because they were able to see the budget vs. actual expenses. This budget puts it in perspective and gives membership the ability to see what they want to see.

We went over the budget together and Matt made a motion to approve and John seconded the motion.

**Executive Board Report**by Anina Estrada

* Board Changes: Anina announced that she will officially take the position of president. Melanie Sherlock as resigned from the position of co-treasurer at Tuesday’s PTO Executive Board Meeting.
* In order to have two individuals have the ability to write checks, Anina will be added as a signer to the checking account.
* Upcoming Activities: The board met to discuss the remaining activities throughout the year. The board will meet again in January to begin planning Spirit Day.

**Principal’s report**

by Mrs. Taddeo

* Holiday concert: This year’s Holiday concert on took place on Tuesday. All things considered, everything went well. The event was very well-orchestrated and attendance was very good.
* BOKS program:   
  + Ghenya Sloan Kuchler made a presentation at the school committee meeting about the BOKS program. Matt Kiernan also attended the meeting as support for Ghenya. All the trainers will be receiving CPR classes for free through the fire department. Contact people at Ghenya Kuchler and Mrs. Taddeo.
  + The projected staff are lead trainers and parent volunteers. All volunteers need to attend the BOKS training and have a CORI approval. There are 40 students total allowed in the program. Gym equipment will be used. Parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to the program. The curriculum is provided from Reebok. Mr. Foley is seeking grant funds to implement the program city-wide. Plympton School is leading the pack for the city.
* Champions: A parent asked if there’s any discussion of switching from Champions to the YMCA and Mrs. Taddeo said no.
* Staffing Updates:  
  + Mrs. McClary is expecting a baby in March and will be taking maternity leave.
  + Mrs. Hurwitz will be retiring in June. There will be some screening for her replacement.
  + A new part-time reading specialist, Yvonne Gunsburger, has been hired to work with 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. This new hire completes our reading team.

**Teacher’s Report**  
by Mrs. Bower

* Second grade teachers wanted to say thank you for paying for aquarium transportation. The field trip touched upon the science standards to make the connection with the classrooms.
* Thank you for holiday shop. The baggies make it easier for the teachers. The teachers miss having the gifts wrapped.

**Multicultural report**

* In the spirit of giving, the school is creating banks for the charity in art class. The money raised from the banks will be sent to our African charity of choices (soccer coaches)
* Mrs. Paradis found a box of cookbooks from 2006 that was created by the Multicultural committee. They are available for purchase for $2.00 in the library.
* On the last day before school vacation will be starting “Wild about reading.” Kids will need to read for 2,013 seconds. There will also be guest readers to read to the children.

Standing Committee Reports

1. Restaurant Night Out
   * November: Our November restaurant night out was at Friendly’s. We received a check for $119.
   * 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: The January restaurant night out will be at the Ninety-Nine Restaurant on January 9. You need a coupon for Plympton to receive at least 15%. Coupons will be sent home right after New Year’s and posted on Facebook and on the website.
2. Visiting Artists   
   * On Monday, 2nd grade will have a visiting artist with magnets.
   * The next visiting artist scheduled is Clara Barton, a historical interpreter, in February for grades 3, 4, and 5.
3. Fundraisers

* Mixed Bags: The Mixed bags fundraiser was well received. The estimated profit from Mixed Bags was approximately $3800.
* Gift Cards: The gift card fundraiser has been going very well. Our profit to date is $848.
* Concert Raffle: Thank you to everyone helped out and donated for the Holiday Concert Raffle. The PTO raised $534 in sales.
* KidStuff books: We did not make our projected budget goal. We sold approx. 62 books ($775 profit) and 58 books were not returned. We plan to make changes to this fundraiser next year and not send the books home with the kids. We will prepare a flyer and send it home and then have people order books, which we will have on hand. Last year, we planned to do this fundraiser in January, but parents requested to have it before Christmas. This year, we sold them in November, but next year, we may try to sell them in September.
* Spirit wear: The Spirit wear orders will be coming in next week. Please contact Ben Kuchler if you have any questions.

**New business**

* The board will meet to begin planning Spirit Day in January.

Next Meeting

* January 10, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., school cafeteria

Adjournment

* The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.