

November 2010 PTO Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2010

Call to Order - Paula Heinzmann and Andrea Ginter called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Principal's Remarks - Mrs Catarius read a note from Social Services thanking for the donation of cleaning products. Fall Festival went great - thanks to Kelly Weinberg. Hartford Symphony came in and performed for the children, and interacted with them. The Kindergarten students had their traditional parade. Superintendents awards were given out - Michele Lavoie was honored, as were two students, as well as Mr. Rodriguez. Thanks to Martina for the lovely Halloween decorations and for the delicious bread.

Secretary's Report - presented by Kat Zapor. Changes to be made - last sentence of last month's report - a check was written by the Obama Admin to the school. Motion to accept made by Amber Kiniry, seconded by Michele Lavoie

Treasurer's Report - presented by Dave Schroeder.

Teacher Representative - Brittany Richard was unfortunately not available,

Committee Reports - 3 minutes

BOE Liason - George Bashura - no update available

Cheer/Teacher Appreciation - Lauren Barbara/Martina Cacioli - something very nice is planned for November. We've been getting a lot of thank you notes from the teachers. Mrs. Jahne had surgery this month, and we are sending her a little something. Miss Mauro just got engaged, and we will plan for something. Mrs. Cohlburn is now a grandmother of twins - we will see about sending her a card.

Community Outreach - Phoebe Ostergren/Martina Cacioli - Thanks to everyone for the donations to Social Services. We have been able to make several purchases for needy families. The next donation is during Vendor night. In January, we will also have another collection. There may be a sweater collection in February.

Creative Arts - Martina Cacioli - We had our annual meeting, CAC is celebrating 50 years in Wethersfield this year. We are trying to stir up awareness, as donations have gone down. Unfortunately, the 5th grade residency is no longer available.

Enrichment - Michele Lavoie - The author visit - we have one waiting to be purchased - we have not committed to him yet, since fundraising hasn't been going too well. Michele wanted opinions whether or not we can/should afford him. We will wait for Dave Schroeder to go over the budget. This is for 1st through 5th, author is Ron Roy.

Fall Pictures - Michele Livingston - retakes went well, nothing to report.

Grants - Paul and Jackie Laperriere - nothing to report

Membership - Michele Livingston - all set, nothing to report

Parent Teacher Conference Childcare - Andrea Ginter - we've had significantly more participation from kids this year from last year. Still looking for volunteers.

Sixth Grade - Michele Livingston/Kat Zapor - moving along, pies went well. Poinsetta flyers are out, due by next Wednesday, will arrive by December 9th. Pasta dinner tentatively scheduled for January 28th/snow date February 4th.

Tiger Topics/Copying - Andrea Ginter - deadline by December 3rd. Andrea wanted to get thoughts on what Highcrest does - no longer distributes hard copies. Do we want to do the same? Possibly have 20-30 copies on hand, or have a list like PENS? We will wait and see what Highcrests bumps in the road are.

WSPC - Martin Malicki - last meeting was a focus group for the early readiness council

Family Events -

Harvest Fair - October 22 - Kelly Weinberg/Jackie Laperriere - Thanks to Amber for all her help and donations. Dan Carston earned \$30, and kept it all. Thanks to Amber and John and Jackie for all their donations. Kelly was glad that we did it, had fun.

Holiday Store - November 30- Amber Kiniry/Lauren Barbara - it's almost here!!! The husbands will be very happy when this is over. Everything's tying together. We have 60 volunteers so far, stanchions, bags, baskets have been donated. We still need gift bags. Lauren will try to get in the day before to gift wrap the door. 6th grade is doing a bake sale that night. Notices have gone out.

Holiday Vendors Night - December 3 - Michele Lavoie - we have 6 vendors. We'll see if we can reuse the decorations from Holiday Store.

Movie Night - Kelly Weinberg - March 25th is the date. Up, Toy Story 3, and Despicable Me are possibilities.

Bingo Night - OPEN - have a committee, need a chair.

Fundraisers -

Box Tops - Amber Kiniry - we have \$595.00

Comedy Night - November 12 - Michele Lavoie - had to be cancelled due to poor ticket sales. More than willing to rebook another night.

Entertainment Book - Andrea Ginter - still trying to hunt down 50 books - coming in under budget, sold 75 books.

Friends/Family Restaurant Night - Lauren Barbara/Jen Derrick - we are all set for Tuesday April 12th at Chili's. Teachers have volunteered to serve. From 4pm until whenever. Giving everyone a freebie with checks. Chili's on the Turnpike.

Miscellaneous Fundraisers (Target) - Kelly Weinberg - nothing to report.

Scrap booking - October 24- Michelle Bosco - we made \$210.33 - half of what we made. We were unable to get a lot of raffle prizes, and not a lot of product sold.

Wrapping Paper - Darka Jara - No update. Willing to do it next year.

Spring Book Fair - Andrea Ginter/OPEN - got a call from our rep - April is not available.

New Business/Open Forum

Paula wanted to add - when we have fundraising materials to be picked up, please have a PTO member stationed to let people in so we don't disturb the office staff.

Andrea wanted to mention Strawberry Fest - what if we add a rock band challenge, using a Wii or Xbox, and do either of the new teachers qualify for the \$100 new classroom?

Michele Lavoie wanted to ask about the Talent Show - Michelle Quadrato and Michele Lavoie have picked March 4th and 5th for dress rehearsal and actual dates. Still needs to be approved.

Martin - technology - got prices from the IT guy - would cost under 2k to mount one of the smart boards that we have in the media center, as opposed to \$5400 to get a new one. Also, Martin wanted to note that although the budget says we have 34k in the account, we need to keep in mind that it's not entirely accurate - monies need to be paid out, and that hasn't been marked in the budget.

Closing Remarks - made by Paula Heinzmann and Andrea Ginter at 8:31 pm, and thanked everyone for attending.