

## Minutes: General PTO Meeting April 4, 2018, 3:15-4:15 pm

(In attendance: Eliza Cavanaugh, PTO President; Andrea Michael, PTO VP; Sarah Uprichard, PTO Secretary; Marguerite Rancourt, 4th grade teacher; Jacki Pinger (arrived after 4), 4th grade teacher/PTO teacher liaison, Brandy Haskins, K parent.)

- I. Welcome: Share... lots of illness going around, is there anything good that comes of it? Bringing people together, helping and supporting each other.
- II. Principal's report: Jake Toomey is home sick; Marguerite Rancourt reports that the teachers and other staff put together a breakfast for the wonderful Instructional Assistants (formerly Paras). The hoop house is complete thanks to professionals who volunteered and gave three days' time. Showcase Night is Friday, preparations underway.

### III. Officers' Reports:

- A. President: Fun Fridays seem well received and are going smoothly. Ed the Wizard, a local educational performer, will do a flight presentation, including launching rockets, on April 13. Dinoman on May 18 will present on the solar system and feature giant inflatables in the show's finale.
- B. VP: Roundabout Book Fair was a great success. Total donation to the library fund was \$276, almost exactly equaling the amount raised last fall with World Eye: pretty amazing considering the low price of the (great quality, used) books this time! The event was well attended by enthusiastic families; many, many books were sold, and some were donated to students who might especially benefit from a free book. Thanks to Raymond, Margaret, and the rest of the staff at Roundabout (and to Andrea for taking the lead on coordinating). Other Greenfield schools are interested in this vendor for future Book Fairs; we resolve to check next year's calendar asap and reserve Roundabout for fall conferences again. (Booking Greenfield Garden asap is also mentioned.)
- C. Treasurer: Christina Gay could not attend but has provided an updated report for our reference. We discuss possibilities for end-of-year teacher gift(s) for anyone retiring.

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### IV. Business in progress:

- A. Pierce Brothers fundraiser: packets to go home 4/26 (the Friday after break), deadline for orders 5/9, pick-up Tuesday, 5/29, and possibly also Wednesday 5/30--we will decide based on order numbers and size. Jake: robocall re: pick-up Memorial Day weekend?
- B. PTO recruiting: Sarah will make a half-page recruiting/PTO meeting invitation flyer, for distribution at Friday's All School Meeting. Figure out ways to make small or specific tasks available for volunteer participation. Every little bit really does help! Examples: teacher input at meetings always has a big impact on operations, and Rachel Sautter's help on the voucher system for donation books during the Roundabout Book Fair was relatively easy for her, but far better than anything PTO could have put together without her help.

### V. New Business

- A. Box Tops: Sarah has volunteered to coordinate next year. Andrea had concerns last fall about the Summer Box Tops incentives (prizes for every 50 collected); issue largely resolved when it became clear every participant gets a Spirit Stick. Prizes purchased by previous PTO crew (and collected from random promotions) have finally been depleted, so time to bring in new prizes for next fall. Change things up? School supplies? Take advantage of back-to-school sale at Staples, great deals. Be more discreet about prize distribution, so kids don't feel left out? Leave it up to each teacher. Summer Box Tops flyer goes out in June; prizes distributed end of October.
- B. Teacher Appreciation Tuesday, May 8. \$100 budgeted from PTO. Jacki will ask for input from teachers about what they might enjoy. Denny's breakfast buffet? Probably too expensive.

### VI. Open call for discussion:

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- A. Andrea tells us Cindy Pease would still like to participate as possible, and has offered to throw another Produce Sale and do sno-cones at Field Day. Hurray!
- B. Since the budget looks good and we're going forward with the Pierce Brothers fundraiser (because we have already spread the word that it's coming), what specific goal should the Produce Sale proceeds benefit? Jacki points out that wobble stools/fidget chairs are very helpful but very expensive--about \$70 each. Could we buy more of those? Jake has also asked PTO to buy more folding chairs for the library meeting space with any available funds at years' end. Maybe a Chairs-themed fundraiser. Andrea asks if the newly completed hoop house might need supplies like raised beds; she will check in with Anne Naughton and Mike Sustick, who will be back in September.

Meeting adjourned 4:18pm. Thanks to all attendees.