

Southeast PTO Meeting Minutes

Meeting was started at 6:48pm by Kimberly Christenson.

1. Welcome – People that were in attendance were: Sheralyn Sibilia, Lauren Rodriguez, Kimberly Christenson, Jennifer Mott, Noreen Halbrooks, Mary deVecchis, Veronica Herrera, Matt Jahn, John Sgro, Ben Wiles, Erin Clark, and Susan Cote.
2. Thank you to Erin Clark for your dedication and service to the Southeast PTO.
3. The officers went around and introduced ourselves.
4. Silent Auction and Carnival Report: Noreen Halbrooks
 - Fall Carnival Tickets/Bake Sale - \$971.57
 - Silent Auction: \$4747.00
 - a. Options: classroom baskets went really well however, one basket did not sell. This was a basket with books geared toward Pre-K – 2nd Grade. It is possible that we could put this out at a bake sale and do a raffle for \$1/ticket.
5. Principal's Report: Lauren Rodriguez
 - a. 1st meeting went well with our new PTO President Kimberly Christenson and PTO Vice President Susan Cote.
 - b. Just got back from Denver, CO from learning about the “Ed Leader 21” – students: problem/focused based technology and working deeply; not just at a comfort level. This was brought back with a new leader in approaches. There are electronic notes on the conference in Denver, CO.
 - c. Reading/Writing Workshop: 3-4 structured
1-2 very new model
 - d. Teachers were asked to take a look at their learners and incorporate lessons around them.
 - e. Question to ask your children: Are your kids feeling good about what they did and do and do they know the difference?
 - f. We are currently in the middle of the 2nd round of hiring for a Special Education Teacher. We had two interviews today and we are confident that one of them will work out and start by the end of October.
 - g. A Library position is still opened. Mickey Maheu has been helping out and Emily Tinnel is here on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Mickey Maheu is on Mondays and Fridays.
 - h. Tony Memmel: Will be doing a day concert with just the kids at an assembly and a night concert next week on Thursday, October 13th from 6:30-7:30. Miss Smallidge's music class will be choosing a few students to compose music with Tony Memmel.
6. Teacher's Representative Report: Mary deVecchis
 - a. Thank you to the Southeast PTO for the Teacher/Staff Luncheon.
 - b. Thank you to Jana MacDonald and her Mom for upgrading the garden in front of the school.
 - c. Mrs. Mary deVecchis – made a recommendation to have Neo Move Chairs in her room. She would like to try one to see if they work with her 2nd grade students. A Neo Move Chair would cost \$250 and a Neo Move Stool would cost \$250. They are not adjustable. Sheralyn Sibilia passed the motion and Matt Jahn second the motion.

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6. Teacher's Representative Report: Mary deVecchis (con.)

d. Mr. James Hendricks – thinking of doing an additional field trip this year to the Nathan Hale Homestead in Coventry, CT. The trip for all the students, staff, and chaperones would be \$375. Sheralyn Sibia passed the motion and Susan Cote second the motion.

7. Previously Discussed Topics and New Topics:

- a. Book Fair – Barnes & Noble dates
- b. Bake Sale in November – will contact Jana MacDonald
- c. Include selling coffee at bake sales
- d. Possibility of Southeast Mugs
- e. Election bake sale with coffee at the Buchanan Center – Mansfield Public Library

8. Volunteer Committees

- a. Election bake sale.
- b. School bake sale in November – week of Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- c. Green Living Committee: Veronica Herrera
 1. Composting for the Fall Carnival.
 2. Purchase “greener” products (re-usable: real cups, not styrofoam or plastic)
 3. Lights, irrigated system, etc.
 4. Green Thumbs Club – Mr. Chuck Warinsky
 5. Farm – Mrs. Ingrid Hanka
 6. Head of Recycling Waste in Mansfield – Virginia Walton
 7. Please email Veronica for more information at: veronica.m.herrera@gmail.com
- d. Calendar – change for Mondays that the PTO is meeting. Changing to the 3rd Mondays of each month (with a few exceptions):

November 21

December 19

January 23 – 4th Monday

February 27 – 4th Monday

March 20

April 17

May 15

June 5 – 1st Monday

9. Other Business:

a. Director of Food Services for Mansfield: Stephanie Richards, Ben Wiles, and Jiff Martin – Mansfield Sourcing and Quality (www.mansfieldsourcingandquality.com) are trying to promote changes on food that is prepared through the Mansfield Schools. Sheralyn Sibia and Susan Cote will be the Parent Volunteers on the Board with Ben Wiles. Through Max Purvue – Mack will provide ways to improve schools, day care centers, and Camp Mansfield was introduced into this as having a particular need for change.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 by Kimberly Christenson.