

**PTO Meeting Minutes**

**December 12, 2013**

**Attendees**

* Jenn Richardson, Heather LeBlanc, Kathryn Bailey, Jen Luisa, Stephanie Mongeon, Stacy Kramer, Norma Murray, Allyson Gill, Nicole Knudson, Maggie Bonazzoli, Paula Castner, Deb Williams, Christine Graves, Sean O’Shea, Joe Mule.

**November Meeting Minutes**

* Meeting minutes approved

**Treasurer Update**

* $51523.93 balance
* Fall Festival
  + The event was very successful and raised over $800. All vendors want to come back next year. MRE & LBMS wear was a big hit and will launch in January. There was a lot of feedback given to help make the event even more successful next year. The raffle was very successful.

**Kid Stuff Books**

* Sold 30 books. Next year PTO will send books out earlier in the year to see if more books sell.

**Communications Update**

* Make sure that PTO board date is not listed on the monthly calendar sent home. This will avoid confusion as to whether or not parents are supposed to go to the board meeting or regular meeting.

**Ms. Murray**

* Presented thank you note from the 3rd grade class to the PTO thanking them for the busses the PTO funded for the Plimoth Plantation field trip.

**Cultural Enrichment Update**

* Summer Theater Program
  + Christine Graves ran the program last year. She would like to run the program again. Christine has been referencing [www.Pioneerdrama.com](http://www.Pioneerdrama.com) for ideas for this year’s camp. Christine was thinking of something modern, fun and upbeat for this year. The PTO board discussed interviewing for the position vs. rehiring Christine. There is no indication that the PTO board has to post the job annually, which was confirmed by HR via Laura Friend. Last year the cost was $3000 for Christine made in several payments. Paula Castner suggested hiring two people to run the camp at a cost of $1500 per person, instead of hiring one person at the cost of $3000. The PTO board decided to make a motion to move forward with Christine for this year’s program because she did such a great job last Summer. The motion was approved. The camp runs during the month of July. A committee of volunteers will be formed to help Christine. Previously, the volunteer’s children received free admission to camp.
  + Luther Burbank Theatre Espresso event went well.
  + Brent Daniels performed music technology at MRE. This was a success.

**Spell a thon**

* Event raised $6000. It turned into a dance party at the end and the kids loved it. Maggie Bonazzoli has a request for reimbursement for supplies. Stephanie Mongeon, PTO Treasurer, directed her to MRE web-site to fill out forms for reimbursement. Maggie has pictures that she has sent with captions to the newspaper regarding the event.

**Book Fair**

* PTO will buy books, so that each student gets a free book next year.
* Motion approved for $1200 per library to buy books as a result of sales made at book fair.

**MRE/LBMS Apparel**

* Will be available in January for purchase. They will be displayed at the school. They are pink and blue. There are zip up sweatshirts, dry fit shirts and much more. The apparel is designed to promote spirit in the school.

**PLANNING**

**Parent Speakers**

* Charlie Applestein – strength based approach
* $475.00 to present on 2/25/14
* He has spoken at MRE before. He is funny and direct. “There is no such thing as a bad kid” is one of his books. He focuses on behaviors. You can Google him to get a sense of what he likes and how he is.
* Maureen Principe has reached out to Bolton and Stow PTO’s about asking them to split the cost with us and having it as a district wide event. Maureen has not heard back yet.
* Motion approved.

* Lynn Lyons – anxiety - $800.00 to present 3/31/13 or 4/1/14
  + She speaks about anxiety in children.
  + Motion approved.
* Should offer these events to all parents in district.
* Let Sean O’Shea know the definite dates and book the MRE auditorium ASAP.

**Movie Nights**

* 12/13/13 – Polar Express
* 1/24/14 – Monsters University
* Need to pick another date. Paula Castner said she has the auditorium booked for that day for the talent show.
* Monsters University was previously advertised to show, but there was a problem with the feed and another movie ended up showing.

**Lip Sync**

* Dates are booked for first week in March.
* There will be a kick off meeting for volunteers
* Last year there was too much going on one night and not enough on another night.
* There is a need for videos to be made and sold. Need someone to take the video. There may be a video club that can take the video.
* The videos can be sold and possibly on the local cable channel.
* Sean O’Shea does not want any kids rehearsing in the hallway. One group can show up for their rehearsal time in the auditorium or cafeteria or gym, but not in the hallway. It’s also a safety issue because the double doors are locked at 3:30pm.

**Thayer Memorial Library**

* Librarian, Joseph Mule, to present re Radio Disney and

        National Grid Contest Winner information

* Have eBooks and ancestory.com and lots of books that are on Amazon. Thayer Memorial Library just won $15,000 grant from National Grid for new lighting via Facebook contest. Thursday, December 19th 4pm – 5:30pm Radio Disney will be having party for library as a result of being contest winner. Joe will send flyer to MRE parents regarding the details of the event. There is a link on the web-site called “emedia” and it will give you access you to the eBooks. You can also put eBooks on hold. If there is something you would like to see at the library that isn’t there, Joe can buy it for the library. Joe said there is a reading list that MRE and LBMS send out annually. Kids then go to the library and there aren’t enough copies of books from the reading list. He suggested the PTO possibly buying books for the library. For 25 years, the library has invited authors to the library. Joe would be happy to have the library partner with the PTO for bringing in authors. There are weekly programs at the library. Every Lancaster resident pays less than $40 a year for the library.

**Staff Holidays Gifts**

* PTO is recommending a holiday lunch for all MRE and LBMS staff.
* Thursday is the best day for staff because they can have leftovers on Friday.
* Not sure on cost yet. Motion for $1500 approved.