

PTO Agenda

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

In person at Sprague Library @ 8:35 a.m.

ATTENDEES (17 parents): Rose Nolan, Wendy Englebardt, Inia Perez, Julie Covino-Vogel, Tomoe Harrison, Elyssa Benedikt, Carolyn Kornwitz, Hande Alparslan, Jill Wells, Diana Anderson, Liz Sower, Bryanne Tartamella, Sneha Patel, Nicole Katz, Tanya Johnson, Dena Giggie, Ceren Bayulgen

Welcome	Wendy Englebardt & Rose Nolan, PTO Co-Presidents
Treasurer Report	Jill Wells & Hande Alparslan
General PTO Meeting	Wendy Englebardt & Rose Nolan
Creative Arts & Sciences	Carolyn Kornwitz
Garden Committee/Green Team	Tomoe Harrison
Social Committee	Dena Giggie & Tanya Johnson
Fundraising	Bry Tartamella & Sneha Patel
METCO/PAC/Social Media	Nicole Katz
Fifth Grade Committee	Jenny Lee, Lisa Neighbors
Spiritwear	Inia Perez

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 7th 2024 at 8:35 am at the Sprague Library

1) Jill Wells & Hande Alparslan - Treasurer Report

- Fenway Night – Red Sox Game Saturday June 1st @4:30 - \$54 a ticket. Flyers went home!
 - Apologies for tiny flyers we didn't want to delay it any longer.
 - 45 – 50 tickets sold.
 - Instagram posts and email sent.
 - Purchase via PayPal (no fee as we are a non-profit). Venmo deducts fee.
 - Deadline is Jan. 26th
 - If you'd like to sit together with a group must buy all together.
 - Some issues to be resolved on website for payment for tickets as it does not calculate total amount (Wendy will look into it).
- Matching donations: \$1100 received.
- Sprague cares program: we spent \$900 and still have \$1100 left to be used for families in need.
 - Strategy meeting to be arranged separately to plan Sprague Cares program. We need to discuss when to do a separate program to raise funds for the Cares separately.
 - Perhaps Thanksgiving is a great time to raise funds.
 - Wendy & Treasurers will attend the regional meeting at the end of the month to review the Cares program.
 - It's not always monetary, but also provides support to help families in need.
- Continuing to raise funds for annual appeal.
 - We're at %40 family participation.
 - We met budget goal, but not family goal!
 - How can we get families to participate more? Even if it's to donate \$5, \$10 or \$20.
 - For next year, we need to remind that every family's participation is needed even if it's \$1, as this is what makes them a stakeholder!

- Message is ready to go for the new year. Content can be changed to show the dollar amount spent for each event or per student, to get people to be more motivated to donate.
- Shopping Fundraisers: \$445 received physically and approximately \$300 more to be received.
- Also at least \$400 plus coming from Minted.

2) Wendy Englehardt & Rose Nolan - PTO Co-Presidents

- Hunneywell Clap-out Friday, February 16th - Wendy & Rose to organize & finalize with Leigh.
- Leap Day – Thursday, February 29th - we're trying to brainstorm ideas as to how to celebrate Leap Day this year. So far, we have 3 ideas which we'll circulate and decide on what to do. For example, the ideas include:
 - Individual time capsules
 - Crazy day
 - Day of service
- Sprague celebrates 100th year anniversary celebration.
 - Maybe we can plan a new design with Spikey to modernize it. Students can vote for designs. Unveil with the celebration at the end of May.
 - Julie can help plan an event to celebrate as a lot of people around the neighborhood went to school there.
 - Perhaps Mr. Cory can help design the new Spikey logo, which would make it meaningful as it would come from someone from school. Can be part of Lesson Planning?
- Spring Book Fair:
 - Wellesley Books - We secured a 4-day event for purchasing anything in the store, leading up to Mother's Day, May 2nd – May 5th.
 - Book store will reach out to the librarians to get the summer book lists and have the quantity in stock and ready for the event.
 - Concern is whether we will raise enough sales in store vs in person at the school.
 - From previous experience, selling in person at the school has always made nearly triple the amount from Scholastic vs in store.
 - Gift cards for the teachers can be purchased from the store.
 - Another vendor other than Scholastic can be looked into (which other schools in the district may have used).

3) Carolyn Kornwitz - Creative Arts & Sciences

- Lots of events are planned for this month
- Upcoming event is: 1/25 – Grade 4 Sound Waves
- 5th Grade field trip to the JFK Museum happened yesterday.
- Also have great events planned for Spring.
- Bash the Trash may happen, yet to confirm. (Schofield is tying it in with a cleanup day).
- Unfortunately, Chinese New Year Day dance group is not available this year as they are all students and completely booked.
- Grace Lin who is a great author is someone we'd love to arrange but may not be able to this year! We will look into it for next year.
- Newsletter for CAS would be great to educate parents where the majority of PTO money is going.
- We have requested class reps to report their spend to PTO Treasurers.

4) Tomoe Harrison - Garden Committee/Green Team

- No updates.
- 5) Dena Giggie & Tanya Johnson - Social Committee
- Potential Dance is currently being planned for: K-2 and 3-5 separately.
 - Can be planned for the same day one after the other.
 - Would reserve a DJ for 3 hours to do both events back-to-back.
 - Ice Skating Family event is also being researched – Babson may have availability end of March - \$400 for an hour of ice rink rental.
 - Carolyn confirms Hunneywell always had ice skating parties.
 - Girl's Scout troops also organize such events. **The leader can be contacted for more info on how they plan their ice-skating events. (Brie can connect us).**
 - Multi-Cultural event is another option for upcoming months ahead.
 - Connecting with PTO members of other Schools in our district to request their 'know how' and recommendations may be a great way to share knowledge and plan accordingly. **(Wendy will connect us with a Hardy PTO member).**
 - Note: Fiske cage has a lot of décor and party stuff we can make use of for events so that we don't spend extra funds.
- 6) Bry Tartamella & Sneha Patel - Fundraising
- Auction is planned for Friday, May 17th @ Charles River Country Club, Newton
 - Brie and Sneha are trying to get donations from corporate and from local businesses to compile baskets.
 - Corporate sponsorship amounts are lower this year! **We need to reach out to more businesses!**
 - Instagram helped as we received messages from parents who are helping to reach out to local businesses.
 - **If you know of anyone that may be willing to donate season tickets, houses to rent etc. please kindly request for donation or connect them to Brie who will be happy to ask.**
 - We are requesting help from grades to create grade level baskets with themes per grade **(requesting 1-2 caregivers to take on the lead).** For ex: Amazon wish list for Beach theme. Value of basket should be 150 dollars.
 - Other ideas for the theme baskets are:
 - Cozy night theme
 - Lego theme
 - **Rainy day theme: 2nd GRADE (Ceren and Diana will take on the lead!)**
- 7) Nicole Katz – Social Media / METCO / PAC
- WPS Partnering with Wellesley Theatre Project – where they learn a skit and we see them perform. Starting with K, 1st and 2nd
 - METCO programs can be highlighted in the newsletter. **Nicole will prepare a small blurb.**
 - PAC - no updates.
 - Social Media - pushing things out as they seem relevant. **Please let Nicole know if you'd like anything posted.**

General Notes & Comments:

- April Solar Eclipse – Margaret Fritch is planning for this event.
- Main Public Library is also planning activities around it.

Happy New Year to everyone and as always a big thank you to the entire PTO team and everyone that attended the meeting today, in person at the library or online! None of this could possibly happen without all your effort, support and dedication! We look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting for all your updates!

Go Team!!!

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 7th 2024 at 8:35 am at the Sprague Library

Meeting adjourned