

PTO Minutes – Feb. 15, 2017

Present: 15 people – officers, Mrs. Rex, parents

***Opening Prayer:** 6:10 p.m. by Mrs. Rex

***Treasurer’s Report:** accepted

***Secretary’s Report:** accepted

***Mrs. Rex/Principal’s Report:**

-Lockdown drill was successful.

-Teacher’s ‘to go’ kits all set, w/ cost covered by a generous donation by anonymous donor.

-CSW – Wacky Science assembly huge success.

-Spelling Bee – Mrs. Rex practicing with students; \$1,000 First Prize, \$500 2nd Prize; 9-10 students participating; competition held 3/8 and 3/9 at St. Mary’s School in Longmeadow.

-Penny-a-thon - \$1,692 raised; once cost of ‘penny wars’ treats deducted, portion to be donated to a charity (which one?).

-Calls for school tours ongoing.

-MD School Open House – good, w/ 10-12 children looking at various grades in school; some students transferring in.

-Curriculum Guides – teachers continuously working on them.

-Ms. Pula received a Pioneer Teacher of Excellence Award – CONGRATULATIONS!

***Old Business:** None to report

***Events:**

-Road Race Corral – led by Lisa Balicki (THANK YOU!)

-PLEASE use Sign-up Genius to volunteer for set-up on Friday after-school, 3/17.

-Great opportunity for parents who need volunteer hours!

-Media – Mrs. Rex said there will be a ‘real-time’ video about set-up.

-Set-up begins at 2:30 p.m. dismissal and continues until set-up is completed.

-Sat., 3/18 – volunteers for Road Race Corral arrive by 10 a.m.; please car-pool if you can, as parking is difficult, and spots in lot are being ‘rented’ for a fee; whether you are a volunteer or not, a contribution to park in lot will be expected; funds from parking fees go to Endowment Fund, which helps to fund scholarships.

-Link for Sign-up Genius – www.signupgenius.com; search by PTO events; Password is MDPTO; click on event and follow directions.

-Bonnie Brainard would still like to run the snack bar in social center cafeteria.

-MD Gala – Nora Moreau

-raffles are set

-live auctions are set

-Chinese Auction set-up

-Year-End BBQ – individual who has offered suggestions to change up the format/activities/offerings has not been present at last few PTO meetings; is anyone else interested in spearheading this event?

-any donations to help defray cost? In years past, Nick's Nest has donated the hot dogs.

New Business:

-Movie Night/Bingo Night – have had both in years past. Do we want to present these this year?

-Mr. McArdle brought up idea of a Board Game Night, for Grades 5-8, and to possibly make it a competition.

-Get-up and Move Night? - have kids' relays, crab soccer, kids are moving for 2 ½ hours, middle school students could help chaperone???

-Age-appropriate Self-Defense Night?

- Road Race day – idea from Mr. McArdle to have a food tent outside near back kitchen door, and offer hot dogs and hamburgers, and possibly beer? Is a food permit required for a tent outside? Would PTO donate funds for beer and food?

-Parade – MD contingency to march in parade this year; families, alumni, teachers etc.; Mrs. Rex to see about sweatshirts for adults.

-Spaghetti Supper – any new ideas for pre-sale of tickets? There is still confusion about this – class in charge of volunteering is not same class responsible for pre-sale of tickets each month. Mrs. Fedora – volunteered opinion - uncomfortable forcing tickets on students – gives out 4 tickets to each student – students return money for sold tickets, return unused tickets to her/ask for more tickets, and teacher sends money collected w/ list of who paid for tickets back to office. This is a lot of extra work for teachers. Is there a more streamlined and organized way?

-Donate Spaghetti Supper tix to Gala for raffle item?

-Mrs. Rex – info on Food Serve-Safe Certification needs to get done, and required by Board of Health.

-cost is \$567 for a whole group of participants, covers cost of instructors, and cert is good for 2 years; open it up for Parish kitchen workers, also; would PTO donate funds? Sharon stated good idea to try to get w/ Parish to split the cost – PTO is over budget right now, but put a MOTION on the floor for this – SERVE SAFE CLASS - MOTION PASSED.

- Open Gym Night – idea presented – Eric Wood will go to Fr. Albert about this idea.

-Mrs. Neill – fundraiser idea of a Murder Mystery Dinner Theater Night – potentially profitable idea (other organizations in area have these, and they are very profitable and fun at same time).

***Meeting Adjourned:** 7:02 p.m.

****Next PTO Meeting** scheduled for Wednesday, March 15th, at 6:00 p.m.

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