

Southeast PTO Meeting

Monday, April 1, 2013

Members in Attendance: Jana MacDonald, Nancy Banfield, Diane Hutton, Bill Braithwaite, Jean Johnson, Noreen Halbrooks, Jennifer Mott, Gwen Sgro, Cyndi Wells, Jess Higham, Esther Soffer Roberts, Lena Rossi, Erin Christopher, Norma Fischer-Doiron, Mary Palmer

Agenda:

Update on school safety procedures:

Mr. Baruzzi, Mr LaPlaca & Resident State Trooper, Sergeant Rich Cournoyer, came to discuss the district's updated school safety procedures. If you weren't able to attend this month's PTO meeting, there will be other meetings available throughout the district.

They had met with all of the schools in January and took suggestions. They went through current emergency plans and made other recommendations, which the board of education has endorsed. There is a timeline of implementation and some require money. They are waiting on the legislative vote because there might be some grant money available.

They want the schools to look and feel the same, just with stronger safety measures. They are taking into account all emergency situations.

One parent expressed her concern that the Southeast playground is too close to the street. This will be considered.

There will be an intruder drill after April vacation. Please encourage your kids to follow the teacher's directions.

Treasurer's Report (Gwen Sgro): We need to re-evaluate the butterbraids profits and will readdress in May.

Mr. Warinsky wants to do herbs. He can give receipts to Gwen.

President's Report (Cyndi Wells):

Officer Elections are coming up. If you would like to become an officer, please contact Cyndi Wells. President, Vice-President and an Event's Coordinator are needed for next year. There is also the option of becoming a co-President if people would like to share that position.

Southeast sponsors several events throughout the year. We also need people to volunteer to organize such events for next year. If you are interested, please contact Jess Higham.

We are looking into getting non-profit status. In order to do that, we need by-laws and a description of officers' positions. This would be something for the new officers to consider. We could also invite the Mansfield Middle School PTA and the Vinton PTA to one of our meetings to discuss the advantages / disadvantages to becoming a PTA (verses a PTO).

The PTO wants to recognize the passing of Thomas and Vivienne's mom. We were thinking of donating some books to Stories for Southeast or sponsoring a camp experience, etc. Norma will talk with their grandmother to see what is needed.

Cyndi submitted the paperwork for the Neighbor to Neighbor program. They will have information for us to distribute.

Vice President's Report (Jess Higham):

We made \$193.00 on Butterbraids this year. We're not sure what the profits were from Munson's yet.

The Tag Sale is on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Set-up is Friday, May 17th. Lena Rossi is interested in running a clothing consignment sale. We will be renting booths. We will be accepting donations in the shed. Tables will be labeled for drop off in categories such as kitchen, board games and puzzles, etc. We need volunteers both days. Jean Johnson and Erin Christopher are running a bake sale that day and will need bakers and volunteers all day. Jess Higham needs to fill out a facilities use form.

School Photos: We'll be switching back to Lifetouch again this year. Patty Braithwaite and Jess Higham will be meeting with a representative this week. We will request a direct line to contact Lifetouch.

Moving On Ceremony: We need to decide on a date. It will likely be the week before the last week of school. We will need volunteers to make food for the event.

Yearbook: Esther Soffer Roberts, Patty Braithwaite and Jean Johnson are organizing this. Please let them know if you would like to help. Norma needs the first copy by the end of May.

Family Hike: This is a fun family evening, no charge. It is scheduled for Friday, May 3rd. Jana MacDonald is organizing this.

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon: Esther Soffer Roberts and Erin Ballou are organizing. It is scheduled for May 24th. We need parent volunteers to make food.

The Spring Ice Cream Social is on June 7th. Gwen Sgro and Erin Ballou are coordinating.

Scholastic Book Fair will be held from June 3-7. Silvia Dorado and MaryAnn Olson are coordinating.

Distance for Dads is June 14th. Mileage for Moms is May 10th. Monique Brown is organizing.

Special Persons Day runs from May 6th – May 10th. Suzanne Kelly is organizing.

Secretary's Report (Jana MacDonald): Cyndi Wells moved to accept the March minutes. Esther Soffer Roberts seconded it.

Principal's Report (Norma Fisher Doiron):

Nutrition month went well. Fruit (esp. kiwi) and snap peas were favorites. Parents felt that having information about this on the website was helpful.

So far, it looks like there will be two kindergarten classes and two 4th grade classes for next year. All of the other grades will have three.

There was talk about possibly applying for green-leaf recognition.

The search for the new Southeast Principal is underway. The committee is comprised of teachers, staff, parents, board of education members and administrators.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jana MacDonald, Secretary
Southeast PTO