

Dondero PTA September 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/11/2014

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Dondero Library

Purpose: This is the 1st General PTA Meeting of the 2014-15 school year.

Executive Board Attendees/Invitees

Name	Present	Contact	Capacity
Beth Krupp	Yes	doyleemd@comcast.net	President, Meeting Host
Shannon Harrison	Yes	shandobie@comcast.net	Vice President
Patrick Lyons	No	Patrick_Lyons@DELL.com	Treasurer
Michele Aronne	Yes	micheleg229@comcast.net	Secretary
Kate Callahan	Yes	kcallahan@portsmouth.k12.nh.us	Principal

Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. Membership Forms
2. Approval of June 2014 Meeting Minutes
3. Principal's Update
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Activities Update
 - a. Fairy House Tour (Sept. 20 & 21)
 - b. Movie Night (Sept. 26)
 - c. Student Directory
 - d. Yearbook
 - e. Spirit Wear
 - f. Fall Event (Oct. 24)
 - g. Teacher Appreciation
 - h. Dondero Night at the 99 Restaurant (Date to be Determined)
6. Community Opportunities
 - a. Newburyport Five Cent Savings Bank
 - b. Hannaford Helps
 - c. Target Red Card
 - d. Mad Science of Southern NH
7. New Business
 - a. Volunteer Background Checks
 - b. PTA Web Page
 - c. Alternatives to Constant Contact
8. Next PTA Meeting
 - a. October 9, 2014
 - i. The public library will be joining us to teach parents how to get free online books on their child's device

Discussion

1. The meeting was called to order by PTA President, Beth Krupp
2. Quorum obtained; four out of five members of the Executive Board were present.
3. June 12, 2014 PTA Minutes were distributed for review. A motion was made by Michele Aronne to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Alida Carter and unanimously approved.
4. Principal Update
 - a) The teachers have started the year as one big energized team – rooms have been cleaned
 - b) Identification of new staff members to the Dondero School
 - c) Reading and math assessments being done for grades 1-5
 - d) Kindergarten is alive and well – lots of boys this year.
 - e) Field trip planning has begun for all grades
5. Treasurers Report
 - No report this month

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6. Activities Update

- a) \$50 gift cards were given to all teachers at the start of the school year as a thank you. This is the start of Teacher Appreciation
- b) Fairy House Tour - Shannon Harrison gave an overview of the Fairy House Tour event. All of the money raised for that event goes back to the three Portsmouth elementary schools and St. Pats. The event is held the weekend of Sept. 20/21 in the Prescott Park Gardens. This year each class is making a fairy house. The feedback has been great as teachers say it's a good community building project. Tickets will be sold next week at the school. 50% of all sales goes back to the school. Friends of the South End is giving free tickets to the children of Dondero since they are building fairy houses in the classrooms. Special thanks went out to Beth Krupp and Shannon Harrison for gathering and collecting the items for the houses.
- c) Movie Night – Sarah Honeyman is organizing “Lego Movie” for Friday, Sept. 26. Looking for volunteers. Plans are to have a raffle and a lego figure swap. The Bread Box donated free pizza and McKinnons donated hot dogs and rolls for the event.
- d) Student Directory – Forms are coming in - Beth Krupp urged everyone to turn in their forms with their contact information
- e) Yearbook – Lanee Johnson gave a description of the yearbook. Looking for people to take pictures throughout the school year for all PTA events and for all grades K-5. There are more people involved this year. Try to take pictures of kids every time someone goes to the classrooms. Looking for a little more pictures for 5th graders as its their last year.
- f) Spirit Wear – Typically items bearing ‘Dondero’ are sold at the end of the school year but this year they will be sold at the beginning. Hoping to have some spirit wear Fridays during the school year to promote unity and community building.
- g) Fall Event (Oct. 24) – Last year there was a bonfire and the kitchen food truck – people loved it and everyone had a great time – plan to do something similar this year along with adding a chili competition
- h) Teacher Appreciation – Shannon Harrison explained how in previous years it was done all in one week. This year it has been decided to celebrate the teachers year round. There will be a day every 6-8 weeks where some kind gesture will be done for the teachers. A possibility is to provide lunch on November 4th. There is no school that day – it is voting day – and it is Parent/Teacher Conference Day.
- i) Dondero Night at the 99 Restaurant – Michele Aronne presented the idea to have a restaurant night at the 99 this fall instead of Flatbread Pizza. The 99 Restaurant is on our side of town and has parking – it's a great kids restaurant. The 99 will donate 15% of all food and alcohol sales to the Dondero PTA. A motion was made by Jessica Clark to go ahead with the 99. Motion seconded by Alida Carter and unanimously approved. A date of Monday, November 3rd was suggested.

7. Community Opportunities

- a) Newburyport Five Cent Savings Bank – When parents/grandparents or small business owners open a Checking Account they will donate \$100 to Dondero's PTA. A checking account can be opened with a minimum \$10 deposit. Also open a Children's Savings Account with a minimum of \$5 and they'll match it with \$5. The child will also receive a cute stuffed Gund teddy bear!
- b) Hannaford Helps – buy specific products at Hannaford and they donate money to Dondero PTA
- c) Target Red Card – link Dondero School to your red card and Target donates 1% of all sales to the PTA
- d) Cumberland Farms – Shannon Harrison received an email regarding their grand opening. If we team up with them we get a percentage of all drinks sold in a certain time period with a minimum of \$1000 donated to the PTA. A motion was made by Michele Aronne to follow through with it and seconded by Renee McNaughton.

8. New Business

- a) PTA Web Page – decided to keep it but just make it simple – one page –
- b) Alternatives to Constant Contact – possibly nextdoor.com or facebook – decided to stay with paper for now while looking into other options
- c) Volunteer Background Checks – There is a new policy that anyone volunteering in a school needs to be fingerprinted and have a background check. There is a cost of \$25/person. Looking for possibly having someone come to the school to do this and also ways of alleviating the cost for those who want to volunteer but cannot afford it.

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9. Meeting Adjourned at 7:45PM pm

Submitted by: Michele Aronne, PTA Secretary