

OMS PTO Meeting

Meeting minutes from November 12, 2009

Board members present: President Linda Barrows
Vice President Sarah Paiste
Treasurer Paula O'Brien

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President Linda Barrows.

Motion made by Nikki Moorshead to accept October '09 meeting minutes, Second Sarah Paiste, approved.

Paula O'Brien presented treasurer's report. (attached). Paula explained the Butter Braid Bread fundraiser and how much easier it was than last year's Little Caesar's fundraiser. There were 83 participants and a profit of \$2,498.

Motion to accept by Linda Barrows, Second Nikki Moorshead, approved.

Principal Phil Saisa welcomes members. States that grades have wrapped up for this semester. Teacher conferences are coming up in the end of November. Also Fall sports have officially ended. The Worcester Sharks hockey game fundraiser has been set for Saturday, January 9, 2010. The SOAR Committee (stands for Student Over Achievement Recognition) is taking on the fundraiser and will be selling tickets, the school band will play "God Bless America" at the event. 50% of the "Chuck-A-Puck" sales will go to Overlook Middle School, this takes place at the end of the game so stay for the entire game. Profit for this is \$4.50 per ticket, tickets will be sold for \$15. per ticket, 7 PM game. According to Nikki Moorshead, Gardner Youth Hockey is playing that night.

Basketball is beginning at the middle school and indoor track is also available to the 8th grade.

Bio Engineering program has already begun for the 8th grade students.

There is a possibility that a school newspaper may happen.

Spirit Council is doing a food drive for the holidays.

Book Fair will be going on during teacher conferences.

Field trips to see the Christmas Carol are coming up some students are going to see it on IMAX and some are going to Gardner.

Asst. Principal Sandy Rehler reported that 12/14 7 pm the Christmas concert is going on. The drama department is working on "Overlooking " Broadway and the parents of students involved on "Overlooking" Broadway will be putting on the spaghetti supper. The date for this event is January 28th with a snow date January 29th.

Linda Barrows suggested we set aside money for agenda books for next year. Linda made a motion for \$2400.00 Ina Carey 2nd it, all in favor.

We talked about other things the PTO could fund with the existing money in our budget. Nikki Moorshead asked Phil Saisa what the needs are with all of the budget cuts. The PTO is committed to spending the money it raises on the kids in the year they raised it.

Nikki asked if there were any outdoor year end or spring events planned other than the field day or the cookout for the 7th and 8th grades.

Linda Barrows mentioned that Stop and Shop Bonus Bucks are available for Overlook Middle School. You must register your card on-line at www.stopandshop.com/aplus. This program ends 3/25/10.

Box Tops for Education have been submitted for the October 31st deadline. \$129.30 was the recent total mailed. Next deadline is February 28th. Sarah Paiste will send information to the volunteers who signed up to help, and get information to the teachers to help encourage the collection of Box Tops before the next deadline.

Ina Carey, reported that the Campbell's Soup Labels have been submitted and shared a catalogue that can be used to select what the PTO would like to purchase with the accrued points.

Linda Barrows reported that Karen King is putting together a proposal for teaching a computer class on Microsoft Word as an after-school enrichment. An additional enrichment may be the newspaper that was listed earlier in this meeting.

Coats for Kids has begun. Gently used winter coats may be dropped off in the box at the Overlook lobby. Linda Barrows is sending home a flyer with details.

Paula O'Brien asked who is sponsoring 8th grade graduation this year. Looking forward for budgeting purposes she is trying to determine how much money the PTO should hold for this event, if we are one of the sponsors.

Linda Barrows reported that Raytheon Corporation is sponsoring a scholarship program called MathMovesU for middle school students. Linda has distributed details about eligibility and exactly what all this covers to the math teachers and Sandy Rehler. The motto is *How does MATH put the action in your passion?* find out more at MathMovesU.com. Deadline is January 15, 2010.

Sandy Rehler brought up the next fundraiser the school is sponsoring November 18th. This will be a coffee fundraiser in conjunction with Jumpin Juice and Java in Gardner selling all organic coffees.

Finally, we talked about a need for more information being made available for parents. As first year parents it is difficult to decipher what all of the Acronyms mean that are used, for instance

SOAR (,Student/Staff Over Achievement Recognition Program) TAP(team activity period), SWAP (SWAP- School Wide Activity Period) etc.

Also navigating the web site has not been so easy. Even though upcoming dates are listed there does not seem to be an explanation of what the activities are or when their deadlines are. PTO offered to do an online newsletter as a link to the school website but Mr. Saisa said he will work on getting update posted more frequently.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:11pm by Linda Barrows, President.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Paiste, Vice President