

PTA Meeting October 4, 2009

Emy Adams called meeting to order at 7:06pm

Dondero applied and has been granted the Blue Ribbon Award. The PTA can nominate 2 people who will be invited to attend the Blue Ribbon Award Ceremony Oct. 26th 9-11am at the Center of NH in Manchester.

Educational Information Sessions: If anyone has ideas please write them down. We want teachers to become more involved in PTA.

PTA Board and attendees introduced themselves.

Jill's Report:

Jill thanked those who attended the open houses. We're happy to hear any feedback at anytime from parents.

Crossing guard issue: 8:40am-9:00am and 3:05pm-3:25pm are supposed to be her hours. Jill will work on getting her hours changed.

Safe Routes to School: There will be a series of Portsmouth Safe Routes to School Travel Plan Study community meetings beginning Sept. 30 at St. Patrick School, followed by one at New Franklin next Monday (Oct. 5), the Middle School Tuesday (Oct. 6), at Dondero on Wednesday (Oct. 7), and Thursday at Little Harbour. All meetings are scheduled from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. They will discuss sidewalk and intersection improvements, education and encouragement programs, and better enforcement around each school. Contact: 766-1415.

There has been lots of talk about bringing back foreign language. One World Language School is coming to talk about their program sometime next week after school.

Jill thanked the PTA because we were awarded the Blue Ribbon Award.

Chris's Report:

Please put cash in an envelope and staple envelope to the form so as not to lose the cash.

We will need someone to take over the Ice Cream Social next year. It's recommended that person shadow Marcy Baer in the spring.

Chris looked into savings accounts and found that rates are just too low. He recommends we leave money where it is, and then it's available to us as we need it.

Chris's Report cont'd:

Fundraising: going with Joe Corbi's Pizza.

Events:

Barn Dance: Oct. 22nd 5:30-7:30pm. Caller is set up. We're using the gym for dancing and cafeteria for concessions. Currently working on decorations (hay bales, pumpkins, etc.) and the scarecrow element of this event. Food will consist of donuts, coffee, apples, Moe's subs, hotdogs and chips. An RSVP will be sent home in folders to get accurate head count. It being a free event, we want to be sure there will be enough food for everyone. The Pumpkin Walk is being replaced with the Scarecrow Walk due to a shortage in pumpkins. Sheri Whitworth explained briefly how it'll work: The idea is to have each classroom make at least one Scarecrow to display in the school the night of the Barn Dance. We plan to line the Scarecrow's up along the Hallway connecting the cafeteria (where concessions will be offered) and the Gymnasium (where that actual dance and caller will be located). A Third Grade parent has donated a banner. Novelties may include selling photos of people. Mary Baer has offered to make a plywood board set up and paint it like a cowboy and cowgirl. Asking Student Leadership (contact is Molly) to help out with areas such as face painting, decorating, concessions, etc. And a special "thanks" goes out to Maria Sheppard for teaching the kids dancing.

Bingo: Nov. 17th 5:30-7:00pm. Jill suggested people bring in food for the food pantry. Great idea!! (Contacts are Emy Adams and Dyann Romero)

Spirit Wear: Starts around Oct. 14th. Prices will be about the same as last year. Fourth Grader, Jackson Smith is the winner of the design being used. (Contact is Jennifer Gifford)

Movie Night: Contract is for 1 year. We are setting a date in December. Remember Hanukah is Dec. 11th-18th. There will be NO movie night that week. (Contact is Sheri Whitworth).

Joe Corbi: Starts Oct. 5th. Delivery will be Nov. 13th. In need of 3 volunteers on the day of delivery.

Book Fair: Starts Nov. 30th. Was considering trying a more local book company (River Run) but already have made commitment to Scholastic.

Directory: Printing Oct. 21st. A Fifth Grade parent is currently working on inputting names. There were not many sales for advertisements this year.

Fundraising

PTA members expressed concern we are taking on too much. We need to decide if we want to cut anything.

Emy Adams asked that we consider fundraising for a Smart Board. PTA requested Emy come to the November's meeting with a proposal and a teacher's demonstration.

Election Day Bake Sale (1st Grade): Kevin Jordan

Ticketed Event (4th Grade): Kevin Jordan

Fundraising Meeting (5th Grade): ????

Ice Cream Social "shadow" is Paula Tsetsilas

Yearbook "shadow" ??????

Other

Jill briefly explained NECAPs: A comprehensive set of tests that meet the requirements of No Child Left Behind. Reading and Math (GR. 3-11), Writing (Gr. 5-11), and Science (Gr.4 & 8). GLEs (Grade Level Expectations) are used here in elementary school. Tests are given between Oct. 1st. and Oct. 22nd. Results will be given before February vacation. Our testing was delayed a week to be sure all children who needed accommodations, got them.

Meeting Adjourned 8:48pm