

Nelson Place School PTO Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2009

President Debora Connor opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Barry McGrath

- Budget was submitted and approved.
- Financial Report was submitted and approved.

Mr. Kelley's Report

- A connect-ed message was sent on Sunday, October 25 to remind people about the PTO meeting. The message was not received by those who were present at the PTO meeting.
- TD Bank donated \$5,000 to be used for the library. Mr. Kelley has been looking into the possibility of purchasing furniture through W.B. Mason for the library. The cost of new furniture is estimated at \$2,500 to \$3,000. Mrs. Imbergamo has requested the purchase of some art books. We have an additional \$3,000 from the Scholastic book fair that will be used to purchase books for the library through Scholastic.
- The Veteran's Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, November 10. The breakfast is for parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles who have served in the armed forces. Last year, 28 veterans showed up and had breakfast with the students. Mr. Kelley requested approximately \$100 to fund the event.
- Community Reading Day will be held on Tuesday, December 8. Speakers will talk to the kids about the importance of reading.
- The Annual Turkey Dinner Celebration for staff and students will be held on Monday, November 23 from noon to 1 pm.
- For detailed information about MAPS testing and results, visit www.nwea.org.
- At the school committee meeting, a motion to put Nelson Place School back on the list for replacement was submitted and approved. We are still 2 or 3 years away from contemplating a replacement school. Nothing will happen until the construction of the new North High School has been completed. The PTO should pursue the issue through the school committee and CPPAC.
- Parking is an issue at Nelson Place. The police tagged cars recently. Do not park on the crosswalk, in front of driveways or near fire hydrants. Please pull into the turnaround, drop off your kids and keep moving.

Books & Beyond and TRIPP – Jill Andros

- The TRIPP kickoff begins tomorrow with the Unleash the Magic in Books program.
- Parent volunteers have been found for every classroom.

General Discussion Regarding PTO Meeting Schedule

- For scheduling purposes, some people prefer to have the PTO meeting on a particular day each month. In the past, the meeting has been held on the third Wednesday of each month.
- At the November meeting, we will discuss the PTO meeting schedule for the remainder of the year.

Enrichment Committee – Gretchen Switzer

- A magician will present the Unleash the Magic in books program tomorrow.

- No enrichment programs are being planned for November and December, due to teachers and students being so busy.
- The Pumpnickle Puppet show will take place in June for Kindergarteners.
- A star gazing night is difficult to coordinate. Ideas about as to how to pursue this endeavor were suggested and Gretchen will follow up.

Scholastic Book Fair – Gretchen Switzer

- 2010 Book Fair will take place at the end of February/beginning of March.

Operation Turkey – Gretchen Switzer

- Communication will be sent home soon regarding the collection of canned goods and donations for Operation Turkey.

Family Nights – Meg Mulhern

- Pumpkin Night was a success. \$600 was raised and the kids had a great time.
- The next family night will take place on Saturday, November 14 when we go to the Worcester Sharks game. Tiffany Horton will be signing autographs.
- There might be another parent social in January.
- Meg has been in contact with the Hanover Theater to arrange for a family night there this spring - either Beauty and the Beast or Oliver.
- Mr. Kelley thanked Meg Mulhern and Lisa Lussier for all of their hard work.

Fundraising – Deb Steigman

- Fundraising took place early and quickly this year.
- The profit from the Entertainment books was \$2,600. There are still some Entertainment books left for \$25. The entire sum from the remaining books goes directly to Nelson Place PTO, so contact Deb Steigman if you would like to purchase one.
- Approximately \$6,700 was raised through the Yankee Candle fundraiser. Yankee Candle products should be in 1 to 2 weeks before Thanksgiving.
- \$350 in pure donations were received.

Hospitality – Deb Steigman

- Community Reading Day will be coming up on Tuesday, December 8. Committee members will be contacted to donate baked goods.
- Mrs. Costa will soon be back from maternity leave. Gift ideas are needed.

Library – Peggi Harris

- The library opened today for class visits.
- All library volunteer slots have been filled.

Holiday Store – Dave Francis

- The holiday store will take place the week of December 7.

PTO Newsletter – Debbie Jerszyk

- Submissions for the November newsletter are due by Wednesday, October 28. Contact Debbie Jerszyk at debsavon67@aol.com.

CPPAC (Citywide Parent Planning Advisory Council) – Deb Steigman

- Meets first Tuesday of each month at the downtown library at Salem Square.
- Last Thursday, a “Know your School Committee Candidate” night took place.
- Everyone is encouraged to vote in the November elections.
- On a Saturday in January, the goal is to get 4 to 5 representatives from each school in the city to take part in a best practices discussion.

Stand For Children – Mike Kozlowski

- A successful forum took place on Monday, October 19 at the Beechwood. Four candidates for mayor participated.
- The next few years are going to be challenging for schools. Please vote in the upcoming elections.

New Business

- Motion to hire CPA firm to submit our 2008 taxes was approved after some discussion. A 950 EZ (tax exemption form) and Form PC (public charity form) need to be submitted for the 2008 school year which runs from July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009. The cost will be between \$900 and \$1,200. The firm that we have used in the past is McCarthy & Hargrave.
- Teacher request to renew internet subscription to Enchanted Learning was submitted and approved. Cost is \$125.
- Motion to fund Veteran’s Breakfast on November 10 was submitted and approved.
- Motion to use TD Bank funds for furniture and art book was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Landry
PTO Secretary