

PTO GENERAL MEETING Wednesday September 6, 6-7PM

In attendance:

Jake Toomey (Principal), Eliza Cavanaugh (PTO President), Andrea Michael (Vice President), Christina Gay (Treasurer), Sarah Uprichard (Secretary), Cindy Pease (Officer at Large), Jacki Pinger (fourth grade teacher and Teacher Liaison), Melissa Flynn (parent), Ilona Shlegel (parent), Chrissy Graves (parent), and Jen Bassett (parent).

I. Welcome. Eliza starts the meeting by introducing herself and saying why she is here, then in turn asks all the other PTO Officers to do so, as well as our wonderful principal and parents and staff.

II. Principals Report. Jake is very happy to say that this new school year is starting off well. Over the summer we (the school) has gotten new furniture, current building updates, new staff, and we have had lots of community service....etc.

Our Nature Trail got worked on through a community work party; Ms. Naughton did a lot with the community work party. The Staff room got rearranged and there are now kitchen cabinets to help organize things better and give more counter space.

Since school has started, we have had smooth transitions. The school already had its first Fire Drill, which went well. In classrooms, teachers and staff are establishing good routines, good school community. There is an "idea of Kindness," throughout the school.

III. Eliza talks about the policies and bylaws behind the PTO; which as the PTO we have to abide by and keep everything running smoothly and transparently, so we continue to follow them. Last year our PTO meetings were on Thursdays and this year we all (School Principal and PTO officers) agreed our meetings will be on the first Wednesday of the month. Also as a reminder to all parents and family members; when we have something to vote on, we aim for a simple majority within who ever joins us at the PTO meetings. Eliza talks about meeting procedure, Robert's Rules that we follow, how the PTO works and what each of the officers do; our specific tasks and how we also all support each other. More information is available online about Roberts Rules as well as our PTO bylaws.

Fun Friday: enrichment activities that happen once a month on a Friday morning for all students. Some of last year's Fun Friday events created by the PTO were: Motion Man--Jody Scalise, who lives locally and is very inspirational and fun; the Bubble man; Mad Science; Birds of Prey; other musicians, Greenfield Fire Department...etc.

This year's school theme is Flight. This year's Fun Friday events might include a flight-themed presentation. Motion Man is scheduled for Friday September 22nd. October Fun Friday: Fire Safety, with the Greenfield Fire Department.

Other F.F. events TBA. Now soliciting feedback, suggestions and referrals! Question of the Month for October will be input for Fun Friday presenters.

Vice President: Andrea Micheal focuses on our Digital Communications. She regularly posts information on Twitter, Facebook. One parent at the meeting tonight commented that she goes on Twitter and that is how she found out about the meeting. Andrea also plans to redesign our PTO website and organize the website better.

Secretary: Sarah Uprichard talked about her role note-taking during all PTO meetings and of typing up the notes before they get put online for all to view.

Sarah is also in charge of spirit sticks; the selling at All School meetings and purchasing more as needed for either school functions or other specific ways that they get distributed.

Every summer, all the students have an option to sign up to get summer spirits. The summer spirit sticks include a spirit sticks sent home one a month for June, July and August. Along with the spirit sticks there are specific fun facts and other activities and fun things for the students and their families to do together.

Also, at the start of the school year, a complimentary spirit stick and DSFC keychain is given to each Incoming kindergarten student. Our Principal gives each student a birthday spirit stick at All School Meetings that coincided with the month of their birthday.

Cindy Pease, is our Officer at Large, who helps out in any way needed. Cindy set up the upcoming movie matinee at Greenfield cinema: Lego Ninjago Movie! Saturday morning, September 23rd, 9:30am. \$5 per person. We will be adding a raffle to the event on Saturday September 23. We also have aHillside Pizza fundraiser coming this fall by request, and holiday wreaths.

Christina Gay, our Treasurer, updates us on the budget and points out if there are any new entries since last month. Goes over what our budget looks like...etc. Andrea brought in Mabels Labels and Cindy brought in Primary.com. Christina presented the proposed budget for 2017-18.

IV. Open Floor-

Eliza : we are not competing for best PTO officer or PTO group, but are all here to help support all the students their families and the community. We are looking to discuss and add other more community-based events.

Some that were brought during the meeting:

Spaghetti Supper

Raffles

Family photo session

Bake Sale for Harvest Supper dessert?

Winter farmers market, create a table there—bake sale?

Restaurant night, keep to 20 minutes from Greenfield or closer

Meeting adjourned 7pm

