

November 12, 2009

PTO Meeting

Start Time 3:30pm End Time 4:45pm

23 People in attendance.

- * PTO President Barbara Leandri discussed our sign that is to be placed in front of our school; we did receive our building and zoning permit.
- * PTO membership forms will go out once again on Friday 11/13/09. Our goal is to be at 100% but realistically looking for 225 members...
- * A big thank you to Karen Moorehead for art night an estimate of 75 people showed up. Also, a big thank you to Melissa Thaxton who chaired the Chili cook off the same night.
- * Principal Mary Porter-Price
 - o Discussed having an evening for the children in our school who reached goal or above CMT scores. We will have a ceremony in January this time opposed to the one we had in November last year.
 - o She also spoke about field trips that are planned for this school year and that all field trips are being funded by a learning grant.
 - o Also, there is not a big spike in the amount of children that are absent; average is still around 68%.
- * PTO Treasurer Maureen Brawner spoke about how much the PTO raised thus far;
 - o Bookfair raised \$1936.41 in cash and \$617.00 in Scholastic bucks
 - o After School Enrichment made \$220.00 after expenses
 - o Pie Fundraiser made approx. \$700.00-\$800.00
 - o Harvest Festival made \$98.00 after expenses
- * 5th grade teacher Mr. Sharack did an Aerospace Adventures presentation which is an after school program for 4th-6th grade classes. Mr. Sharack is requesting his previous budgeted money from the PTO. His presentation went well.
- * Playground meeting scheduled for Wednesday November 18, 2009 @ 4:30pm. Eagle Scout Jeff Merlo could not attend this PTO meeting, Mary Porter-Price spoke on his behalf about his cleaning up the courtyard for his Eagle Scout project, he has worked hard this winter raising money, also spring planting with low maintenance plants. Mary Porter-Price wants to beautify the front of the school with the possibility of the youth group doing that. Lisa Tilton spoke about how we can focus our efforts on the playground beautification with working in conjunction with Jeff. Discussion on inviting students to help paint a brick for the outside. Each class can come up with a theme. Also suggested is a community flower garden by the

students. Mrs. Bousquet spoke on new playground plans. Removing archway as it is rotting away. Parallel bars to be removed. Due to the expense of a new playscape in was suggested that we purchase 1 or possibly 2 pieces at a time, with new types of equipment with a physical fitness theme; climbing rocks, ropes, bungee type equipment.

- * Mistletoe Market and Frosty's Workshop will be November 20, 2009 @ 5:30pm – 8:00pm in the Gales Ferry School gymnasium & library, forms have been sent home, along with applications for vendors. The students from Ledyard High School will help with wrapping gifts. We are asking for gently used items for gifts to be donated. Boxes at both schools will be available for items; also donations for wrapping supplies are needed. Alisha Paul spoke about scrip, it had a slow start, Alisha is placing orders now every two weeks, and also a booth may be available at Mistletoe Market.
- * Teachers who had some requested items have all been approved for purchase.
- * Becky Maranzano reported that After School Enrichments last class was Thursday 11/12/09. It has gone well and we are hoping to have it again in the spring. Ideas are welcomed!
- * **As always the PTO is trying hard to build our school community and have more family activities.**

Respectively submitted,

Vita Congdon