

NEEDHAM ELEMENTARY PTO MEETING MEETINGS

OCTOBER 8, 2019

6:00 PM

Attendees: Jamie Law, Ellen DuKate, Kari Beyer, Amy Davidson, Jessica Brown, Melissa Stewart, Kathy Wilson, Cindy King, Brandy Wethington, Anita Rich, Kailee Bennett, Rebecca McCain, Carrie Schroeder, Dylan Purlee, Shannon Bedwell, Vita Viviano

MINUTES

1. The September meeting minutes were emailed to the PTO mailing list, posted on the Needham Elementary Facebook group, and posted on the Needham Elementary website. Due to the September minutes emailed prior to the meeting, Kari Beyer moved to dispense the reading of the minutes. Carrie Schroeder motioned to approve the minutes as written. Rebecca McCain seconded. MOTION APPROVED.

REPORTS

1. President's Report
 - Needham hosted the October school board meeting.
 - Jamie Law spoke regarding the PTO's goals for the year, the PTO budget, the bylaw amendment changes, and the parent and staff surveys.
 - The Ross Greene program was voted on during the meeting and approved.
 - Ms. Marni explained how Needham is implementing yoga into the school and brought in a group of students to demonstrate.
 - December 3rd will be the 30 year Needham celebration dinner.
 - There was extensive talk about the new HVAC system installed at Needham.
 - The district had received complaints from a neighbor regarding the ambient noise from the new mitigation system installed at Needham and Webb schools. During the meeting, attendees walked around the school and it was determined that the noise is coming from Webb only.
2. Treasurer's Report
 - The September 2019 starting balance was \$25,085.65. The PTO brought in a profit of \$826.00. The debits for the month totaled \$2,108.56. This brings the ending balance as of October 8th to \$23,803.09.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Responses to Teacher/Staff Surveys
 - The PTO board sent out surveys to the teachers and staff to get ideas as to how the PTO could better support them.
 - With the help of the PTO members, the PTO has been able to provide the teachers and staff with a new refrigerator, provide food for the conference pitch in, and increase field trip funds. With the Walkathon proceeds, the PTO will also be purchasing new indoor recess games/activities, increasing funding for the

Positive Behavior System, and purchasing new playground/gym equipment for inspiring physical activity.

- The PTO will be sending out another survey for the teachers/staff at a later date to get more ideas on how the PTO can continue to support them.
2. Fundraisers and Their Purpose
 - Every fundraiser will go toward something that will benefit Needham students, which goes back to the purpose of the PTO.
 - PTO members can always request funds by filling out the request form located in the office. The request form can be emailed to members, as well.
 3. Field Trip Assistance
 - Second grade field trip funds have been fulfilled for a total of \$395.00
 - First grade has requested field trip funds for a total of \$198.00. The PTO has offered to pay the full cost of students who are unable. Teachers identified three students for this field trip.
 4. Fund Request-Socks for Basketball & Cheer Teams
 - Carrie Schroeder requested the PTO to purchase spirit socks (at the PTO's cost of \$10 each; totaling \$540) for 54 students (boys & girls teams and the cheer squad) participating in the FCELB (Franklin Community Elementary Basketball League), a parent-run organization where students represent Needham. Ellen DuKate motioned to approve the request. Shannon Bedwell seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.
 5. Parent/Teacher Conference Food
 - Thank you to everyone who brought in food for the teachers and staff during the Parent-Teacher Conference days. It was very much appreciated.
 6. Committee Chair Opening
 - There is still a committee chair opening for Book Bingo (February 13th). The chairperson would be responsible for planning and promoting the event, as well as working with the treasurer to stay in budget. If interested, please email the PTO (PTO.Needham@gmail.com).
 7. Cookies & Canvas
 - The first Cookies and Canvas for the year will be on November 13th (K-2nd) and November 14th (3rd and 4th). The canvas paintings will be fall themed.
 - Both days have a 40 student max due to limited space in the art room.
 - Horizon Bank will be sponsoring the event.
 - Forms will go out the week after Fall Break and will be due November 6th.
 - Kari Beyer, Cookies & Canvas co-chair, will set up a Sign Up Genius event that will be sent out to the PTO mailing list and posted to Facebook for volunteers.
 - Thank you Horizon Bank for sponsoring this event!
 8. Spirit Wear Orders
 - Spirit Wear orders were delivered last week.
 - One order had no name on the order form and paid with cash. The order is in the office.

- The next spirit wear order form will be sent out on November 8th and will be due November 22nd. This order will also have a blanket available for purchase. The blanket can be purchased for \$25. It can also be personalized for an additional \$4.
- The shirt designs will be the same for this order as the first order. The spring order forms may have different shirt designs available.

9. Box Tops

- The deadline to turn in the clipped Box Tops for the contest is October 11th.
- Box Tops that are not expired can still be turned into the school at any time until their expiration date.
- Be sure to download the Box Tops for Education app, scan your receipts, and continue earning money for Needham!

10. McDonald's Cards

- There are 19 McDonald's Drink cards still available for purchase.
- The cards are available for purchase in the office or parents/guardians may send \$10 in with their child (cash or check only).

11. Walkathon & Book Fair

- The Walkathon and Book Fair will take place on October 25th.
- The Book Fair will take place from 5:00-8:00.
- There are still volunteer spots open. A Sign Up Genius event was emailed out to the mailing list and posted on Facebook.
- Volunteers who signed up to bring in candy donations can turn those into the office.
- Donation forms are due Thursday, October 10th. Late donations will be accepted, however they must be submitted by October 23rd to receive prizes on October 25th.
- As of October 8th, the forms turned in totaled \$1,100.
- The prizes available for the students are based on the amount of money collection for donations. Prizes include a glowstick (\$1 prize level), a Needham lanyard (\$5 prize level), Needham Sunglasses (\$15 prize level), a Needham water bottle (\$50 prize level), a Needham drawstring bag (\$75 prize level), and a squishy Needham bulldog (\$100 prize level).
- Prizes will be handed out at school on Friday, October 25th.
- The highest winner from each grade will receive a \$10 certificate to purchase something from the Book Fair.
- The highest overall winner for the entire school will go to lunch with Mr. Purlee, Principal, with their family to a Franklin restaurant of their choice.
- We encourage everyone, even parents, to dress up in their Halloween costumes.
- Chicago's Pizza will be available to purchase by the slice.
- Hillbilly Hot Dogs will also be available for purchase. They will be donating 10% of their profits back to Needham.
- The PTO will also sell popcorn with a glow stick in the bag.

- There will be three raffles (Pacers, Spirit Wear, Family Game Night).
- Attendees will be able to take pictures at a DIY photo booth with their cell phones.
- The teachers who are participating in the costume contest will be announced at the Walkathon so students can vote (using change) for their favorite costumes.

12. REMC Grant Application Submission

- Ellen DuKate, Vice President is currently working on filling out the grant application for Johnson County REMC's Operation Round Up Grant.
- The grant submission will be to provide a new rock climbing wall for Needham. Ms. Spaulding, PE Teacher, received a quote for the wall and safety equipment that totals \$4,485.00.
- The grant submission is due October 31st.
- If Needham does not receive the grant, the PTO will look at different options to fund the rock climbing wall, such as proceeds from the Harlem Wizards game.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- December 3rd will be the Needham's 30 year celebration dinner. Past/current PTO members, school board members, and teachers will be invited.
- The 4th grade Flat Rock overnight field trip will be October 10th and October 11th.
- Thank you to everyone who participated in the Parent Teacher Conference pitch in.
- Needham hosted the School Board Meeting on September 27th and it went well.
- The Veteran's Day program will be held on November 8th. The second grade class will be performing songs and veterans will be able to have breakfast with their students.
- Franklin Education Connection is selling Pacers and Colts tickets. The link to purchase tickets is in the Bulldog Bulletin.
- Kohl's Cares is a program to help get volunteers for school events. The volunteers will come from the Franklin Kohl's and the school will get money for using the program. More research will need to be done to determine how to use this program.

TEACHERS' REPORTS

- Vita Viviano reported that first grade is starting to work on their second quarter skills. The first grade field trip was on Wednesday, October 9th to Kelsay Farms. Report cards will be going home on Friday, October 11th. The teachers were all very appreciative of the pitch in for the Parent-Teacher Conference days.
- Melissa Stewart reported that the fourth grade Flat Rock field trip is coming up on October 10th and October 11th. There are 90 students and 40 chaperones going on the trip. The trip includes canoeing, archery, night hiking, climbing an alpine tower, and pond ecology lessons. These activities are all related to the fourth grade learning standards.
- Kathy Wilson reported second grade had their field trip to the zoo on Tuesday, October 8th. Second grade classes are having their fall parties on Friday, October 11th.
- Cindy King reported the 10 students that make up the Spell Bowl team has started practicing for their competition on November 18th. The Garden Club has been working

with the Purdue Extension Office. Third grade planted radish seeds in the garden. The third grade Johnson County Museum and Artcraft Theater field trip is coming up in November.

- Rebecca McCain reported that Ms. Spaulding, PE teacher, finished Running Club. Running Club will start again in the spring. Ms. Hamon, Art teacher, is sending home information regarding Art to Remember. Art to Remember is a program for parents/guardians to order items with their student's artwork on it, such as coffee mugs and magnets.

The next PTO meeting is Tuesday, November 19th at 6:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50.

Minutes compiled by Kari Beyer, Secretary