

Otisville Elementary January PTO Meeting

We wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

January 20, 2010

Josephine Whitehurst
Staci Doty & Kelly Fedrezzi
Jennifer Logedo
Sally Ann Clayton
Secretary

Chairperson
Co-Chairpersons
Treasurer

Welcome Back everyone.

Principal's Report: Alice Reh

Our theme this year, "Helping Hands with Caring Hearts" incorporates helping the children from Haiti. Our student council, led by Mrs. LeMieux and Mrs. DeVenuto, will be collecting cash donations from all the classes during this month and part of next month. Any donation, no matter how big or small, is greatly appreciated. We want to develop caring, kind and emphatic children.

Other events:

Juvenile Diabetes Research: This past fall, the school collected \$7,500 for Juvenile Diabetes research. Ten percent (\$750) was given back to the school. This money will be used to purchase additional gym equipment.

SOS: Soup on Saturday: Classes are collecting soup for needy families in our community. SOS is sponsored by Kiwanis Kids. Our goal this year is to collect 2,500 cans; this goal will exceed last year's goal by one hundred cans. The classes have collected about 300 cans so far.

Band Concert: Approximately 90 fifth grade students will be performing in the band concert. The concert will be held January 25th at 2:30 pm for Grades K – 2; January 26th at 2:30 pm for Grades 3 – 5 and 7 pm for parents/families.

Jump Rope for Heart: will take place in February. This activity promotes overall wellness and staying fit. More information will follow.

February 1st: Conference Day; no school for students.

February 5: Report Cards will be sent home.

Assistant Principal's Report: Vincent Biele

The NED Show, a highly interactive character based show, will be performed on January 29th. There will be two shows: Grades K – 2, 9:30 – 10:15; Grades 3 - 5, 10:30 – 11:15. A flyer was sent home explaining NED and giving kids the option to buy different items. There is NO obligation to buy.

“Bus of the Month Program”: This program was developed to allow students to voice their concerns about different issues happening on the bus. Riding the bus should be a fun and positive experience. Both bus drivers and students voted and their number one complaint was the amount of noise on the bus. Both found the noise to be very distracting. Each month 4th and 5th grade students will meet and brainstorm about ideas to help fellow students make good choices on the bus.

Treasurer's Report: Jennifer Logedo:

Fall Fundraisers: The school profited about \$6,270 from both the pizza and cookie dough fundraisers.

Entertainment Books: The school profited about \$2000.

Holiday Workshop: The school profited about \$691. This event was not a fundraiser but we were able to make money.

Motion made, second, and approved.

Approved Minutes/Correspondences: Sally Ann Clayton

Sal reviewed the minutes from the November meeting. No questions were asked. Motion made, second, and approved.

Guest Speaker in February: Next month our guest speaker will be Aramark, who is our breakfast and lunch supplier. A representative from Aramark will come to the school to address concerns that some parents have about healthy eating and kids being able to “supersize” lunch.

Old and On-Going Business:

Box Tops for Education: Box tops collected until February will be credited for this school year. Any box tops collected after February, will be counted towards next year. A letter will be going home with more information.

Ink Cartridge Recycling/Target Charge Card/Campbell's Soup Labels: \$240 was collected in ink cartridges for the month of November; Target payout expected in March; keep the old cell phones and Campbell Soup labels coming.

Holiday Workshop: A big thank you to Janet Sutherland for all her hard work. The workshop was a big success. Everyone loved all the items for sale. For next year, however, we could use more help with the younger students.

Entertainment Books: The school profited over \$2000; however next year we will stick to the discount cards.

Yearbook: Forms will go out next week to order the yearbook. The cost is \$20. All yearbooks will be in hard cover and in COLOR. More information to follow.

New & Upcoming Events:

Young Lady/Special Gentleman Dance: This will occur Saturday, February 6th for grades K – 2. Please contact the PTO if you are able to help. We are in need of kitchen help.

Young Lady/Special Gentleman Snow Tubing: This will occur Saturday, February 20th for grades 3 – 5 at Thomas Bull Memorial Park in Montgomery.

Game Night: This will occur Friday night, February 26th. More information will follow.

Tricky Tray: This will occur Friday night, March 19th. We are in need of people to solicit vendors. Each class will pick a theme and all students will need to bring in one item to create a basket. More information will follow.

Spring Fundraiser: Since the classes are collecting money for the Haiti Fund, we will not participate in a spring fundraiser this year.

Teachers' Requests and Suggestions:

Mrs. Lourdes Deplantes, a 5th grade teacher, has requested money to help create a set for the upcoming production of "Twinderella". This production includes 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. All students, who try out, are picked for parts in the play. Everyone gets a part.

Supplies are needed to create a castle backdrop. Paint and other background materials are also needed. Since there is a large amount of students in stage crew, most of the projects will be student generated. Once the set/scenery is created, the school should be able to use it for years to come. Five hundred dollars have been requested. Motion made, second, and approved.

Thank you for coming. Our next meeting will be held on February 18th.

