

PTO Minutes for 11/9/16

- November 9th meeting in the library with 17 members in attendance.
- President Amy Harrington brought the meeting to order at 6:05pm.
- A meeting agenda was handed out. Minutes from the last meeting (10/12/16) were included on the back
- Minutes were reviewed and approved - motioned by Jeanette Glidden and seconded by Garrett Glidden.
- Introductions were made around the room.
- Two handmade Thank You cards were received by the PTO from Benton students. These were shared.

Principal's Update:

Mr. Wedge noted that the Trunk or Treat had good participation from Benton students. Superintendent Dr. Dean Baker attended with a Trunk, which was a welcome addition. Mr. Wedge is happy with the many faces he sees at the PTO meetings and is interested in seeing the PTO participation grow as the school year continues. A brief water update was given regarding the lead contamination. Students and faculty continue to use school-provided bottled water. The water faucets and fixtures will be replaced by a plumber and notices will continue to be sent home with updates.

Treasurer's Report:

\$6845.30	Starting balance
-\$4274.47	Expenses (Book Fair, Childcare, Storage Rental, LC Bates for 2 nd Graders, BBQ)
+\$730	Craft Fair table sales
\$3714.88	Ending Balance (\$3300.92 + \$413.96 in savings)

Old Business:

1. **Three For Me Program** update given by Lydia Whiting. Volunteer numbers are growing. A new column will be added to the office sign-in sheet to include fieldtrips, which will count towards earning 3 hours of volunteer time. Jeanette Glidden presented an idea for the volunteer tree to provide more recognition and encourage volunteerism. This tier-based idea would provide different colored leaves and symbols to represent volunteer time completed by the same person in 3+ hour increments. It was decided that at this time, the program will remain the same and volunteers will continue to earn only one leaf after 3 completed hours. However, the leaf colors will vary to bring more vibrancy and contrast to the bulletin board. A recommendation was made to have a volunteer recognition night at the end of the school year. Amy H. recommends incorporating this into the Family Fun Night.
2. **Trunk or Treat** was successful despite the weather. There were roughly 45 trunks this year. Left-over candy was donated to Centerpoint, who hosted a free public Halloween event to children. Improvements for next year include: 1. a scheduled rain date with a possible robo-call if the rain date will be utilized; 2. communication with childcare staff requesting they provide notice to childcare parents regarding the change in evening pickup location due to the parking lot being closed to vehicles during the event.

Upcoming PTO Events:

1. **Craft Fair** is scheduled for December 10th. We are in need of volunteers for Dec. 10th in the following areas: White Elephant Room, 50/50 ticket sales and a Greeter. Those interested should contact Lydia Whiting. Currently, there are 44 vendors (56 tables). 19 tables remain available for rental. Kathy Burkhart was able to get the needed rental tables for ½ price from Are You Ready to Party. A motion was made by Garrett Glidden to donate \$250 towards painter's tape for setup and goods for baskets to raffle at the fair. Motion was seconded by Roy and unanimously approved.
2. **The Christmas Potluck** is scheduled for December 14th at 5:30pm. Donna Francoeur coordinates this PTO sponsored event, which typically has 150-160 attendees. Donna is seeking the help of 3-4 people to assist with setup at 4:30pm the night of the event. Each family attending brings a main dish to share. There will be gingerbread cookie decorating, crafting for the children, caroling with music, and a visit from Santa. The event ends at 7pm. PTO provides side food items, beverages, tablecloths, and a dessert.

New Business:

1. **Red Sox Game** dates were discussed with 3 different options. With 8 in favor, the date chosen is April 15th at 4:05pm. Cost will be \$20/person. One bus will be rented at a cost of \$50 additional/person and will be seated on a first come, first serve basis.
2. **The Giving Tree** project will be funded by the PTO again this year, per Donna F.'s request. Last year, 175 tags were filled. A motion to give \$500 was made by Garrett and seconded by Lydia. Kathy B. motioned to donate an additional \$200 and was seconded by Heather. Thus, the PTO will donate \$700 to the project this year.

Questions/Comments: None.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be held on January 11, 2017 at 6:00pm in the library.

Adjournment: Roy motioned to adjourn at 7:11pm. Meeting adjourned.