



Ocean Avenue PTA Minutes
November 17, 2010
9 am
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Principal's Comments

- Book Fair and Blood Drive are on 11/18; wrapping paper pick-up is happening as well
- 3-5th graders have received a book "Netcetera", which addresses safe internet and cell phone use; additional copies have been ordered and should arrive within three weeks; please contact Mrs. Larkin if interested in additional copies for younger Ocean children
- NEWA testing, a computerized test for baseline assessment in math, is currently happening; additional testing will take place in December and in March; should have information on students before holiday break; exploring possibility of ELA testing as well

Presidents' Report

- Minutes approved from the October meeting
- January 12th, 2011 meeting has been moved to 7 pm
- Charitable gift baskets –members interested in supporting district groups should do so by sending donations in an envelope marked "Community Dollars"; checks may be made out to Ocean Avenue PTA, mark "Community Dollars" in the memo line; individual members may also contribute gift baskets for events

Treasurer's Report

- Currently in sound financial order
- Please e-mail Mary Gilmore or Maria Longo if you would like a copy of the budget sheets

Corresponding Secretary's Report

- Thank you note received from 2nd grader for hard work of PTA and the Fall Fair; thank you note from Mrs. Haar for the Scholastic books for library (ordered with our Scholastic Dollars)

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

- PTA Council
 - Focused primarily on NEWA testing (as mentioned above); teachers are receiving training in administration and assessment of tests; Northport is one of the biggest pilot programs
- Board of Education *(as presented by Board member L. McCue)*
 - Presented Student of the Month in Math and Family Consumer Sciences
 - External auditor's Report gave Northport mark of "no material weaknesses", the highest mark a district can receive
 - Discussions are taking place re downsizing Board to seven members; discussion effects next year's election

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>.

Committee Reports



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- **SAVE:** goals are being met in security; district is moving ahead with swipe cards which will be programmed for unlock / lock positions during arrival and dismissal; problems resolved with Ocean's close circuit televisions; security staff has been found up to par in elementary schools; emergency folders can be found on hooks in every Ocean classroom and are shown to all substitutes; a proposal has been made for principals to have access to a panic button in case of a lock-down situation; doors with locks on the outside are being reassessed re time sensitivity issue in case of an emergency
- **5th Grade Activities:** first meeting in October, formed committees and sub-chair committees; students voted "Around the World" as theme; e-mail will be sent to all 5th grade parents for help with decorations and other committees
- **Ocean Ave Apparel:** sale ends 11/22; tie die and solid navy apparel available
- **Reflections:** students will be notified of awards in Excellence and Merit; if receive Excellence at the county level they will attend a ceremony on 12/18 at Northport HS and will move to the State judging; 2011 theme is "Diversity Is..."
- **Holiday Boutique:** 12/6 - 12/10; will send info as date approaches
- **Shared Decision Making:** will focus on incorporating the district's new wellness policy into Ocean's guidelines; will also work with the district's bullying policy and using it to teach children to make better choices
- **PARP:** 1/10 - 1/28; stands for "Parents as Reading Partners"; goal is to have parent (or grandparent, older sibling, babysitter, etc.) serve as a reading role model for children; please watch for further information in January; mark-my-time sales will help support PARP, deadline extended to 11/22
- **Wellness:** Family Health & Fitness Day will be on 4/9, 11-2 pm at Northport HS
- **Pie Sale:** deadline is now 11/19; please place orders if interested
- **Health & Safety Committee:** 1/11 is next meeting; please contact L. Cocchi with any issues
- **Special thanks to the following committees:** Fall Fair, Wrapping Paper, Move Night and Popcorn, Pie Sale and Ocean Ave Apparel

Other

- The Wizards will play at Northport Middle School on 11/19 from 7-9 pm; go to district website for a link; can order tickets online

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Crafa
Recording Secretary