

**JAMES FALLON PTO
MINUTES OF
May 13, 2008 MEETING**



PTO Co-President Noreen Carlascio called the regular meeting to order at 7:42 p.m. in the Media Center. Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

The attendance sheet was circulated together with the April 2008 PTO Minutes and the budget with activity through May 13, 2008.

In attendance were: PTO Members: Noreen Carlascio, Michele DePalma, Jeanine Hassert, Nancy Horbatuk, Colleen Cardinale, Lori Greene, Karen Katz, Amy Kirkman, Joseph Butz, Gina Okun, Principal: Ethan Maayan Teachers: Rena Cooper, Kati Manwaring, Jo-Ellen Polizzotto

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Noreen asked everyone to review the April PTO minutes.

A motion was made to accept the April 2008 minutes by Joseph Butz, seconded by Jeanine Hassert. No discussion on the floor, a vote was taken, all were in favor, motion passed.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT: - Given by Colleen Cardinale.

Invitations for the PTO dinner have been sent out.

TREASURER'S REPORT: - Given by Lori Greene.

Lori noted that a copy of the proposed budget with activity through May 13, 2008 was provided for review. Lori also requested that committee members submit all requests for reimbursement in a timely manner, since the PTO has a fiscal year end of June 30th.

A motion was made to accept the Budget by Jeanine Hassert, seconded by Gina Okun. There was discussion regarding the fact that the Sunshine Committee's budget was increased by \$225. This increase is not reflected on the budget which was distributed. 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.

Our next PTO gathering will be the year-end dinner on June 10th at the “Spain” Restaurant in West Paterson.

The following chair positions are still available for the 2008/09 school year: Art Appreciation, Volunteer Coordinator, Hospitality, co-chair for Cultural Enrichment, co-chair for School Photos, Yearbook, SPA Representative, and a co-chair for School Spirit.

Since our last PTO meeting, the following events have taken place:

- The Earth Day committee distributed re-usable bags compliments of the PTO. They also organized a project whereby each student decorated a Shop Rite bag with an Earth Day theme. The bags were then returned to Shop Rite for use by their customers
- The PTO donated a \$100 gift card to the Wayne Alliance, to aid in fundraising at their annual basketball game.
- We contributed \$1600 to offset the cost of the Fifth grade trip to Medieval Times.
- The Reading Incentive program was a success.
- The Sunshine Committee provided gifts from the PTO to Carol for Secretaries Day and to Mrs. Scian for Nurses Day.
- Cultural Enrichment provided our students with the Bodacious Book Show.
- Our Hospitality Teacher Appreciation committee organized a breakfast and lunch, as well as gifts for the staff. Student council representatives helped organize and bake cookies for our teachers.

The following are some upcoming events:

- Tues 5/20 is Field Day.
- Thurs 5/22 is the last day for collection of box tops.
- Thurs 5/22 is the Fallon Flier deadline.
- Tues 6/3 the PTO will provide refreshments for the 5th grade Presidential Awards breakfast.
- Friday 6/6 is the 5th Grade Battle of the Books. The PTO provides book store gift cards for the winners.
- The Kids Caboodle assembly is June 9th.

We would like to thank the following committees:

- Tiffany Roth and Lisa Rosenkrantz for the great Earth Day celebration.
- Thanks to the Sunshine Committee, Karen and Amy, for providing gifts for our school secretary and nurse.
- Thanks to Kate D’Apolito for the book show assembly.
- The Teacher Appreciation committee did a wonderful job.
- Thanks to Kathy Drago, Marie Frank and Lisa Richards for the very successful plant sale.

- Thanks to the student council for baking for the teachers.
- The School Store committee did a wonderful job. They provided a gift to each child for the end of the year.
- The Art Appreciation committee did an outstanding job.
- Our Box Tops chairperson did a great job.
- The Yearbook committee: Jen MacMullen, Marianne Scibetta and Donna Daly, are hard at work and doing a wonderful job.
- Donna Daly has done a great job with the Fallon Flier
- We appreciate the School Sign Coordinators for keeping our sign up to date.
- Thanks to our Media Center Coordinators for supplying the Media Center with volunteers.
- Move up Day will be held on June 12th. Thanks in advance to Amy Kirkman, Maria Souss and Remi Onorato.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: - Given by Ethan Maayan.

Our Speech teacher, Jennifer Hamilton, has returned from maternity leave on April 14th. We would like to thank Ron Van Dunk for doing a great job as her replacement. Mrs. Guselli will be returning from maternity leave on June 2nd. Mrs. Loureiro will be going on maternity leave on May 23rd. Mrs. Bedosky will be on maternity leave for all of next year. It looks like there will be three Kindergarten classes for next year. Mrs. Cooper will be retiring at the end of the year.

The Fifth Grade has completed their NJ ASK, and the make up testing is going on this week. Special thanks to Rena Cooper for doing an outstanding job as test coordinator.

We were able to transfer some money to fund a 5th grade NJ ASK test preparation program. Students identified as being under or around the proficient and advanced proficient areas on last year's test were invited to join this five week program in Math and/or Language Arts. Thank you to Mrs. Polizzotto and Mrs. Caplan for teaching these classes. We have asked central office to continue this program next year in the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades prior to the NJ ASK test.

Thanks to the PTO for the chairs which have been ordered and all the other donations.

Thank you to our presidents, PTO council, and all committee chairpersons for doing a great job throughout the entire year.

The following events took place recently :

- April 7th – 25th was Spring Reading Incentive.
- April 8th – First Grade DNA testing.
- April 9th – District Kindergarten orientation.
- April 14th – 4-G outdoor lab.
- April 15th – School Board Budget election great day
- April 16th – Earth Day celebration
- April 18th – Wayne Alliance Basketball Game
- April 22nd – 5th Grade Dolls for Democracy
- April 23rd – 5th Grade trip to Medieval Times

- April 24th – 2nd Grade trip to Turtleback Zoo
- April 25th – Bodacious Book Show Assembly
- May 5th -9th – Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 8th – 4th Grade trip to the Meadowlands Environmental Center
- May 9th – PTO Plant Sale
- May 9th – 5th Grade visit to Anthony Wayne Middle School
- May 13th – Kindergarten orientation

The following are upcoming events:

- May 16th – First Grade field trip.
- May 19th – 5th Grade program dress rehearsal
- May 19th – 5th Grade parent program
- May 20th – Field Day
- May 22nd – Rain date for 4th grade trip and Field Day
- May 23rd – 27th – School closed for Memorial Day and unused snow days
- June 2nd – Pen pals visit 2nd grade classes, and Field Day Awards.
- June 3rd – Math is Fun Day and Fifth Grade Presidential Awards
- June 4th – 4th and 5th grade band concert
- June 6th – School Spirit Day, June Birthday Lunches, Battle of the Books, and Sports night
- June 9th – Kit’s Kaboodle Assembly
- June 10th – Kindergarten program and PTO dinner
- June 12th – 5th Grade Move up Day
- June 18th – 3rd grade trip to Sandy Hook and July Birthday lunches
- June 19th – August Birthday Lunches
- June 20th – Class parties
- June 23rd – Talent Show and Kindergarten parties
- June 24th – Talent Show and last day of school

There will be a new wellness policy for next year. Candy, cupcakes etc. will be significantly limited district wide. We will find out specific details shortly.

TEACHERS’ REPORT Given by Mrs. Manwaring.

Thank you for the wonderful teacher appreciation week. It was greatly appreciated. Also, the plant sale was very successful.

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: - No report.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION & INK JETS –Given by Michele DePalma.

Another check for \$500 should be arriving for September.

CLASS PARENT COORDINATION –No report.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - No report.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT - No report.

FALL FUNDRAISER (TRICKY TRAY) - No report.

FALL FUNDRAISER (KIDSTUFF) – No report.

FIFTH GRADE YEARBOOK COMMITTEE – No report.

FIFTH GRADE DAY - Given by Amy Kirkman.

Move up tee shirts will be handed out this week. Mr. Maayan suggested that if the shirts are only needed for Move Up Day, they should not be handed out to soon.

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.

SAFETY – 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 – No report.

WEBMASTER – No report.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lori Greene estimates that we will have excess funds from this year's budget ranging between \$10,000 and \$13,000. We will have a more specific estimate in June. From this total we will leave \$2,000 as a general carry over, \$700 which is set aside for school folders plus about \$500 from prior years. This will total \$3200, leaving somewhere between \$7,000 and \$10,000 which will need to be allocated. We would like to earmark specific items to be purchased in the order of importance. We will then purchase these specified items, in order, until the money is gone.

One item which has been discussed in the past is a mat for front entrance with the James Fallon logo. Depending on the size, the cost would be up to \$2,200 with shipping.

Another item we have discussed is the painting of US and world maps on the wall by the Kindergarten classes. The maps will cost up to \$400. The teachers will discuss whether or not to label the map with the names of the states and countries.

Mrs. Polizzotto discussed the idea of purchasing Jeopardy games for the 1st to 5th grades. The units cost \$1500, and the games cost \$399. It was decided to purchase one game for each grade level, starting with the upper three grades. This would cost up to \$6,000.

Mrs. Manwaring presented a request from the Fourth grade teachers for a document camera, which is like a 21st Century overhead projector. The camera displays 3-D objects that you hold in your hand. The cost is \$850 plus shipping and handling. We would allocate up to \$1100.

Joe Butz mentioned the possibility of developing a nature trail. It was decided that due to the expense of upkeep, this thought would be tabled until next year.

Everyday Math games – It was decided at the last meeting to hold off on this.

The School Store Committee has requested a more formal booth. They would match the colors of the cabinets in the foyer. The current setup is not functional. The cost would be up to \$1,500.

Razkids.com is an online library of level books. The children can listen to the books, and then read along. There is a quiz at the end. Teachers can monitor how the children are reading. The subscription price is \$39 per classroom per year. We have 20 classrooms, including Resource. The total cost would be up to \$850.

Before we prioritize this list, we would like to make a motion on the map separately. The map will be purchased first, and will not be a part of our prioritized list.

Amy Kirkman made a motion to dedicate up to \$400 for the maps to be painted on the wall. Joe Butz seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

The remaining items were prioritized as follows:

1. Up to \$850 for Razkids.com.
2. Up to \$1,500 for the school store.
3. Up to \$1,100 for the overhead projector for the media center.
4. Up to \$6,000 for the Jeopardy game for grades 3 through 5.

Amy Kirkman made a motion to purchase the items in order of our priority list as long as funds are available. Jeanine Hassert seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Noreen reminded everyone that at our previous meeting it was decided that our Fall Fundraiser would be Innisbrook. We also plan to switch from the Kidstuff Book sales to the Entertainment Book.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Manwaring, seconded by Jeanine Hassert. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Beverly Pindulic, Recording Secretary.

Approved: _____

Beverly Pindulic, Recording Secretary