



Ocean Avenue PTA Minutes
January 11, 2012
7 pm
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Principal's Comments

- Grades K, 2 & 3 will be taking the NWATS aptitude test on computers next week. The test determines if children are eligible for the Gifted and Talented program.
- NWEA testing will take place in the next few weeks in all grades. This test shows educational growth against tests taken earlier this year.
- Principal Larkin met with the Shared Decision Making committee on Tuesday. Discussion included the anti bullying campaign "Culture of Respect" and the anti drug program "Too Good for Drugs". Committee members spoke of bringing the two topics together for greater impact.

Presidents' Report

- November minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report

- A review of the current budget status was discussed.
- Book Fair did well with proceeds going towards PARP and school library.
- \$522 received from Box Tops.
- Fall Fair had a profit of \$750
- Holiday Boutique had a profit of \$1,200
- Fall and Winter Plant Sale had a profit of \$1,900
- Wrapping Paper Fundraiser had a profit of \$3,600

Corresponding Secretary's Report

- Thank you card from school greeter, Jeanne McLaughlin for holiday gift.
- Thank you card from school secretary, Kathy Burns for the vase of flowers.

Council Rep. Report *(PTA and SEPTA reps from each school in district)*

- Superintendent McDermitt and Matt Nelson spoke to council reps about the budget process. District is staying below the 2% tax increase limit with out layoffs and cutbacks.
- Last year's budget passed with a 57% vote. Voters are urged to express support for items that are important to them.
- Next BOE meeting is Monday, January 23rd at 7:30 pm at the William Brosnan building where a preliminary budget will be presented and the following meeting it will be corrected.

Board of Education *(as presented by Board member J. Thompson & L. McCue)*

- Budget season is here. School superintendent McDermott and BOE are looking for ways to get more people to vote. One idea is to have a separate vote set-up for the children on a topic that is important to them. This way parents would have an opportunity to vote as well as the kids. PTA may partner with other schools such as Norwood to execute these ideas.
- Lori McCue passed on the tradition of placing balloons on the Ocean Avenue fence on budget day to Jen Lau.

Please note: minutes and agendas from the Board meetings are available on line; please refer to them for a full report: <http://northport.k12.ny.us/newboepage.htm>.



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New Business

- *Ann Marie Little* will replace Barbara Anderson as council rep for the remainder of the year.
- *Lip Sync Survey* sent out as a Backpack Express. Survey sent out to help reduce guest limitations in the APR during performances. Co-chair Sue Katz asked the PTA board to clarify who can vote on the survey. Jen Lau confirmed that only PTA members can vote. Co-chair Ann Marie Little reported that she has investigated other school facilities to hold the event to try and accommodate a larger audience but she could not find one that had more occupancy than the 400 our APR holds.
- Five volunteers are needed for the *By Laws Committee*. Submit your name to Jen Lau and/or Jen Montgomery if you are interested.
- *Southern Suffolk PTA* is holding a workshop on February 9th at 7:00 PM in Hauppauge on nominations and elections. A group rate of \$20 will cover all PTA members that wish to attend. Contact Jen Lau and/or Jen Montgomery if you are interested in going.
- *SEPTA* will be having a fundraising Cocktail Party on March 30th at 7-11pm. Cost is \$60. The fundraiser is to support programs such as yoga for special needs children.

Committee Reports

- *PARP* starts on January 23rd. Theme is "Get Your Game On". Booklets will be distributed to the classrooms on Monday January 23rd. Long Island author Lisa Desimini will speak on Monday to the students at the opening assembly. Cover design winner will be announced Friday, January 13th.
- *Square 1 Art* supplies have been delivered to Mrs. Amato. Completed artwork due February 10th. Last year 43% of the students purchased an item with their artwork on it.
- *Food Drive* is set for the week of February 6th through the 10th. The fall food drive was low compared to other years. Looking to get more donations for the winter one.
- *5th Grade Activities* - Ann Marie Little suggested that the beach theme be kept for years to come due to the fact there are a lot of items pertaining to it that can be re-used year to year. Ann Marie is looking for someone to help design signs. Party and Yearbook coming along well. Need DVD orders to be at least 50.
- *Blood Drive* - 51 pints of blood were collected at the November blood drive. This beats the 30 pints collected in November 2010. Next blood drive is in March.
- *Movie Night* is Friday, January 20th at 7 pm and the movie is "The Smurfs".
- *Special thanks to:* **Fall Blood Drive**- Lynn Leonard and Lisa Kowalchuk, **Book Fair** - Marie Diaz and Joanne Lanzilotta, **Ocean Apparel**- Janet Fox and Tracey Bernson, **Holiday Boutique** - Kathy Bereck and Lisa Kowlachuk, **Fall Food Drive** - Joanne Pitflick and Laura Petronella, **PTA auction donation to A Midwinter Night's Dream ALS fundraiser**- Tracey Bernson, **Beautification/ Festive Decorations**- Wendy Zimmerman and Vera Chwostyk, **Pie Sale** - Sarena Farrell and Wendy Zimmerman, **Box Tops**- Jen Thompson and Carol Alfiero, and **Winter Plant Sale** - Vera Chwostyk.

Respectfully submitted,
Vera Chwostyk
Recording Secretary