

PTO Meeting  
12 May 2011

1. Welcome and co-presidents' remarks (Susan Goetcheus)
  - Thanks to Book Fair volunteers, Dirt and Worms volunteers.
  - Format of June PTO meeting – Brief business meeting on budget and committee recaps of the year. Incoming Kindergarten parents will be invited and we'll have dessert potluck.
  - Thank you notes from Miss Rose and Arlington Food Pantry, from Peirce staff for the ELMO projector.
  - Call for nominations for PTO officers – A notice will be sent to parents that nominations can be made before the June meeting.
  
2. OPAC: Ottoson PTO (Lisa Sullivan)
  - Ottoson needs parent volunteers starting in sixth grade. They are looking for
    - 2 co-presidents
    - 2 fundraising chairs (to coordinate fund-raising activities throughout the school & create tools like a guide for dances)
    - a grant writer
  - Notice will come out soon
  - There are a lot of parents to take support roles
  - They will make a plea at the Ottoson orientation and at the townwide PTO
  
3. Teacher's union agreement (Karen Hartley)

Teachers have reached a tentative agreement with the School Committee that may be voted on next week.
  
4. Principal's update
  - Teachers will be asked to do a "move up day" for kids to visualize the classrooms for next year (will not include teacher assignments)
  - Advisory Council
    - Putting parent handbook online including screen-time philosophy.
    - Developing information and guidelines for substitutes.
    - Looking for new members.
    - Looking at whether lunch could be longer.
  - Fifth grade graduation - Bob Penta is the speaker
  
5. Committee reports
  - Science and Math enrichment (Janice Weinberg)
    - Benny Barkan, a local gardener, will come in and do some Science Garden activities next year.
  - Library enrichment (Susan Goetcheus)
    - Mrs. T could use more library volunteers.
  - Hospitality (Lori Pescatore)

- Car wash is this Saturday.
  - June 4 is the Spring Fair and sign ups for volunteers will be next week.
  - May 27 is the ice cream social.
  - June 24 will be the year-end party at the Res from 4 pm on.
  - June 17 will be Field Day. Need parent volunteers: 9-11 a.m. is K-2; 12-2 pm is 3-5.
  - Fundraising (Sarah Forney)
    - Need new ideas for next year – third big event (not auction or rummage sale).
    - There may be a meeting in June to reach out to new parents.
    - Pie sales may continue but it will be clear that they are not Wilson’s pies.
    - Electronics recycling was a big success in terms of fund-raising as was Wilson’s shopping day and Not Your Average Joe’s.
  - Cultural enrichment (Janice)
    - Next year the 5th grade newspaper will start with Jocelyn Willet, Krissie Delaney and Jane Torregrossa. Replaces the Verse. Will start planning after MCAS are over.
  - Community Outreach (Jessica)
    - Collect and donate books and other media for More than Words, a used bookstore in Waltham. There will be bins at Peirce for donations. May happening beginning of June.
6. Overview of budget for next year (Susan Goetcheus)
- Reviewed budget, will vote in June
  - No coin challenge or discount card or school supplies box
  - New: may try sweatshirt or t-shirt fundraiser.
  - New/increased line for family/student support.
  - Ask Lori, Janice or Susan any questions.
7. New business
- June 10 will honor volunteers and Ms. Jacoby for her retirement and present a plaque - 7:30-8 a.m. in cafeteria.
  - Next year school committee will meet on 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month which will affect the schedule of PTO meetings.
8. Open Q&A and discussion – None

Next meeting June 9.