



Cottage Street School PTO Membership Meeting Minutes from November 3, 2016

Meeting began at 7:05p.m., adjourned at 7:54p.m.
18 people present

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approved October 2016 meeting minutes by voice.**
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Elizabeth reviewed income and expenses, report distributed.
4. **Committee Updates:**
 - a) **Programs:**
Kindergarten: Yoga; Dance with Krazy Tracie
1st: Starlab (also 5th grade); Zoomobile
2nd: States of Matter
All School: Young Audiences—dance of Northern India—they will do three performances throughout the day
Field Day: Scott Jameson—magic, fun, and fitness
3rd-5th grade previously discussed
 - b) **Halloween Bingo:** Tiffany did a great job! The cafeteria was full and it seemed like there were more folks in costume this year. A very fun night!
 - c) **Popcorn Friday:** More volunteers are needed. Beth Wiley is so dedicated! Someone asked if a SignUp Genius would help, as it might draw volunteers who cannot help every week, but would fill in the gaps as available. Mary explained that Beth sends a weekly e-mail on Thursdays to see who is and is not available. Interested volunteers should contact Beth to get on her weekly e-mail list. She can be reached at bethwiley@comcast.net
 - d) **International Festival:** This will take place on January 19th. They are planning to have country booths, a potluck, dances and singing. They have contacted outside individuals and groups about various performances. They will need volunteers and materials. We discussed the merits of a handout vs. e-mail. Someone thought that there might be enough talent within the school so that it might not be necessary to solicit outside organizations to provide the entertainment. Other suggestions made were to be very clear about what is expected from volunteers, so it does not seem overwhelming and to use word of mouth to solicit volunteers. Sushma is also volunteering with Linda and Flo. Mr. Madden is going to meet with chairs to work out more of the details of the event including how and when to best rollout call for volunteers.



5. Principal's Report:

- a) The first programs of the year have begun, with “Water, Water, Everywhere”, which the students seemed to really enjoy.
- b) This is a busy time of year for teachers, as they are finishing up assessments and getting ready for conferences.
- c) There were some questions about the number of days that school has been closed (Jewish holidays, Election Day, etc.) as well as the number of early dismissal days.

6. New Business

- a) Gift Card Fundraiser, due November 10th: There are different percentages for different establishments. Think of holiday gifts and regular purchasing when ordering gift cards.
- b) Game Night, November 10th: There will be Gamewright games available or you can bring your own games. Popcorn and juice will be served. Purchases can be made with cash, check or credit card. There will be teacher wishlists. Someone suggested posting the wishlists on the PTO website or folks can e-mail Ann Gerrietts at neat.stringer@gmail.com to purchase a game for themselves or a teacher if they are unable to attend the event.
- c) School Pictures/Picture Retakes, November 18: Pictures are shipping tomorrow and should arrive next week. There will be detailed instructions for retakes in the PTO News. There will be individual photos, sibling photos, and Ms. Lyons' class photo.
- d) Winter Dance, December 2nd: Flyers go home tomorrow. We are using the same DJ. There are dance motivators and prizes. Parent supervision is required (it is not a dropoff event) and there is no running. The 5th grade will have another bake sale.
- e) Fun Fair update and vacancies: Café chairs are needed. Also, we need a Raffle co-chair to shadow Wendy, as this will be her last year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54p.m.