Claypit Hill PTO Board Meeting

January 11, 2016

* PTO Board meeting was called to order by President Jean Prince at 7:08pm at Claypit Hill School.
* Members in attendance: Jean Prince- President, Holly Landsittel – Vice President, Elisa Scola- Secretary, Melissa Davis-Bell, Lauren Reynolds, Nadine Hill, Cindy Reardon, Sejal T. Srinivasan, Lisa Goodman, Liz Garcia and Christie Harvey– Members. A quorum was reached.
* November and December 2015 meeting minutes were approved.

President’s Report

Past Events

* DCF Gift Drive – There were 90 children from DCF who received gifts from Claypit families. The PTO is looking for volunteers to run this event next year.
* Ball Locker – The PTO purchased a ball locker in which to store games for recess. The locker has arrived and notices will go out requesting donations of balls and other items to fill it.
* Fifth Grade Roller Kingdom – Lauren Reynolds reported that the event was very successful with all but 2 or 3 children attending.
* Movie Night- There was a large turnout for movie night. The red carpet was a great touch. The event needs more adult supervision. There was a voluntary donation box in which $500 was donated. There was agreement to use the money to help fund a handicapped playground in honor of Jessie Aufman.

Upcoming Events

* Principal’s Coffee- The upcoming coffee on 1/15 will be about Open Circle and will include a visit to the gym to meet the new PE instructor.
* Just Like Me- All volunteer positions for the upcoming 4th grade unit are filled.
* Backpack Auction- The backpack auction will be run by Kate Anderson. It is the other big fundraiser of the year after Gift Your Child.
* Bingo – Maureen White reported that Bingo will be on March 11. The event is very popular and includes all three elementary schools and sells out on the first day. There was discussion about moving it to a larger venue, separating the three schools and adding a second Bingo night.
* Bus Driver Appreciation- The PTO is looking for people to run this event which will happen at the end of March or beginning of April.
* Talent Show- There was discussion about how Happy Hollow conducts its talent show. The next Claypit talent show will include auditions and rehearsals in order to speed it up a bit. There was discussion about having it earlier in the year rather than June.

Town Wide PTO News

Spending Down Reserves – The goal is for all schools to spend down their reserves until they equal only 50% of their operating budgets. Claypit has about $13,000 over the 50% mark. There was discussion about items on which the surplus could be spent such as small ticket items: an evening Movie Night, expanding the sweet endings event to include more activities, purchase SPED materials; and large ticket items: a school wide intercom, update the library, AC units.

PTO Board Reports

Wish List Update All of the requests for funding on the final list were granted with a total expenditure of $9,000. Examples of items include a program for technology, core curriculum materials, magic boards, pocket chairs, math games, mats, fluorescent light covers and Hoki stools.

Shredder for Front Office - Jean Prince moved to approve $500 for the purchase of an industrial size shredder for the front office to dispose of confidential documents. Elisa Scola seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Treasurers Report – Melissa Davis Bell reported that the November numbers reflect that although 25% of the school year had passed only 20% of the budget had been spent. Only 26% of the teacher supply list was spent which is concerning since last year 25% of the teacher supply grant money was not spent at all. The timeline for reimbursement could be improved upon. There was discussion concerning conducting a survey of teachers to understand how the system could be improved for them. The district wide budget as presented by Dr. Stein, Superintendent was discussed. Claypit Hill School will receive a part time assistant principal. There was discussion about improving parent involvement in School Committee decisions.

Meeting adjourned by Jean Prince at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Elisa Scola

PTO Secretary, Claypit Hill School