

September 9, 2015 PTO Meeting Minutes

AUDIENCE: 27 parents, PTO officers and Principal Joanne Simons

Officers present:

President: Tara Kennedy VP: Elizabeth Cross Secretary: Gloria Manchego

Treasurer: Diana Frye Assist. Treasurer: Jenny Bresnahan Coordinator: Ruthie Spiero

Secretary's Report: Approval of June Minutes: approved by audience majority and seconded by Ruthie Spiero

President's Report:

-PTO has a website maintained by Heather Pettis. Parents should subscribe to the website.

-PTO sends home a weekly report

-NFS parents become automatic members of PTO. Looking always for volunteers. All new ideas are welcome.

-Fundraisings such as coupon books and the Fairy House Tour are organized to supply money for school activities.

Principal's Report:

-Kids have been an amazing community of students and friends. Felt very welcoming and received several cards from students. Met Kindergarten kids during the summer.

-There are 240 students enrolled this year, down by 13 students.

-About 100 students have registered for MC3.

-Looking for a new soccer coach for 5th graders.

-Looking for lunch monitors to work 1.5 hour each afternoon. It is a paid job.

-Classes will be working on fairy houses.

-There is a new secretary that will become full time shortly.

-There will be a Walk Audit this week to observe traffic patterns and walkers behavior on Maplewood Ave.

-Last spring, students from 3rd to 5th grade had a test assessment. Results will come in mid October and there will be a presentation about it.

-The school will turn on the video security after regular school hours as suggested by one of the parents.

30 Day Review:

-Lawn Fete: It was fun and a big success.

- Two Kindergarten play dates were organized during the summer

-Welcome back kick off: There was ice cream and popcorn

-New parent pizza party: Glad to see new faces and great turn out.

Treasurer's Report:

Income was over budget by \$479 and expenses were less than budget by \$4845. The new budget for 2015/2016 will be adjusted every month.

60 Day Look Forward:

Coupon Book: School gets 15% of proceeds. Families will receive a \$25 coupon book to buy or return. Looking for volunteers to distribute coupons in classrooms.

SpiritWear: Such as plastic tot, t-shirts, hats, etc. An order form will be send home before Christmas.

Walk Audit: On September 10th from 2 to 5pm. A parent suggested closing back gate during weekends.

Math Mavens: Need of volunteers during school day. Good for parents or grandparents to connect with the school.

Artsonia: This is a new activity that consists to put students' art work in mugs or t-shirts. Looking for volunteers.

Scholastic Book Fair: This is a fundraising activity for the school library that starts tomorrow.

Fairy House Tour on September 26th and 27th: Every teacher will built a fairy house made of natural materials. Asking for guns and glue sticks. 50% of ticket sales will go to NFS. Looking for volunteers to built and transport houses to Prescott Park.

School Directory: It has a calendar, websites and resources for parents. Looking for sponsors for directory. Parents can also pay for personal spaces to greet students. Looking for volunteers to help with this project.

Closebuy: Catalog sales from local businesses of which 30% of proceeds goes to NFS. Purchased products are delivered to school in early December. Next Tuesday, some products will be displayed during the open house.

Orange Leaf Night: Scheduled for Sept 22th from 5 to 8pm. 15% of sales goes to NFS. UPDATE: This event was cancelled.

PEP (Portsmouth Education Program): It is an enrichment program for students after regular school hours. Cost: \$30. Information will be send to parents next week.

Healthy Try-Its: To ask kids to try new healthy food. It is done by all Portsmouth public schools.

Coffee Sales: NFS gets a portion of each pound sold.

Adult Halloween Dance: For NFS parents and friends. Event is on November 6th from 7 to 11pm at the VFW. Cost: \$10 upfront and \$15 at the door.

Fruit and veggies: Grant was lost this year.