

**DELANCO PTO
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2014 MEETING**

7:34 p.m. meeting was called to order by President Ruth Esposito. There were 16 members in attendance.

Introductions: by Ruth Esposito

Secretary's Report: Secretary Jaime Nucifora presented the October 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 \$12,650.99.

OLD BUSINESS

Chick-fil-a Spirit Night: Total sales of \$1,651.26, giving us 25% (over \$1,500 in sales gets us 25%) which equals \$412.82. 4-McGovern won the soft pretzel party. Everyone agreed to add a fourth Spirit Night to the calendar for 2015.

Fall Skating: 143 attended, which was down from 189 last year. The face painters were a hit again. We may have a spring skating night. Ruth wants to look into having the PTO pay ahead for walkers for the young skaters. It was discussed whether parents know that the rink is closed to the public during our party time. We also discussed bringing back the coloring contest for next year.

Fall Fundraiser: Chairperson Liz Rottinger. Pick up is tomorrow, 11/11 from 3:00-7:00pm in the Pearson Gym Foyer. An email and global call went out, and there was a reminder in the PTO News. Gifts & Things are to deliver around 11:00am and Corbi's is to deliver around 2:00pm. The Corbi's rep advised that we should be very careful filling the orders because they will not replace items that may have been mistakenly given to the wrong person. Each homeroom's top seller received a prize, the top 3 sellers overall will get a prize, in addition to 3 more students who sold 10 or more items from Gifts & Things. In addition, 4 students were drawn to win the Corbi's family packs.

Claire's Gourmet and Wolfgang Chocolates will be providing snacks for our December meeting, so we may consider them for Spring or future fundraisers. The Gertrude Hawk \$1 candy bars were also suggested for future fundraising, in addition to hosting a Designer Purse Bingo. Liz Rottinger has been approached about bringing back Ladies' Night. Jennifer Mack also suggested a Parents' Night out with a theme, dinner, wine & beer, and auction for about \$65 per ticket for a larger fundraiser.

Box Tops: Chairpeople Kristin Atkinson and Nika Corbett. Former chairperson Tracey Hamlin had previously entered us in a Shop Rite contest in which we won 25,000 Box Tops,

or \$2,500. Anyone can enter their Shop Rite cards online and choose our school to enter contests. The Box Top website also has contests to enter. We raised \$1,255 from our fall Box Top contest. The winning classes were 1-Santino and 7-G (Friedman), and will receive soft pretzel parties.

100 Book Challenge/Drug Awareness Night: Lots of parents attended the 100 Book Challenge night. There were 65 kids in their pajamas in the All Purpose Room. Many teachers, including Mrs. Santino, thought the program was very productive and well received. There will be more parent education opportunities going forward, including programs on the Common Core, PARCC, and Go Math. Ms. Mack mentioned that the school's reading proficiency is only at 55%, and the school rates a D- on the Super Schools website.

Only 2 parents attended the Drug Awareness program, which was the same night. They both agreed that the presenter was an excellent speaker, had a lot of good information, and this program should be offered to the Walnut Street parents at WSS.

It was also discussed that the assembly held during Red Ribbon Week, which was \$1,400, was not worth the money. Although the bike safety and tricks were great, there was little to nothing mentioned about drugs. We may consider something else for next year.

Spiritwear: Orders are due this Wednesday, 11/12, and will be delivered before Christmas.

NEW BUSINESS

Fall Fundraiser: Pick up is tomorrow, 11/11 from 3:00-7:00pm in the Pearson Gym Foyer.

Auction: will be Friday, December 5th. This is the PTO's largest fundraiser of the year. Volunteers are needed for basket assembly on 12/2 from 6:00-10:00pm, snack bag assembly on 12/4 around 1:30pm, and ticket sales the night of the auction. Flyers with the class basket theme assignments have been sent home and are available on our website. Ask for donations from family or friends with businesses. All monetary donations will be used to purchase the larger items for the \$5 table. Room reps are responsible for baking cookies for the auction snack bags, and Ruth provided small holiday themed snack baggies to be used for cookies. Liz passed around a sign up sheet to take letters to businesses. Class donations will be due by 11/21. Any class with 100% participation will receive McDonalds parties. Liz also passed around a sign up to donate to the various PTO baskets. Look around for any Fall or Halloween items on clearance. It was discussed to add a Fitness Basket to our basket themes. Liz may use Sign Up Genius for the PTO basket donations. Ms. Mack is going to check with Liberty Lakes for a donation.

Breakfast with Santa: Chairperson Jaime Nucifora. Santa is scheduled, although he may send someone else in his place because he recently underwent a heart procedure. The crafts have already been ordered and received. Order forms will go out on 12/1 with reminders a few days before ticket orders are due. We'll need help setting up Friday the 12th, specifically looking for parents whose children will not be in the Winter Band/Chorus Concert that night, and Saturday morning the 13th.

Little Shoppers' Shop: Chairpeople Ruth Esposito and Liz Rottinger. Ruth has hired a company to provide all the items, pre-priced, and we can return anything that does not sell. It will be available in school on 12/11-12, as well as during Breakfast with Santa on 12/13. Volunteers are needed.

Yearbook: Chairperson Suzanne Iwanicki. Anyone can upload photos at www.community.lifetouch.com, code IEYRPD. The yearbooks will be \$17 each if we order a minimum of 287. Pearson needs a better camera which takes faster photos and works well with the kids moving around. Everyone is encouraged to upload their Halloween photos.

Family Fun PTO Activities: will take place Jan/Feb 2015. We would like to again do a Carnival theme on a Friday night with face painters. Ms. Mack is going to check with the school's insurance to see if we can put a moon bounce in the gym.

Trenton Thunder: The tentative date is Tuesday, 4/21/15, which is not on Spring Break this year; it is a school night. Spring Break is too early to schedule this. Kids eat free on Tuesdays. Tickets are \$7 each if we sell over 126, or \$8 under 126, and we charge \$11 each. \$441 deposit is needed. Students will sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" on the field at the 7th Inning Stretch. DYSA will also be doing this at a later date.

Other New Business: The 8th Grade is selling mason jar candles to raise funds for their 8th Grade trip and dance at the end of the school year.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Mersinger: Ms. Mack read comments from Mr. Mersinger: Happy Veteran's Day. Report cards will be coming home 11/14. Conferences will be held 11/21, 24, & 25 and can be scheduled online. There will be an early dismissal on 11/26. Students are off on 12/5 for a teachers' in-service. Mr. Mersinger looks forward to the auction and thanks the PTO for everything.

Ms. Mack: thanks the PTO for providing babysitting for the 100 Book Challenge program. She attended the Fall Skating Party and thought it was a fun event that the kids really enjoyed.

Delanco Library: There were schedules available for November/December events. The T.A.G. program is geared toward middle schoolers. All the after school programs are great.

Refreshments: Thank you to Ruth Esposito for providing the refreshments for tonight's meeting.

Upcoming Events:

11/11 Fall Fundraiser Pickup, Pearson Gym Foyer, 3-7pm
12/05 Holiday Auction
12/13 Breakfast with Santa & Little Shoppers' Shop, 9:00-11:00am

The next PTO Meeting is Monday, December 8, 2014 at 7:30 pm in the Pearson Conference Room. This is our Holiday Gift Exchange Party. Please bring a wrapped \$10-\$15 gift as well as an appetizer or dessert (although there will be items provided by Claire's Gourmet and Wolfgang Chocolate).

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

A motion to approve the Secretary's report was made by Wendy Flanigan and second by Pam Van Zyl.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Liz Rottinger and second by Ruth Esposito.

Thank you Delanco Township Education Association: Your Children's Teachers and Educational Support Professionals for your continued support