

Peter Noyes PTO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Attendance: Erica Endyke, Shonda Morris, Jenn Spencer, Dana Hasten, Annette Doyle, Lisa Tilzer, Jean Nam, Silvia Nerssessian, Lisa Koucharchan, Gina Hatcher

Erica welcomed everyone to our November PTO meeting and asked that everyone review the meeting minutes. Minutes were approved

1. **SPS update (Erica)** Math curriculum—math program is going well—feedback from people and staff is that it is working well--

2. Committee Updates and upcoming events.

- **Octoberfest (Erica)**—success—raise 6k—energy was really relaxed—auction will be now every other year—auction takes a lot of time and effort—we are now looking for people who would be willing to take that on.

- **Lotus Blossom fundraiser (Erica)**—Carrie Ann Davis is our fundraising coordinator—will be advertising shortly--

- **Bingo Night (Erica)**—Thursday Jan 18th—collaboration with book fair evening event—one session again to make it easier for people who go away every weekend to attend.

- **Book Fair: (Dana)** Dates are Jan 12-22nd.—lots of volunteers—Jen Fonte and Julie Jackson are doing a great job in helping to orient the new group to book fair—hoping to start to allow the kindergartens to attend the book fair, in discussion with the kindergarten teachers.— The all for coins, coin drive will be starting soon— this is connected to the book fair and all proceeds go to the library—\$1,200 went the school library last year and then our collection total is matched and those proceeds go to a school in need to help them buy books. Bethany Shaw is running the drive and is in the process of getting the coin drive together. We are in discussion of trying to purchase a coin counter due to issues with fines to do it. Planning to post to Facebook to see if anyone knows where we could get one.

- **Fundraising: (Dana)** We are trying a new app (Script) that gives the school a percentage of what people buy. This will be launched after the holidays, to help to not miss the holiday shopping and to not exhaust people after holiday spending we will be advertising for gift cards for Hanukah and Christmas. A link will be posted on the website, and an email blast will go out with a link for you to go to buy your gift cards through. Basically, you can buy gift cards and we get a % back—they have a website and a app you pay 15cents per transactions on presto pay—or Dana will buy some cards and you would buy directly through the school through her--% that is given to the school is a variable percentage, this seems to be dependent on the store and how much we get back. All you should do is enter the code from the link that will be sent to the families—and you would shop through the app—through presto pay-- stop and shop, whole foods, Starbucks, Dunkin doughnuts. Another school through this program gets 2k in revenue from a local grocery shopping with no additional costs to its families. Also, Tiny Prints and Shutterfly will give Peter Noyes 12% back on all purchases made through them, families should shop with the link that will be posting on Facebook and through our email blast

- **Cookie Swap**—(Erica) Sign up genius for our teacher's cookie swap for December 5th, went out about 50/80 spots have been filled—will most likely will resend out to get more people to sign up as the date gets closer.

- **Science fair (Dana)**—March 7th early release—meeting Friday about it—in discussion with 5th grade teachers they are changing their curriculum to fit the science fair.

- **Movie night**—scheduled for March 15th with a plan for a snow day March 16th—we are showing the emoji movie

- **Fun run---**(May 4--rain date may11th) Fun run hoping to have it outside—big fundraiser—we raised a lot of money but the company took a lot of our proceeds—so hoping to organize the event ourselves in a similar fashion—looking to use less trinkets for the kids as prizes for after the event.

Open Positions

- a. Popsicles and playground—position remains open.

Comments/Open Discussion

- **Playground initiative (jean)**—idea to do a fundraiser each year to help with funds—possibly a fun run—town wide to help possibly get the whole town involved. Still in discussions as to logistics of it.

- **Benches out front (Annette)** —they were unsafe so were removed they are approximately \$500 to replace. The wood needs to be replaced on the bench along with the frame—in the talks about getting it replaced. Possibly a 5th grade end of the year gift.

- **Parent car pickup (Annette)**—Have had complaints that it feels dangerous and not efficient to exit on the left on the concord road— in discussions chief Nix trying to figure out a way to fix the problem— possibility to take down the metal gate going into the parking lot—issue with doing that is there is a big cut through problem through the parking lot —idea: to allow people exiting the car pickup line to exit by the Flynn building—it would require taking parking spots away—spots that are near the cemetery to create enough space to make 2 way traffic possible.—also need stay within a 15minute window to salvage learning time—talks of possibly doing it as a test run to see how it works before sacrificing the parking spots.

- **SPS update: Lisa**—was initially thought to vote for a shared superintendent—in order to do that SPS and the LS school committee would have to agree—it was voted to explore all the options—LS Bella Wong is really busy and difficult for her to split her time—it is really complicated to share administrative—doesn't make sense to bring in an interim so we posted with school committee for a permanent position—

there are 3 companies who will help us pick a superintendent—will be brought to a vote to pick the company—then a search committee made up of 11 people comprising of: administrators, teachers and parents will find potential candidates. Then the search committee will bring candidates forward to be chosen—it needs to be done soon—candidate pool is going out soon will lose the window for potential candidates. --the budget has been hard on the schools—This Monday there is a school committee meeting to see what we want/need back into our schools—budget meeting will be held December 4th—opportunity for feedback from the town on what that they would like to see brought back and what they feel is important—school committee needs to hear from the families to help them determine what is really needed—come forward and tell us what you need. Email can be done as well. (Annette) has asked the staff to comment on how the budget cuts have impacted them—i.e. not having enough custodians if one of them is sick and teachers need to sweep their own rooms and the whole school is not wiped down if there is sickness in the classrooms. Possibility an SPS PTO liaison to help—thought to help get the info from the teachers on their feedback on what the impacts of the cuts.

Next PTO Meeting: January 10,2018 at 9:15am.