

# PTO MEETING MINUTES (draft)

March 6, 2013

**Officers Present:** President: Heather Pettis, VP: Tara Mickela, Treasurer: Kara Jolly, Asst. Treasurer: Kelly Mee, Volunteer Coordinator: Teresa Hill, Secretary: Becky Vardell, Principal: George Shea.

**Secretary's Report - Becky Vardell** Minutes from the February 6, 2013 meeting reviewed and approved.

**Guest Speakers – Phil Pettis – Clipper Foundation** - new non-profit on the Seacoast providing grants for teachers who have innovative ideas outside the normal curriculum. The goal is to raise \$1million. Portsmouth, Greenland, Rye, New Castle and Greenland. We've raised over \$625,000. Going out to each school to fundraise towards the school. It's a grass-roots campaign with individuals and families being the primary donors. Administrators are very supportive and they will hopefully begin to awards grants by Fall of 2014. [www.clipperfoundation.org](http://www.clipperfoundation.org)

**Wayne Moulton – New Heights** - Based at community campus. Traditionally was 6<sup>th</sup> grade-high school. They'll be starting with 5<sup>th</sup> graders this year with two programs at each elem. school. NFS programs include: Lego robotics FIRST – program- they build a robot and each year there is a theme. Community connection. Summer Day camps 10-5pm. They go to state parks, etc. 1 day adventure programs. [www.newheightsonline.org](http://www.newheightsonline.org)

**President's Report - Heather Pettis**

**Generate for Schools** – They are negotiating with a pool of credit card processors and are able to negotiate a lower fee for merchants, then they give 25% of their profits back to the schools. School Board was going to distribute funds, but now the money will be pooled for the 3 elem. Schools. There is very little work involved, they are just looking for us to provide them with contacts. **Support for Families** - donations are being collected for Liam Hansen to be able to continue with his violin lessons following the death of his mother, Katie Baucke – send \$ to NFS. Cure for Chelsea on Face Book - former student who is suffering from a rare form of epilepsy. Any amount appreciated!

**Committee Reports: Greening** - We don't know when we'll be building garden beds – when the snow melts.

**Wellness** - Hydration station is up and running in the café. **Directory** – in final review – looks fabulous!

**Principal's Report - George Shea**

**Science Institute** was a wonderful, engaging experience for students – Mad Science was great and educational.

**Climate Committee**– zapped by a compliment school-wide initiative (lightening bolts being passed around and the kids write nice comments). Ambassadors of Cheer and Goodwill program will be starting! **Thank you Tara** for a wonderful newsletter! **21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant**, please fill out survey – huge grant for after school programming from 2:45-6pm big community partners in this grant PPLibrary, New Heights - It's a big grant, and it's a long-shot – going up against Manchester, Nashua, etc. **School security update** – consultants came through during break with police. Looking for areas for improvements. Hoping to fix the doors so teachers can lock from the inside of the class – looking at after school security and visibility at the front office. **Nature Trail** out back still in the works. **In-Service Day on the 15<sup>th</sup>**– writing what do we need in accordance with the new standards – looking at student work. **Gary the Clown** will be here in the weeks before April break, performance Fri. before break.

**30 Day Review - Tara Mickela**

\$333 profit from Little Cesar's, Yankee candle, Mother's Day Sale is a possibility. Valentine Kisses - \$350 in profit.

**Treasurer's Report - Kelly Mee**

We are already 70% of the way to making our goal. 80's Dance and Lawn Fete will be critical.

**60 Day Look Forward - Tara Mickela**

**Ice Cream Social** – we're postponing until next Thurs. because of the predicted snow.

**Talent show** – Forms in by 3/11! Show is 3/22, Pam needs someone to shadow and take over next year.

**Coffee Fundraiser** – through Port City Roasters – we'll be selling on an on-going basis.

**80's Dance** – 4/13 Gazpacho playing at the Elk's Club– GET YOUR TICKETS - email Dy Kozikowski.

**Wallis Sand's Half** – need volunteers to staff the water stop April 28. \$300 with potential for additional \$300.

**Word** – Sample of writing from each student in the school – need to get printing donated.

**Meeting Adjourned – Next meeting is March 6 at 7pm. Childcare will be provided.**

