

**DELANCO PTO
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2014 MEETING**

7:37 p.m. meeting was called to order by President Ruth Esposito. There were 21 members in attendance.

Introduction: The officers, Ruth Esposito, Liz Rottinger, Jaime Nucifora and Tracey Hamlin introduced themselves to the members present.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Jaime Nucifora presented the May Secretary's Report for circulation to the members.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was provided by Tracey Hamlin, Treasurer, and circulated. The balance as of today is \$6,090.52.

OLD BUSINESS

Meet & Greet: Ruth explained the August Meet & Greet that was held. It was very well attended. The PTO provided water ice and pretzels. Thank you to Liz Rottinger and Kathy Haines for picking those up. Ms. Mack and Mr. Mersinger also extended their thanks.

Teacher Breakfast: The PTO provided a welcome back breakfast for the teachers' first day. A special thank you was extended to Liz Rottinger and Kathy Haines for setting up and cleaning up for breakfast for the teachers' and staff's first day. They didn't eat very much at the time, but they finished all the leftovers over the next couple days in the teachers' lounge.

Bottom Dollar: We just began this program last year, and Ruth received a letter in August that they are discontinuing the program. We previously earned some prizes we can use for Bingo, and a science goo kit given to Mrs. Harper.

Target Program: Target says they sent \$569.72 to the school as of August 2014. Admin will look into whether it was received. We currently have 42 people enrolled. You can enroll through your Red Card, whether it is a credit or debit. Red Cards save you 10% on all purchases and 1% goes to the school if you are enrolled. Mr. Mersinger recently received a \$55.00 check.

NEW BUSINESS

KidStuff Books: Tracy Easton has sent the KidStuff books to all teachers and they should have come home with our children. The books are \$25.00 with \$12.50 coming back to the school. The books are available for different areas. Please return money or the books by September 19th. If you sell 5, you get 1 free. The PTO made approximately \$2,500 last year on this fundraiser.

Welcome Back PTO Letters/Magnets: Tracey Hamlin sent these into the school today. The PTO meeting info was on the letter, but it may not have made it to the students in time.

Membership: PTO Membership Drive started September 8th and runs through September 26th. You must be a member to be a room representative. The class with the highest percentage of membership will win an ice cream sundae party. Membership is \$3 per person and you can sign up as many people as you want. The PTO Board provides the ice cream, and the teachers can schedule the party for whenever they want. A letter with current class membership percentages is sent home before the Drive ends.

Back to School Nights: Pearson Back to School Night will be Tuesday, September 16th at 7pm and Walnut Street Back to School Night will be Thursday, September 18th at 7pm. A request was made for at least 2 volunteers each night to set up food, fundraiser sample table and collect for PTO membership. Tracey Hamlin and Renee Cirillo will work at Pearson and Liz Rottinger, Anne Marie O'Malley and/or Pam Van Zyl will work at WSS. We get a lot of member sign ups at Back to School Nights. It was decided that we will not be able to do refreshments in the Library as had been previously requested by Katherina Radcliffe, because the fire code does not allow enough people in the Library, so the refreshments will be set up in the All Purpose Room. It was discussed to possibly add another rotation of class presentations to lessen the amount of people being there all at once, and so parents with multiple children in the school can attend more than one child's class.

Fall Fundraiser: We have chosen Gifts N Things and Corbi's pizza and cookies for our fall fundraiser, which begins Friday, September 19th through October 6th. Delivery is Tuesday, November 11th. Ms. Mack is going to check on the flow of students in the gym entrance to confirm if there is enough room to set up fundraiser pick up there. Corbis has a new catalog. The kick off is September 19th, Bob has a demo/short assembly for the kids, and maybe the teachers can show the YouTube video in the classrooms.

Bingo: Back to School Bingo & Sundae Night will be held Friday, September 26th at 7:00pm. We need a lot of help. Jennifer Mack will call the numbers. Every child gets a prize and an ice cream sundae. If anyone knows of older kids who need community service hours, please refer them. We need about 6 student helpers. We scoop the ice cream ahead of time. The 5th Grade and Mrs. Minimi had a great time helping last year.

Book Fair: Parents are needed to volunteer to work the book fair the week of September 29th. Ruth will contact parents to volunteer. It is held in the conference room. Volunteers help the kids with buying their books and getting change.

Box Tops: Kristin Atkinson and Nika Corbett will be handling Box Tops. Thank you to Tracey Hamlin for doing them in previous years. There is a sign-up sheet to help with counting.

Room Reps: We try to assign 2 room reps per class. You must be a PTO member and come to the meetings. You assist with parties, contacting teachers, chaperoning field trips, baking cookies for the auction. If you know anyone who would be a good candidate, encourage them to sign up. List your children's classes in order of preference.

Yearbook: Suzanne Iwanicki will again do our yearbook. We purchased new cameras for both schools, Nikon Cool Pix, which should be delivered by Sept. 18th.

Spiritwear: Flyers will come home shortly to order spiritwear. We are looking for creative ideas. Orders will be in by November and back before Christmas. We will have T-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, flannel pants, golf umbrellas, and hats. Tracy Easton's company does a great job with our spiritwear.

Auction: Our auction will be on Friday, December 5th. Please ask for donations from any company with whom you have a contact. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. You can also buy items on clearance to either donate or submit for reimbursement with receipts, and we can use these items in the PTO baskets.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Mersinger: Mr. Mersinger would like the PTO and Delanco families to embrace new possibilities. The new administration has new ideas. Don't be afraid of change. They want to try things they have seen work in other schools. We now have a dedicated technology teacher – WSS now has technology classes three times a week. The schedule has been changed to benefit everyone. So far the new schedule has run smoothly for both students and teachers. We've had a successful start. Only 177 days left!

Ms. Mack: Ms. Mack also feels we have had a great start. She received suggestions from the PTO, teachers and parents about implementing the new arrival and dismissal procedures. She conferred with the chief of police and the crossing guards to implement the best and safest procedures for all. The teachers also requested she implement procedures to decrease lateness. There will be a family reward system put into place for being on time, parent participation, etc. The prizes include a family pack of movie tickets for the first marking period; FunPlex tickets for the

second marking period; Sky Zone tickets for the third marking period; and a one night stay at Coco Keys for the fourth marking period. Runners Club will now be starting earlier. And there is a late desk outside of the office for late check-ins and to drop off forgotten lunches and other items. Pearson now has both technology classes and Library once a week rather than alternating every other week.

Library: A flyer with upcoming events will be coming home soon.

Delanco Women's Civic Club 5K: This will be held on Saturday, October 25th. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to our school's running club. Students in 3rd to 8th grades can join the running club and run 3 mornings a week, working up to the 3K in June. Ruth recommends we donate two baskets to the Civic Club's auction. Registration flyers are available here. There are prizes given at the end of the race.

Chick-fil-a: Our next Chick-fil-a night is Wednesday, October 8th. The top 3 classes with the highest percentage participation will get pretzel parties.

Website: Tracey Hamlin does a wonderful job keeping our website, DelancoPTO.org, updated. Her husband, Paul, also keeps the sign in front of the school up to date.

Refreshments: Thank you to Liz Rottinger for providing the refreshments for tonight's meeting.

Upcoming Events:

- 9/8** Membership Drive begins
- 9/12** WSS Dance
- 9/16** Pearson Back to School Night
- 9/18** WSS Back to School Night
- 9/19** Fall Fundraiser begins
- 9/26** Back to School Bingo/Sundae Night
- 9/29-10/3** Scholastic Book Fair (Pearson)

The next PTO Meeting is Monday, October 6, 2013 at 7:30 pm in the Pearson All Purpose Room.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Kristin Atkinson and second by Tracy Easton.

A motion to approve the Secretary's report was made by Renee Cirillo and second by Sherry Layman.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Charmaine Anderson and second by Cherie Astraski.

*** Thank you to the Delanco Township Education Association for their continued support through PRIDE!***