

JAMES FALLON PTO MINUTES OF January 8, 2008 MEETING



PTO Co-President Noreen Carlascio called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was held in the Media Center. Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

The attendance sheet was circulated together with the November 2007 PTO Minutes and the budget with activity through January 8, 2008.

In attendance were: PTO Members: Noreen Carlascio, Michele DePalma, Jeanine Hassert, Beverly Pindulic, Colleen Cardinale, Lori Greene, Linda De Gennaro, Pam Burns, Susan Hohmann, Joseph Butz, Maryam Hajo, Dina Lucariello, Jari D'Alessandro
Teachers: Linda Bursik, Rose Guselli, Kim Venezia Principal: Ethan Maayan

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:

No report. Beverly asked everyone to review the November PTO minutes.

Noreen Carlascio asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

A motion was made to accept the November 2007 minutes by Linda DeGennaro, seconded by Jeanine Hassert. No discussion on the floor, a vote was taken, all were in favor, motion passed.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT: - No Report.

TREASURERS' REPORT: - Given by Lori Greene.

Lori noted that a copy of the proposed budget with activity through January 8, 2008 was provided for review.

A motion was made to accept the Budget by Linda DeGennarro, seconded by Joseph Butz. A vote was taken, all were in favor, motion passed.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: - No report.

Co-PRESIDENTS' REPORT – Given by Noreen Carlascio and Michele DePalma.

Noreen thanked Jeanine Hassert and her family for hosting the holiday party.

We would like to thank the following committees:

- Thanks to the School Photo committee for a successful retake day.
- Thanks to Kate D'Apolito for the Season of Miracles presentation.
- Thanks to Donna Daly for distributing the Fallon Flyer, and also for her work on the yearbook with Jen MacMullen and Marianne Scibetta.
- Thanks to the volunteer coordinators Laurie Leonard, Carolann Martello and Kim Brown for organizing volunteers for the Holiday Boutique.
- The Holiday Boutique was a great success thanks to our chairpeople, Jen MacMullen, Erin Corsiglia, and Tracy DeLuccia.
- Thanks to Laurie Leonard for volunteering to sign in parents for our third grade program.
- Thanks to Joyce Duncan for filming our third grade program.
- Thanks to the class parents for the very successful holiday parties.
- Thanks to the Sunshine committee of Karen Katz and Amy Kirkman for providing holiday gifts to the Fallon staff.
- Thanks to our Media Center volunteers for their help throughout the year.
- Thanks to the Beautification Committee of Tiffany Roth and Lisa Rosenkrantz for the beautiful holiday display. We are open to anyone's suggestions for next year's display.
- Thanks to Janice Lougheed and Nancy Leotsakas for updating the school sign.
- Thanks to Solange Mastroberti and Denise Pike for keeping the school store up and running.
- Thanks to the Student Council liaison, Patti Babich, for attending student council meetings and assisting the students.
- Thanks to our wonderful crossing guard, Susan Hohmann. We are deeply grateful for her diligence in keeping our children safe.
- Thanks to Julie Boylan for coordinating our Community Outreach coat drive.
- Thanks to the teachers for the parent-teacher conferences.

We have a change in one of the committee chairs for Hospitality – Teacher Appreciation Week. Tina Scangarello has moved. Gina O'Hanna has volunteered to chair this committee with Linda Bukowski.

Upcoming Events: The Fallon Flier deadline is 1/25. Cultural Enrichment's "Dancing with the HoneyBees" will also be on 1/25. The bookfair has been changed from February 4,5 and 6 to March 4,5 and 6 due to the primary elections which will be held in the Media Center. Also due to the elections, our next PTO meeting on February 5th will be held in the Cafeteria.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: - Given by Mr. Maayan

Thank you to the second grade teachers for attending tonight's meeting.

Regarding staffing, Diana Gracia began on February 21st, replacing Mrs. Heine who is on maternity leave. Mrs. Heine gave birth to Dylan on December 27th. Mrs. Guselli will begin maternity leave on March 10th and will return on June 2nd. Mrs. Loureiro will begin maternity leave on May 23rd, and will return in September. The interview process/demo lessons will begin next week. Our speech teacher, Mrs. Hamilton, will be returning on April 14th.

Regarding safety, our fire drills have been excellent. We are now blocking off one exit on each drill. We will have our second code red next week. On election day, February 5th, we will have a police officer on duty all day.

Under the leadership of the student council, our school raised \$1,169 for leukemia patients. Thank you to all of our Fallon families.

Regarding traffic, a letter was sent out to re-emphasize the rules. Please read this letter and follow the rules. We will try to increase police presence at our school, and Mr. Maayan will be out with the crossing guard as much as possible.

The parent notification system has been in effect as of January 1st. This system will notify families of emergencies, school closings, early dismissals etc...

At our last meeting we discussed the possibility of the PTO purchasing hand sanitizer dispensers. The teachers, principal, and building services would rather have individual bottles.

The PTO asked if the fifth grade students could use chairs with baskets underneath since they travel to different classrooms for different subjects. There was some concern from the custodial staff that these chairs might not stack up for cleaning the floor. We checked with the schools that have these chairs, and they do stack up.

We plan a visit to Randall Carter to view a demonstration on Connected Classrooms. This will be done on Friday January 18th.

We had a training meeting on the website today. It will be up and running shortly. Each PTO committee should have a write up on the website.

The following events took place recently :

- "A Season of Miracles" cultural enrichment assembly was presented.
- The Holiday Boutique was a great success.

- The Anthony Wayne Chorus performed for our students.
- Our band concert was wonderful.
- The holiday sing-along and class parties were very enjoyable.
- The PTO Holiday party was a great success.
- The third grade performance was wonderful.
- We had a dental health program for our third graders.

The following are upcoming events:

- On Monday January 14th we will have a Jump for heart assembly.
- On Monday January 21st, school will be closed for Dr. Martin Luther King Day.
- On Tuesday January 22nd we will have a peer mediation assembly for grades 3 through 5.
- On Tuesday January 22nd, Family Science will begin.
- On Friday, January 25th “Dancing with the Honey Bees” will be presented.
- On Friday February 1st “Officer Phil” will have an assembly for grades K-4.
- Monday, February 4th is Kindergarten changeover.
- Tuesday, February 5th is Kindergarten Registration, and also our next PTO meeting.

TEACHERS’ REPORT Given by Mrs. Bursik.

The teachers wished to thank the PTO for the very organized holiday boutique. The children really enjoyed it. The class mothers did a fantastic job on the holiday parties. All of the teachers enjoyed the PTO party at the Hasserts. It was a great start to the holiday season.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ART APPRECIATION – No report.

BACK TO SCHOOL PACKAGE – No report.

BIRTHDAY LUNCH – No Report.

BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON – No report.

BOOK FAIR – No report.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: - Given by Michele De Palma.

We have contracted a carpenter to build the counter with drawers and collection bins as per our prior vote. This will provide an organized way to collect items and keep more people out of the main office. This should be ready in a few weeks.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION & INK JETS – Given by Jari D’Alessandro.

As of today we have earned \$522.44. Jari wanted to run a contest in order to get the kids involved and encourage parents to save their boxtops.

CLASS PARENT COORDINATION – No report.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Written by Julie Boylan and read by Beverly Pindulic.

The coat drive was a big success. Many, many coats were collected and distributed to Fallon and Ryerson families. The remainder of the coats went to Eva's village in Paterson.

For Thanksgiving, the Shop Rite gift cards were distributed to Fallon families in need.

In December, Holiday gift cards were given to Fallon children in need.

We will have a food drive in March to support the Wayne PTO Council food pantry.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT - No report.

FALL FUNDRAISER (TRICKY TRAY) - No report.

FALL FUNDRAISER (KIDSTUFF) – No report.

FIFTH GRADE YEARBOOK COMMITTEE – No report.

FIFTH GRADE DAY - No report.

FIELD DAY – No report.

FIFTH GRADE ACTIVITIES - No report.

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE - No report.

HOSPITALITY COORDINATORS – SPECIAL EVENTS - No report.

HOSPITALITY COORDINATORS – TEACHER APPRECIATION - No report.

MEMBERSHIP – No report.

MEDIA CENTER – No report.

MEDIA FUND – No report.

NEWSLETTER – No report.

PLANT SALE – No report.

PUBLICITY – No report.

READING INCENTIVE PROGRAM – No report.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY – No report.

SCHOOL PHOTO – No report.

SCHOOL SIGN COORDINATOR – No report.

SCHOOL SPIRIT – No report.

SCHOOL STORE – No report.

SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR – No report.

SPA REPRESENTATIVE – No report.

SPRING FUNDRAISER – No Report.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT LIAISON – No report.

SUNSHINE – No report.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS – No report.

WAYS & MEANS – No report.

WEB PHOTO COORDINATOR – Given by Joe Butz.

Pictures have been taken and will be ready when the website is ready. We earned \$54 from the search engine discussed at our last meeting.

WEBMASTER – No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

At our last meeting we discussed possible uses for our excess funds. There are 3 classes (2 kindergardens and a resource class) which still don't have DVD players. The cost would be approximately \$100 each, for a total of \$300.

Jeanine Hassert made a motion to dedicate up to \$350 for the purchase of DVDs and mounts. Jari D'Alessandro seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

At our last meeting we also discussed purchasing hand sanitizers. Mr. Maayan has indicated a preference for individual bottles.

Jeanine Hassert made a motion to dedicate up to \$300 for the purchase of hand sanitizers. Joseph Butz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

All chairpeople will need to prepare something in the next few weeks to describe their committee for the new website's PTO link. It can be as detailed as you like, or as simple as a descriptive paragraph. These items should be submitted to the PTO presidents and

then Mr. Maayan for approval. They will then be sent to Meryl Budnick who will format them for the website.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Lori Greene asked everyone to keep in mind that we still had some excess money. Nancy Horbatuk is still researching the Peaceful Playgrounds, and we are still looking into the Connected Classroom and the chairs.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jeanine Hassert, seconded by Joseph Butz. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Beverly Pindulic, Recording Secretary.

Approved: _____

Beverly Pindulic, Recording Secretary