

PTA Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 7, 2014
9:15 a.m.

Attendees: Nicola Davies, Ginna Yerrall, Maria Koutsoukos, Lisa Smith, Kristen Schestag, Jhonna Reuter, Carolyn Lyon, Sharon Kress, Dr. Mitchell, Katie Froehlich, Kristin Baldwin, Yim Yan Lai, Stacy Hirsh-Meltzer, Vanessa Elias, Jamie Lu, Rashida Miller, Laura Rowley, Jen Markey, Mary Jane Reis, Lisa Finn, Gretchen Jeanes, Marilyn Garvin, Lisa Bregman-Burba, Melissa Kennedy 24 Total Members

Lisa Smith called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

President's Report

Motion made to vote on Gretchen Jeanes as Parent at Large. Lisa makes motion. Johnna seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

A school safety committee is being created. Catherine O'Keefe has 1 to 2 volunteers to work with the police on an ongoing committee. This will be Cider Mill specific and will meet 4-6 times during the year. The first meeting is tomorrow with the police. If you are interested please email Lisa. The meetings are during the days at 2:00. Any questions contact Catherine.

Hot Cider November 12th. They will be having Focus Groups with the schools with the new superintendent. There will be groups of only 12 at 7:00 pm. They are created to get a feel for parents' thoughts. It will be only parents. If there are more interested, more groups can be created.

Book Swap is scheduled for 10/22 to 10/24. Please contact Ginna if you want to help. Students will receive a ticket for each book brought in. You will need to be at the school by 7:45.

Parent Advisory Board, Mary Reis. Parent's Night Out, Meeting October 17th at Library

Teacher Representative

Thank you to the laminating ladies. They are very helpful! The kids are very excited for the Walkathon. The shirts will be handed out tomorrow. Walkathon may possibly be moved to Thursday due to weather. Kids are looking forward to Halloween parade on October 31st.

Secretary's Report

Request to approve the minutes from September's meeting. Sharon makes a motion to approve the minutes. Lisa seconds the motion. Motion carried. Minutes were emailed out. Please include your email if you did not receive it. Please make sure you sign in each time.

Treasurer's Report

Budget. October, 5th Grade Brain Challenge. Author scheduled. 3rd and 4th grade enrichment being set. Higher amount includes custodian's services. Gifts and grants will start in November. The budget request form is online. All PTA's are giving to help bring Chris Heron to the Wilton Youth Council. He is a former Boston Celtic who lost everything due to addiction. Recommended for ages 13 and up. New teacher grant still is not set yet. There are different amounts for the classroom teacher.

Motion made to approve the budget. Ginna makes the motion to approve the budget. Gretchen seconds the motion. Motion carries. Budget will be posted on website.

Membership

We are currently at 350 memberships. Memberships are \$10. Membership plus the handbook are \$15. Handbooks will be given to those who are already members. Dues go to help pay for programs such as the Brain Challenge. PTA members have a vote. Parents need to be informed of programs that are sponsored by the PTA. More self marketing to let parents know we sponsor.

Lisa: PTA has been covering more since things have been cut from the budget. The Board of Ed will be doing discussion groups as to what is needed. They plan to start with a zero budget to set a realistic school budget.

Fundraising: 5th grade will be doing a gift wrap fundraiser to fund an outdoor activity center for Middlebrook. Only for 5th graders since it will benefit them the most.

Fundraising Report

Due to the impending weather there was a brief discussion about moving the Walkathon to Thursday. The Walkathon would be moved to Thursday. Volunteers will be contacted. Dr. Mitchell will send out an email blast. There was about 87% participation and the average donation was about \$40 which was down from last year. We made about \$34,000 this year. The helpers should be there at 7:00 to help set up.

Principal's Report

There were about 80 people who attended the schedule revision session, 50 during the day and 30 during the evening. Math and Literacy Nights are coming up soon. Halloween Parade is coming up. Kids are excited. We are implementing Type to Learn again this year. It's the same one as last year. There will also be a web based program. Question for Dr. Mitchell was asked, "Can the presentation be put on Edline?" Yes. Comment. There is an issue with morning drop off. Parents need to move forward, traffic is being blocked.

Committee Reports

Ginna – Waiting for Read Aloud Date(s)

Meeting adjourned 10:00.