

PTO Meeting

Monday, February 06, 2012

1) Co-Presidents Remarks (Janice Weinberg and Susan Goetcheus)

Thanks to Lori for the talent show. Lori will purchase a new microphone next year. Also thanks to Cate and Charlie for being on the redistricting committee.

At town wide PTO meeting last week, it was mentioned that representatives to the redistricting committee are doing a great job.

2) Principal's report on School Council and other activities (Karen Hartley)

Peirce Pride assembly scheduled for February 17th. Will put posters up around the building. In Karen's recent blog post, Karen answers questions related to redistricting, specifically regarding the inclusion program. Currently, our inclusion is full and not accepting new students. Lunch time rules to be posted around the cafeteria.

3) Math differentiation professional development for Peirce teachers (Janice Weinberg)

At the last PTO meeting, it was discussed how we challenge our kids at Peirce, at whatever level they are at. We are currently doing a great job at English and language development, but need to improve at math differentiation. The town is interested in this topic, but has no immediate plans to address the issue. Since Peirce has the inclusion program, it is important to have math differentiation at our school. Proposing that the PTO would pay for the teachers would have training around math differentiation.

From Karen, we were looking for a math coach for Peirce, but couldn't find anyone. As other option, were hoping we could have one teacher from each grade level to learn how to differentiate math concepts in each unit. Working with Nadine, could provide three days of training to differentiate within units which would cost the PTO approximately \$3000. Possibility of getting a grant to support the cost, potentially through AEF, though has to be innovative.

From Tara Lamont, believes it would be helpful to have two teachers per grade.

4) Circus Yoga presentation (Regine Tillmanns)

Circus Yoga integrates circus and yoga concepts, including life science and human body curriculum. Have in school residencies, as well as teacher trainings.

2 week program and preplanning meeting with teachers, principals, parents, etc. Teacher from program is Erin O'Keefe.

Infiltrate all class levels, all day long. 30-45 minutes per classroom, per day.

Come into science, physical education, art class, music class.

Kids learn new academic skills, new physical and mental skills, creative skills and cooperative skills.

Would culminate in a show for the Peirce community.

Would cost the school 5500\$.

5) Planning for the 2012 – 2013 school year (PTO officers, committee chairs and activities) (Janice Weinberg)

Janice is stepping down as co-president and Susan is willing to stay on for another year, so looking for a co-president to work with Susan, though if two people were willing to take over roles, that would be great!

Emily will take on role of co-secretary with Cindy ReVelle.

Lori is staying on for treasurer.

Pamela and Sara stepping down as fundraising coordinators and looking for replacements.

Looking for someone to serve as a publicity liaison for the school, will also coordinate do not photograph list.

Lori is looking for people to take over coordinating certain events for the social/hospitality committee. Events include: movie night, popcorn Friday, pumpkin decorating, cookie decorating, coffee's and ice cream social.

If anyone knows candidates who would be good for positions, have them be in touch with PTO.

6) Other business and announcements

Carl Elder: March 19th at 6:30 in the library-meeting to discuss enrichment activities for next year.

Sarah Forney: February 7th, Wilson Farms Shopping Day. 50/50 raffle is our biggest fundraiser for the year. Winner will be drawn at comedy night on March 24th. Dance will be happening again on April 27th. Recycling drive happen on March 31st.

Lori Pescatore: 100th day of school food drive for the Arlington Food Pantry starts next week. February 13th is the 100th day of school.

Susan Goetcheus: At town wide PTO, other schools use different photographer, Coffee Pond and have been pleased. Will investigate for the future, potentially have them come to a PTO meeting.