

PTA Meeting Minutes 3.8.16

I. Welcome + PTA Update (Deanna) -

Attendees- Deanna Laird, Frederica Carpenter, Susan Sanford, Rebecca Rabeni, John Stevens, Megan Anderson, Susan Mercier, Pam Hurley, Melissa Kagan, Melinda Rabbitt DeFeo

-February meeting minutes approved

-Received our certificate of solicitation in which we need to apply every year; moving forward the audit will be done every June

II. Committee Updates

A+ Program – (Pam Hurley) almost 5,000 made this year through A+!, This year had to have the manager, Mary McAvoy, go to corporate to get blessing to sign up those who we took numbers for but hadn't entered right away; Program ends in 11 days; Consider bringing computer to pizza-bingo night to get more sign-ups for year ahead; Next October do a large campaign at the library, Stop N Shop and school events. Put fundraiser dates on calendar now so not competing against other fundraisers

Scholastic Weekly Readers- Pam is seeking funding to continue to fund the weekly readers next year through PTA. Resources are incredible, there is a special presidential election issue in the fall, which is additional cost. Voted approved to continue funding for next school year, earmark \$3,000 for the upcoming year- Frederica motions, Melissa seconds; Want to work on doing a better job of informing parents and teachers what PTA funds; Think about putting stickers on issues to let them know from PTA- Will publicize on first, middle and last edition; Room parents can help stick on newsletters for each class; PTA will order a bright color sticker for this purpose.

Room Parent (Deanna Laird)- Figure out how to use room parents more often next year; Do a thank you event at the end of the year for the room parents and encourage to help next year. Get feedback on how to improve the program. Math night event has primarily been marketed by the room parents, tonight from 6-7 pm math; John to let us know how attendance turns out.

Pease Scholarship- Susan Mercier- Wanted to come back and take a moment to clarify that even though historically we have given \$2,000 annually for the scholarship, we could continue the scholarship in any amount. The important aspect is that the tradition of the scholarship continues. If the PTA feels they could commit to giving \$500 each year that could greatly help a student buy books or any supplies they may. \$500 can really go a long way. The criteria- must be a student who graduated from the Edgartown school. Parents have the opportunity to report income on the application. 3 school committee members review applications and discuss who would be great candidates. Susan is asking for the PTA to reconsider. The existing scholarship would be administered by school committee but the PTA would listed as the donor and present the check at the ceremony. The recognition would be great for PTA and could really expand our portfolio. Moving forward we would have a contingency that we would base fundings on the status of available funds. Deadline to announce contribution amount for the scholarship would be Dec 1. As of next year we will be doing the budget in June so the timing could work going forward. Each student is given a packet after coming back from Christmas break and kids have about 2 months to apply. PTA will need to vote at the next meeting and approve giving \$500 for next year (2017) and commit to continue giving money going forward (contingent upon available funds).

Susan recommended Speaker on autism- Kathy Hackett.

Fundraising

SchoolA- \$1148 made thus far; 90% of donated items have sold; Dee tried to order a bag online but couldn't- website stated "no longer accepting bags from your location"; Melissa to follow-up; Plan on doing another school wide collection the week after April vacation 4/11 through 4/29. Melissa will work on updated flyers with

the new dates. We will need volunteers to help with collecting bags and tagging items for April collection.

Vineyard Propane (Deanna)- Need to publicize more for next year; Will continue to accept propane receipts.

Soup/cookie Fundraiser (Deanna) – We brought in about \$250-275 in one night. Items coming in today; next year need to reserve the dates on school fundraising calendar earlier. Plan to submit dates for all fundraising events over summer or at the very start of the school year.

Suggested that we need to be more aware of how often we ask for money (or for people to buy things); Really need to narrow down the number of fundraisers for next year; The plan for next year is to choose 2-3 and publicize them and do them really well. At the next meeting we need to assess our options for next year. John will bring school calendar for next meeting.

Garden Committee (Melinda Rabbitt DeFeo)- Seed fundraiser is currently underway. Mr. Morris has committed to a donation but needs to know where to send money. Need to coordinate the thank you's to donors with Deanna. Next year need to have a more functioning committee and recruit more members and have leadership from the PTA; Melinda needs to focus more on kids and programs, not fundraising. ; Melinda to summarize and resend "the needs of garden committee". Need outreach to parents through a flyer stating, "lets keep these programs going....we need your help", PTA to write a letter and get out to parents once we get info from Melinda; Will take suggestions of others who may be willing to volunteer and get involved.

III. Upcoming Dates and Events

Pizza/bingo Night, Friday March 18th - Frederica to get flyers done by the end of the week; Dee to order bingo cards and call ahead regarding pizza order; Dee will order pizzas for 5:30 so that they are ready on time.

IV. Treasurers' Report (Susan Sanford) See Report

-We received 2 checks from the request for support letter regarding the sign- one of them was for \$500. PTA to consider that we use extra funding for additional \$500 towards the sign, will vote at next meeting. Thus far we have earned \$1025 towards sign; need about \$2500 more.

- True account balance \$5344

VI. New Business

-Mary Ellen Guither- is seeking funding for a scholastic math magazine; Believe it is almost double the cost of regular scholastic; Give info to Pam H. and ask her to clarify for next meeting.

VII. Closing

Adjourn at 9:40 am