

# **JAMES FALLON PTO MINUTES OF October 14, 2008 MEETING**

**PTO Co-President Noreen Carlascio called the regular meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. The meeting was held in the Media Center. Pledge of Allegiance was cited.**

The attendance sheet was circulated together with the September 2008 PTO Minutes and the proposed budget with activity through October 14, 2008.

In attendance were: PTO Members: Noreen Carlascio, Michele DePalma, Jeanine Hassert, Beverly Pindulic, Lori Greene, Joe Ugliarolo, Colleen Cardinale, Sue Hohmann, Jennifer Schneider, Kate D'Apolito, Joseph Butz, Lisa George, Ron Melendez, Erin Marzella, Christine Coppola, Dina Lucariello, Patrick Kline, Dawn Werr, Debbie Jaeger, Linda Malone, Maddalena D'Amico, Erin Corsiglia, Scott Okun Principal: Ethan Maayan Teachers: Michele Thomas, Heather Altamura, JoEllen Polizzotto

## **RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

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

Noreen Carlascio asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**A motion was made to accept the September 2008 minutes by Scott Okun, was second by Erin Corsiglia. No discussion on the floor, a vote was taken, all were in favor, motion passed.**

## **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

No report. Colleen asked everyone to please make sure they sign the attendance sheet. She also asked if everyone is receiving her e-mails. Everyone seems to be receiving them.

## **TREASURERS' REPORT:** - Given by Lori Greene.

Lori noted that a copy of the proposed budget with activity through October 14, 2008 was provided for review.

**A motion was made to accept the Budget by Erin Corsiglia, seconded by Jeannine Hassert. A vote was taken, all were in favor, motion passed.**

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** - Given by Jeanine Hassert

Jeanine is the Interim Vice President. Anyone interested in joining the executive board next year should see Jeanine.

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

The following are events that recently took place:

- “School House Rock” assembly on September 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Fallon Flier articles have been received and it is currently in the printing process. Thanks to all contributors.
- Birthday lunch coupons have been purchased and given to Mr. Maayan.
- School pictures were taken on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. All went well.
- Entertainment Coupon books went on sale on October 6<sup>th</sup> thru October 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- St. Barnabus Burn Unit was here for our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Thanks again to our Cultural Enrichment committee.
- The money for the Rude Family has been given out.
- School Store cabinet was delivered but it needs wheels to be installed and then they are set to move in.
- Class parent meeting will be held on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM in the cafeteria.
- Spiritwear Committee has been taking orders and are now processing them.
- Art Appreciation meeting went well.
- Media Center has finished coordinating all the volunteers. Thanks to all who are helping.
- Volunteer coordinators are busy scheduling volunteers for upcoming events.
- Publicity Committee working hard at getting photos out to local newspapers.
- Thanks to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade teachers for attending this meeting.

Upcoming events:

- The School Spirit Committee will be hosting the Fall Frenzy on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 9:00 PM.
- There will be a performance of “Bully Busters” on October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The class parents will be hosting their Halloween parties for all the classes on Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The next PTO Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

All information is available online at the website. You can click on the icon “Be Notified” and anytime there is a change you will be notified via e-mail.

Anyone interested in being on the Executive Board next year? Noreen, Michele and Jeanine are in their last year of their posts.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** - Given by Mr. Maayan

Thank you to Site-Based Committee of Michele DePalma, Noreen Carlascio, Scott McLean and Pam Burns. The teachers on this committee are Rose Guselli, Donna Corsaro, Renee Heine and Kim Venezia. Our first Site-Based Committee meeting was held on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

The Student Council election was held on September 28<sup>th</sup> resulting in 29 new members. We would like to thank Interim Assistant Superintendent James Campbell, Assemblyman Russo and Councilman Sadowski for attending the induction ceremony.

Children have expressed interest in collecting money for the Rude Family. Mr. Maayan has said no to a bake sale but is looking into a coin drive or friendship bracelets.

Violence Awareness Week is next week. There will be two assemblies on bullying. Our EPIS Counselor, Mrs. Malone, has many activities planned. There will be different grade level activities as well.

Regarding safety, we will have our first Code Red (lockdown situation) next week and we will have our first Code Green (evacuation) the week of the 20<sup>th</sup>. We had a fire drill today. There will be one (1) Code Green per year and (4) Code Reds per year. A parent asked if there are any notices sent home prior to the Code Green so that the parents will know about it. (Anthony Wayne MS apparently sends home a notice.) Mr. Maayan said he wants it to be a surprise. The only people he notifies are the Police and Board of Education office. He might let the teachers know if it is a bad weather day outside so that they can have the children grab their coats. The returning Parent Crisis Volunteers are Rosella Autiero, Colleen Cardinale and Nancy Leosatkis. They help the children with the Code Greens.

Everyday Math – Committee worked all summer to address the concerns of the parents. Time tests will be given all year long and kept so that the progress can be seen throughout the year. By giving these tests, it increases the automaticity for the children.

Mrs. Polizzotto mentioned that by parents having their children play math card games at home is a wonderful help. She will again be holding Math workshops this school year.

Wellness Policy – In our school district, there are 2 ½ schools that have no birthday lunches. Teachers like the idea of snacks for birthdays under the wellness guidelines. Some parents were sent home with their birthday snacks because they did not meet the guidelines. Mr. Maayan will be sending home a listing of acceptable items that can be brought into school.

Regarding our parking lot, there are schools that are far worse than ours. Seems to be going ok this year but there is always room for improvement. The teachers' parking lot is now coned off so that no parents will park there during pick up time. There was a water main break in the parking lot that caused some back up problems in the morning because of the single-file that the cars had to be in for drop off.

Voting – The lesson plans are great and Mrs. Polizzotto has contacted the owner of the booth. The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will vote. All students will be doing different election activities. Many people has commented on the life-size figures of McCain and Obama in the school.

## Recent Events

September 26<sup>th</sup> - Schoolhouse Rock Assembly  
October 3<sup>rd</sup> - Picture day  
October 10<sup>th</sup> - Fire truck demo K-2  
October 13<sup>th</sup> - St. Barnabus Burn Unit

## Upcoming Events

October 17<sup>th</sup> – Author Nancy Starr visits  
October 17<sup>th</sup> – Meadowlands Trip for Grade 4  
October 28<sup>th</sup> – Bus Evacuation Drill  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> – Million Dollar Machine assembly  
October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Program dress rehearsal  
October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Program parent performance  
October 24<sup>th</sup> – Fallon Fun Night  
October 27<sup>th</sup> – The Morris Brothers assembly  
October 31<sup>st</sup> – Halloween Parade/Class Parties

November TBD - Multi-Cultural Day  
November 3 – Staff In-Service Day  
November 4 & 5 – Schools Closed for Fall Recess  
November 6 & 7 -Schools Closed for Teachers' Convention  
November TBD - Safety Patrol Induction for the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
November TBD - Diabetes walk

Thank you also to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers for coming to the meeting.

**TEACHERS' REPORT** Given by Mrs. Polizzotto, Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Altamura.

The teachers wished to thank the Cultural Enrichment Committee for the Safe and Fabulous program. The St. Barnabus Burn Unit was very informative. Thanks also for the Schoolhouse Rocks assembly, picture day, and election activities. We would also like to thank the parents for sending in healthy treats with your children. As for election activities, the Leosatkis family is manning the booth; the students' will bring in a voter registration card on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The voting will be in the Media Center (to make it authentic since the actual voting booths will be there on November 4<sup>th</sup>) and the children are very excited. There will be an inaugural ball on January 20<sup>th</sup>; and the teachers were wondering if the entire school could participate in the inaugural ball?

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ART APPRECIATION** – Given by Erin Marzella.

The Art Appreciation Committee (Erin Marzella, Deb Valente, and Kathy Drago) had a parent meeting. There are 4 art projects for each grade. These projects are now going to be a set yearly program. They are asking teachers for hallways. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Art Show will be on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. (24 projects???)

**BACK TO SCHOOL PACKAGE** – No report.

**BIRTHDAY LUNCH** – No report.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON** – No report.

**BOOK FAIR** – No report.

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:** - Given by Dina Lucariello.

Thank you to Oak Farms for donating the hay, pumpkin and cornstalk for the school. She would like a thank you card sent to Oak Farms. She is going to call Gena Ugliarolo to get one sent.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION & INK JETS** – No report.

**CLASS PARENT COORDINATION** – Given by Jeanine Hassert.

The selection of all the class parents has taken place.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH** - No report.

**CULTURAL ENRICHMENT** - Given by Kate D’Apolito.

Committee hosted the St. Barnabus Burn Unit and was a success. Wish to thank the Wayne Fire and Police Departments for their help. Pictures will be in the Wayne Today of this event. In December there will be a book signing. At any book signing when the book is sold, the PTO must make some money on this kind of event. Mr. Maayan was thinking about maybe charging an extra dollar per book that would go towards the PTO fundraiser.

**EARTH DAY** - No report.

**FALL FUNDRAISER (INNISBROOK)** - Given by Beverly Pindulic.

The Innisbrook fundraiser made approximately \$11,000, short of our budget of \$15,000. Prizes have been handed out. We were reminded that we can order all year long from Innisbrook and the proceeds will go toward our school. Mr. Maayan was relieved of his duty of wearing a monkey suit since we did not make out budget. Dawn Werr inquired if the sale could run longer and maybe we would be more sales.

**FALL FUNDRAISER (ENTERTAINMENT COUPON BOOK)** – Given by Dawn Werr.

The sale has started and will end on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. So far, 28 books have been returned and 22 have been bought. There have been approximately 300 books sent out (1 per family). There will be a pizza party for the class with the highest amount of books sold and there will be another notice going home reminding parents that the sale is going on.

**FIFTH GRADE YEARBOOK COMMITTEE** – Given by Erin Corsiglia.

Jen MacMullen and Erin have had a meeting and are meeting with the publisher next week to understand how to use their software for the yearbook.

**FIFTH GRADE DAY** - No report.

**FIELD DAY** – No report.

**FIFTH GRADE ACTIVITIES** - No report.

**FOOD SERVICE ADVISORY** – Given by Jeanine Hassert.

Jeanine will be having her first meeting on Friday with Sodexo, the food service company. If you would like to know your child's food account balance, you can go to Wayneschools.com, Sodexo and see the balance. If you would like to add money to your child's account, there will be a 4% fee of the amount that you put in.

**HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE** - Given by Lisa George and Jennifer Schneider.

This year's Holiday Boutique will be on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The committee is looking into having evening hours (possibly on Thursday) for working parents that would like to shop with their children. Jeanine Hassert questioned whether they have a permit for the evening hours. Lisa believes we have the permit but Jeanine does not believe so. Both are going to look into it.

They have ordered from the same vendor as they ordered from last year but are comparing companies that other schools use for their Holiday Boutiques for possibly switching vendors in the future. They also need volunteers to help the children shop for the gifts. More volunteers are needed for K-2. They are looking to schedule the volunteers at least 2 weeks prior to the Boutique.

**HOSPITALITY** - No report.

**MEMBERSHIP** – No report.

**MEDIA CENTER** – No report.

**MEDIA CENTER BOOK DONATION PROGRAM** – Given by Scott Okun for Gina Okun, his wife.

So far 10 families have donated a book to the Media Center.

**NEWSLETTER** – No report.

**PLANT SALE** – No report.

**PUBLICITY** – No report.

**READING INCENTIVE PROGRAM** – Given by Scott Okun for his wife, Gina, who is the chairperson for this committee.

There was great participation this year. As a reading incentive prize, we will be giving Kindergarten children ribbons and Grades 1 to 5 will get school store coupons for 25 cents each.

**SCHOOL DIRECTORY** – Given by Noreen Carlascio.

There are 8 families that have not returned a form for the Directory. As far as e-mail addresses being put into the Directory, maybe next year. There are 417 students in the directory. The alphabetical listing is a great asset to the directory.

**SCHOOL PHOTO** – Given by Nancy Horbatuk.

School pictures were taken on Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Retakes will be done on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Group and club pictures will be taken on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Mr. Maayan, all the teachers, Karen Katz, Patty Babich and Noreen Carlascio for all their help.

**SCHOOL SIGN COORDINATOR** – No report.

**SCHOOL SPIRIT** – Given by Erin Corsiglia.

The Fall Frenzy will be held on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed. The prizes and the DJ are all set. There will be a pie eating contest, cute games and pumpkin decorating.

**SCHOOL STORE** – Given by Christine Copolla.

The school store is open on Wednesday's from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM. The store made \$260 last week (birthday lunch money is included in that number). Please don't forget that there is a form on line that would allow parents to give coupons to the School Store for their child's classmates on their child's birthday.

The personalized clear folders are a huge hit. If anyone sees them at Staples, please let Christine or Tanya know.

**SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR** – No report.

**SPA REPRESENTATIVE** – No report.

**SPRING FUNDRAISER** – No Report.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT LIAISON** – No report.

**SUNSHINE** – No report.

**TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK** - No report.

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS** – No report.

**WAYS & MEANS** – No report.

**WEB PHOTO COORDINATOR** – Given by Joe Butz.

Bulletin boards look great.

**WEBMASTER** – No report.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The following is the status of the expenditures which were voted on at our September meeting:

- The DVD brackets which were approved are scheduled to arrive by next week.
- We have approved the \$850 for Razkids.com, which is a program for our Reading Specialist to utilize in helping with literacy. This needs to be ordered.
- We allocated up to \$1500 for the school store, and it has arrived.
- We allocated \$1,100 for a new Overhead Projector for the Media Center.
- We allocated up to \$6,000 for the Jeopardy games requested by Mrs. Polizzotto. These will be for grades 3, 4 and 5. Mrs. Polizzotto will be at the Teacher's Convention and will talk to the rep at that time about placing an order.
- The map that we had previously allocated money for is now being donated by the company that is going to paint a mural or something free of charge (this is per Chrissy Brown).

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Art Appreciation Committee requested a cabinet for art supplies. They would like wheels and locks on it also. Mrs. Polizzotto mentioned that maybe a woodshop class in the high school would be willing to make it for us. It was also mentioned about all the carts that are stored in the corner by where the school store is. It was mentioned that maybe a shed could be bought for outside to store them in.

Ron Melendez brought up the fact that his children are in the Aftercare Program and that there is nowhere for the children to go and find shade outside. He would like to build a gazebo and have it done in time for earth day. It would be right outside the cafeteria on the area with the rocks. He was also going to look into having a solar-powered fan underneath the gazebo also.

Maddalena D'Amico mentioned a Fallon family who lost their husband and father last June. Maddalena spoke to them regarding how we can best help them. They said they are financially all right at the moment. It was suggested that we do a donation to St. Judes Hospital for \$100 in the name of Nicola Trani. Maddalena D'Amico motioned this and Colleen Cardinale second the motion. The motion was passed. Gena Ugliarolo is going to send a card.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:** None

**A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Colleen Cardinale, seconded by Scott Okun. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00p.m.**

**Respectively submitted by Susan Hohmann, Co-Recording Secretary.**

**Approved: \_\_\_\_\_**

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**Susan Hohmann, Co-Recording Secretary**