

PTO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 10, 2010

I. Called to order- 8:02pm. Minutes approved as read. Robert Solomon makes motion to approve. Alicia Johnson seconds the motion, All in favor, None opposed, Motion passes.

II. Executive Committee Reports

A. President's Report-Colleen Steele

Colleen introduced herself to the members. She announced new committee heads. Liza Tish will take over spirit wear. Jen Latino will take over hospitality. Eve Rocco will take over art cards and movie nights.

B. Treasurer's Report-Alicia Johnson

Current balance is \$20,631.17 See attached for finance information.

C. Corresponding Secretary

Sally Seidenfrau was not present. Fran Drucker read thank you cards from Mrs. Snyder's 4th grade class thanking the PTO for all of the wonderful programs that the PTO sponsors.

III. Guest Presentation Regarding School Budget

A. Dr. Feifer discussed next year's budget and asked for the parents' support in approving the budget. He told the audience about not having all the information from the state regarding the budget and this is making final decisions about the school budget so complicated. He explained this year's budget issues and they are exploring many options to balance the current budget and plan for next year's budget. They are looking into increasing class size, program cuts and cutting staff. They are also looking into ways to gain income by sharing services with other local towns and renting available classrooms.

B. Michael Sprague, President of the Norwood Board of Education told the members that the Board is meeting weekly to work on next year's budget and they are planning on going to the maximum cap of 4%. Problems with generating revenues, an increase in teacher's health insurance, and greater increase in providing services to children with special needs has had a negative impact on the budget. He is projecting two sections for the incoming kindergarten. A public hearing will be held at the end of the month and at this

time he expects more information will be available from the state. He presented the idea of shared services like garbage, utilities and power.
C. Both Dr. Feifer and Mr. Sprague engaged the members with a question and answer period.

IV. Committee Reports

A. After school clubs-Karen Simon & Stacy Klein

B. Samantha Fruhling-Author Day

Robert Lipsyte was at school this morning and all of the children loved it! Thank you to John Chugranis for the car service for the author. K-2 will meet Stephen Kellogg on June 16.

C. Eyes on Art-Samantha Fruhling/Wendy Bajakian

Samantha presented to the 6th grade and they really enjoyed it. Wendy presented to the 1st-3rd grade. Samples are on the website. Wendy will present to grades 1-3 in April.

D. Grocery Gift Cards-Cathy Santo

Made \$130 in February. The fundraiser will continue next month.

E. Hand print fundraiser-Wendy Bajakian/Wendy Ward

Not present. Planning for spring date. They would sell handprints/space to families, possibly in the lunchroom.

F. Lottery-Meg Smith

The state told her that this fundraiser has to be held on 3 consecutive months, we need a raffle license, and a six week lead way to get the town approval. Therefore, this fundraiser has to wait until the fall. Robert Solomon makes a motion to hold this lottery fundraiser in the months of October, November and December. Lizz Giampaglia seconds the motion. All in favor, None opposed, Motion passes.

G. School Social-Tara Conmy

The 5th annual school social will be held on Friday April 23. K-2 at 4-5:30, grades 3 & 4 from 6-7:30, and grades 5, 6, 7 at 8-9:30. She needs volunteers to chaperone, collect money, help with food and clean up.

H. Spirit Wear-Samantha Fruhling

The new items will be ready soon. Order form and pictures of all items will be on the website. Liza Tish will take over next year.

I. Talent Show-Cynthia Kroning/Margie Ross

Not present. The talent show will be held on May 7 at NVOT. Permission slips are due March 22.

IV. Old Business

A. School Sports Programs

\$3300 is needed to resurrect the track team. It usually starts in April and is approximately 30 children. Alicia Johnson is not comfortable at present with additional unbudgeted items and requests to table decision until April meeting so we can further review finances. Samantha Fruhling makes a motion to wait until the April meeting to decide if we can afford to sponsor the team. Carolyn Giannakas seconds the motion. All in favor, None opposed. Motion passes.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:47

NEXT MEETING: April 7 at 10 am.