

PTA Meeting November 9, 2010

The general meeting of the Accomsett Elementary PTA was called to order at 7:37 pm on Tuesday, November 9, 2010.

In attendance: Ellen Kyranakis, Nancy Lindardos, Janet Burkert, Patti Arrucci, Regina Ranaldo, Allyson Gelfand, and Mrs. Feliciano.

The minutes of the October 5, 2010 General PTA Meeting were accepted. Copies were made available to the general audience.

Correspondence

- Newspaper article of our successful blood drive.
- “Thank You” from Mr. Borden was passed around.

Treasurer’s Report

- Balance as of October \$33,874.54. Copies made available to the general audience.

Teacher’s Representative

- The bullying assembly was amazing.
- Types of bullying were identified. The kids had gotten a lot out of assembly.
- Posters with kids’ signatures made available.
- Teachers are getting ready for the book fair.
- Carnival was good.

Principal’s Report

- Cultural Arts assembly on bullying included cyber bullying.
 - Students had taken oath not to bully.
 - Bystanders must take action.
 - Bullying by exclusion.
 - Parents to sign anti bullying oath.
- Character Ed – good choices.
- Police Smart K-5 → revision of the 5th grade D.A.R.E. program. It is given by trained officers with written curriculum.
- CAPS Program (Child Abuse Prevention Services) 3rd grade program – how to keep yourself safe. Third graders did role playing activities.
- “The Leader in Me” – teachers had first level of training. Character Ed theme combined with literature for each grade level.
- Mr. Springer created “The Leader in Me” tree. He is currently working on kindergarten wing.
- Second grade mural will be done later this year to incorporate Fairy Tale Ball.
- Have you filled anyone’s bucket? Messages and quotes to tie into character ed and literature.
- *The Leader in Me* by Stephen Covey written for adults. Principals had 2 days of training.

- Bus Meetings – 2 buses at a time – proactively speaking about the bus goals.
 - Volume on the bus, instruments, good leadership
 - Younger kids sit with a friend, older kids not so happy about seating
 - There is room for improvement
 - Overall, less bus calls, only 1 or 2 minor issues.
- STEMS Program – 2 years ago enrichment program was eliminated, STEMS replaces it.
 - There is a curriculum that goes with it.
 - Teachers are trained in the curriculum.
 - Students are invited based on math and ELA scores.
 - Misconception that once you are in you're always in – it is based on scores.
- State raised the bar, more students identified who need support.
- Math Olympiad (5th grade only) – select number of students invited.
- Co-curricular morning clubs are given by teachers, approved by board. Teachers receive stipend.
- Band part of music curriculum.

President's Report

- Thank you for helping us to get through September and October.
- Special thank you's: Barbara DeSousa – Plant-a Bulb; Alesia Simco – Blood Drive; Dawn Georgadis – pictures (used Class Act photographers, hopefully we'll have better photos. Picture retake is December 9th. After retakes the photographer will go into classrooms for candid). Sue Fandozzi – Box Tops; Frances Avallone – Carnival raffles; Janet Burkert – Count the Goodies; Patti Richards – Carnival; Andrea Nieto – Game Night (Thank you to all the parents who came to help).

Christine Fitzgerald for the Smithtown Children's Foundation attended the meeting to give information about the organization.

President's Report (cont'd)

- Christine was invited to attend our meeting because as a PTA we cannot give a family in need money.
 - If you know someone in need, let Christine know.
 - 501C organization bound by certain rules.
 - A link will be set up on our website.
- Parent University October 25th covered the following topics:
 - Health & Wellness
 - Cyber bullying
 - Cooking Healthy
 - Drugs
- “Going Green” – no flyers will be sent home. Emails will be sent.
- Official business of the evening – We need to change the bi laws (there are only 4 or 5 items that need changing)
 - The Bi Law Committee includes:
 1. Yolanda Andrews
 2. Ellen Kyranakis
 3. Kristen De Carolis

- 4. Patti Richards
- 5. Linda Jablanski
 - Meeting will take place in January 2011.
- Nominating Committee – there are going to be 4 open positions. Three chair people and 2 non chair people must form this committee.
 - The Nominating Committee includes:
 1. Karen Mattschull
 2. Patti Richards
 3. Sue Fandozzi
 4. Maria Miller
 5. Maida Lownay
- We would like to take a vote to change the budget. We have too much money that we can't carry over.
 - PARP \$3,000 to \$3,500 – changing Comfy Cozy Cocoa Day and morning Read Ins
 - Cultural Arts - \$15,000 - \$20,000 – covers all programs and assemblies we bring in. We would like to have an evening family assembly.
 - Field Day - \$3,000 - \$5,000 – to purchase tee shirts.
- Carryover budget would still be \$24,000. We did lose money on Carnival.
- Motion to increase – Andrea Fasano made motion, Sue Fandozzi second – Proposed budget changes passes.

Arts in Education – Nancy Linardos

- October – Power of One; November (weather permitting) 3rd to attend play at high school; December Dan & his birds; Push Cart Players – this will be for entire school.

Council Delegate – Nancy Linardos for Sally Schaeffer

- Bullying hotline number.
- Any concerns – write on an index card and leave in office mailbox.

SEPTA – Nancy Linardos for Alesia Simco

- 11/10 – Lewins Balloons at Nesaquake Middle School. First 800 people – parents are required to attend, not a drop off event.

SIT – Mrs. Minarik for Jamie Moses

- Character ed – murals.

Sunshine Fund – Liz Adams

- Nothing to report.

Membership – Patti Arrucci

- On sale for the next few months.

School Store – Ellen Kyranakis

- Open for business.

Boutique – Ellen Kyranakis

- December 3, 6 & 7 during Parent/Teacher conferences.

Book Fair – Janet Burkert

- Barnes & Noble – Tuesday November 23 5:00 – 9:00 pm.

Year Book -

- Representative attended workshop.
- Still waiting on baby pictures.
- Emails will be resent.

Toy Drive – Ellen Kyranakis

- Toys will be collected during conferences.
- Marines will come to pick up toys during Cookie Swap on December 14th.
- Mrs. McCoy & Community Kids will sort toys.

Past Events

- Flower sale was successful.
- Box Tops a little slow.
- Reflections winners have been announced. Breakfast will be held January 11th.
- Apparel – new apparel very successful.
- Blood Drive – Thank you to volunteers and donors. Total units collected – 60.
- Game Night – Thank you to all who volunteered and attended.
- 5th Grade Fundraiser – coupon book. Today is last day to purchase.

Upcoming Event

- Cookie Swap – Tuesday, December 14th – bring your favorite cookie and recipe.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Regina Ranaldo, Recording Secretary