

Jerome Harrison School

PTO Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2016

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.
- Fundraisers:
 - About \$10,000 has been brought in from fall fundraisers.
 - Coupon Book –The profit is around \$1,800.
 - Square One Art – It was very successful with around \$2,600 in profit and net sales around \$7,000. A very special thank you to Mrs. Rametta for the beautiful art work. Orders should be arriving the week of December 1st.
 - Book Fair – Thank you to Karen Martone, Nicki Waterworth, and Jen Iannello for all your help at the event. The profit is just under \$2,000.
- Some paperwork has been submitted to Central Office in the hopes of beginning a newsletter and reaching out to area businesses for donations in support of the gymnasium sound proofing project.
- Last year the idea of a sandbox was brought up. It will not be pursued this year.
- The district PAC meeting was held and the Director of Curriculum went over the increase in test scores over the past few years. The next meeting is December 16th at 11:15. All are welcome, just contact Liz Hoskins.
- At the next meeting we will share an updated budget and revote based on fundraising allocations.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Karen submitted Box Tops and a special thank you to all the room parents for how well the box tops were organized.
- \$1,600 was collected in membership dues.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Budget reflects fall fundraisers and some items from Halloween Activity Night.
- Angelique will put a letter together that can be given to sponsors to show tax exempt status.
- Budget Approval
 - Sarah Siegel
 - Andrea Fusco

SECRETARY'S REPORT

- Minutes were approved from the September meeting.
 1. Sarah Siegel
 2. Ashley Fernandez
- There were about 12 parents in attendance as well as Ms. Parker.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Thank you to all the families that helped with Book Fair and Halloween Activity Night.
- Conferences are being held this week and progress reports remain standards based, similar to last year.
- Veteran's Day assembly was a great event. Patty Carlo, Linda Humphrey and Micki DeCaprio did a great job organizing the event.
- A trainer spent the day with K-5 staff for professional development in the area of Math Workshop.
- Erica Bozzuto applied for a grant incorporating STEM into literacy.
- Dr. Welch and Mrs. Bozzuto applied for a grant in student leadership and they are hoping to take a leadership group to a state conference.
- A social emotional curriculum is being implemented with a program called Second Step. It works on problem solving and other elements of emotions and relationships. The program has is in all K-2 classrooms. Ms. Parker also discussed the "mood meter", to develop and regulate emotions. The meter increases by energy and includes feelings of anger, joy, sadness, etc. She discusses with students the emotion they are feeling and how to regulate it.
- Ms. Parker also holds a lunch bunch to work on social skills and developing friendships. She offers individual and small group services based on need as well. Through direct instruction and teacher consultation, Ms. Parker works on various social, emotional, and behavioral skills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Halloween Activity Night was a huge success. There were many parent volunteers and Dr. Welch helped to direct traffic, so the event came in under budget and turned in a great profit.
- Coat Drive: 185 coats were collected. A thank you letter came in from New Reach in New Haven. The donated coats will be impact the lives of youth, families and veterans living in CT.
- The clothing line now has some new items. You can order items by visiting the link on Facebook.
- The holiday sale is held at JHS December 1st and 2nd to shop for family members

during the holidays. Many volunteers are needed to help the students shop and also with set up and clean up.

- Night to Care held a food drive yesterday at Stop and Shop in Branford. There was a discussion about how helpful it was to have the high school hockey team at the food drive. The next part of the event is the distribution of snowmen at the schools in the hopes of getting donations. The Night to Care event is held at JHS on Thursday, December 8th. The committee is looking for anyone willing to help sort gifts the weekend after the event. There is a Night to Care meeting immediately after the PTO meeting tonight and one more probably the week before the actual event.
- Health and Wellness Committee is headed by Shelia Duggan. This is the first year of the committee. They will post in the first JHS newsletter with information from Plate Deca which includes information about the ways to have a balanced meal. There will be an upcoming fundraiser at a Quinnipiac hockey game as a great way to get families out at a fun event this winter. Other ideas include a mini-golf tournament during Screen Free Week. She welcomes anyone that would like to participate in the committee.
- Ashley reported that the playground committee will be purchasing jump ropes and other items for the outdoor cart. Also, the indoor cart will be accepting donations of gently used board games.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.
1. Ashley Fernandez
 2. Andrea Fusco