

**Central School PTO Meeting  
March 14, 2014**

**Call to Order** 830am in the Central School conference room

**Minutes** February 11, 2014 minutes were approved via email.

**Officers Reports**

**Co-Presidents' Report**

Nominating Committee: The following people were proposed as PTO Officers for the 2014-15 school year:

Co-Presidents: Jessica Niekrasz and Lynda Murphy (Lynda has agreed to serve a second two year term due to inability to find a co-president)

1<sup>st</sup> VPs: Paula Fudacz & Amy Hill

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: John Ralph

3<sup>rd</sup> VP: Anna Lee

Secretary: Tracy Bohrer

Treasurer: Martha Curiel

Parliamentarian: Angela Izzo

This slate will be voted on at the April PTO meeting and if approved, will be installed at the May PTO meeting.

Adult Social Event Recap: Approximately 45 people attended the event, which was a nice turnout though very few new faces were there. Laura Durkin & Cathy Daun agreed to run it again next year.

Kindergarten Liaison: Heather Manning suggested a kindergarten liaison to serve as a point person to answer PTO questions from new parents. This person can also run the kindergarten picnic. Heather shared the name of a current Kindergarten parent (Kelly) who is interested in serving in this role next year. We suggested that this role be filled every school year by a parent who just had a child graduate from kindergarten so that they have the most current information to share.

**1<sup>st</sup> VPs' Report**

Nothing to report

**2nd VP's Report**

Philanthropy: The philanthropy request form has been updated to clarify what types of requests we will consider. It was already sent out via feedblitz to parents and forms are due back by 3/31. The requests will be presented at the April meeting. Jessica is going to send a link to the feedblitz to Mrs. Lutz for her to share with the staff. Amy Hill shared that she is going to submit a request for a PTO First Aid Kit to be onsite at all PTO events.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> VPs Report**

Nothing to report

### **Treasurer's Report**

Budget highlights: We spent about \$2,000 this month on the party at The Max (\$664), Book Fair (\$346 for pizza party, decorations etc), Adult Social (break even event) and the Yearbook. Our balance is \$33,000

### **Parliamentarian Report:**

Bylaw amendment: The first reading of a bylaw amendment allowing the co-president to serve an additional two-year term was shared (Article VIII, Section2). This will be voted on at the 4/11 meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

Artist in Residence: This is going on this week and next week and involves K-2 students. Their ultimate project will be a mural that will be displayed in the gym during the Cultural Heritage Festival.

Cultural Arts Field Trips: The PTO will need to cover additional busing for some grade level field trips because D96 only covers one bus event per student per year.

Cultural Heritage Festival: Takes place on April 9 and 9 country rooms are confirmed (South Africa, Hungary, Philippines, Caribbean/Barbados/Puerto Rico, China, Ireland, Guatemala, France, Mexico). The PTO is hiring Ruben Alvarez, a percussionist, with grant money received from Riverside Township. He will put on three 20-minute workshops in the Central gym incorporating percussion during the Cultural Heritage Festival.

Fifth Grade Activities: T-shirt deadline is this week and they need 35 Central parents to volunteer

Flying Carpet Club: Next week is the last week unless you missed a club date due to school being closed. Aberdeen will place a box in the school office to use for turning in leader and student books. Aberdeen will let Lynda know how many student books and teacher manuals she will need to replace for next year so that it can be factored into the next PTO budget

Read to Success: 161 Central students earned a free ticket to Great America by reading the required minutes

Plunge into Fitness: Forms are due back to school in April for those looking to earn a free Raging Waves ticket by exercising.

Science in a Can: This is the last week of experiments for the students.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Kathy Alexander is working on a theme and Paula Fudacz is working with Scott at the Chew Chew to come up with a menu for a catered lunch for the teachers. Staff are no longer allowed to leave school for the luncheon.

### **Teacher Representative**

Mrs. Lutz shared that ISAT testing was finished last week and results will come back over the summer. There will be no ISAT testing next year and they will be replaced with the PARCC assessment. It is administered on computers and is aligned with the Common Core. There is a 6 week window in which to take the PARCC, unlike the ISAT, which

gives a lot more flexibility to fit it in. Teachers have been attending Common Core meetings to rewrite the math and language arts curriculum. One teacher representative from each grade level in D96 met with Dr. Sharma-Lewis to create a common school supply list for each grade. That list is now complete and ready to hand off to Jennifer Sedivy to send out our School Supply order information for 2014-15.

**Principal's Report**

Mr. Gatz just returned with Mr. Ganan from a meeting in California where they spent a day in school district observing their instructional model that has had phenomenal results. He is interested in piloting something like it at Central next year with a few teachers. If we were to roll this model out, the teachers would need professional development hours to prepare.

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 955am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy Jacksic, Secretary.