



**Ocean Avenue PTA Minutes**  
**September 14, 2011**  
**9 am**  
**UNOFFICIAL COPY**



### **Principal's Comments**

- The beginning of the school year has been going well with the exception of a few busing issues that have resolved themselves.
- Ms. Pelligrino will be organizing International Peace Day on September 21st. She will be making "pinwheels for peace" with the children.
- Open House will be on Thursday, September 15th and there will be a presentation on creating a culture of respect.

### **Presidents' Report**

- June minutes not available and will be approved at October meeting along with September minutes.
- Introduction of new PTA board.
- Committee sheets available for volunteers to sign-up.
- Seeking a volunteer to chair the membership committee
- PTA membership sign up now includes option for community dollar contributions.
- Cow Harbor Parade- theme for Ocean Avenue will be Mardi Gras. A show of hands to see if there was an interest to participate in the parade.
- PTA has acquired a new device called "square-up" that can be attached to a smart phone enabling it to receive payment via credit cards. Square-Up is linked to the PTA bank account and will be able to deposit payments for such things as membership.
- Stop & Shop card school rewards - must re-register card every fall. You can shop at any Stop & Shop store and earn the rewards for Ocean Avenue. And you can sign up for multiple schools, i.e. Northport Middle, Northport HS.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Budget updated to include Community Dollars as a separate item.
- Holiday gifts for office and building staff was highlighted.
- Jen Thompson inquired about over/under budget procedures.

### **Corresponding Secretary's Report**

- Received a thank you note from recipient of the Ocean Avenue Scholarship award.

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

- PTA Council
  - Smart Boards in all elementary school classrooms by January 2012.
  - Ocean Avenue PTA received two awards, one for membership growth and one for "early bird" payment of membership fees.
- Board of Education *(as presented by Board members L. McCue & J. Thompson)*
  - 2% cap for 2012-2013 school budget. Want input from public if this is acceptable.
  - NY state eliminated certain mandates with respect to testing that will give some relief to the school budget.
  - Resolution to change tax collection schedule approved which will allow the district to receive funds to pay salaries to teachers on a timely manner without having to borrow funds and the cost associated with that.
  - Lower class cap maintained in the district. Specifics on district website.



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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>.

### **New Business**

- PTA 2011-2012 budget approved with amendment to increase the MST budget by \$100.
- Members urged to sign up for Backpack Express.
- Members needed to volunteer for open committee chairs

### **Committee Reports**

- *Wrapping Paper*: campaign starts 9/26 with all orders due 10/7. Ordering online was encouraged especially for out of state family members. Items to be raffled off.
- *Fall Harvest Fair*: looking for volunteers to help with the fair in all areas. Joanne Lanzilotta is collecting donations for the raffle baskets.
- *School Banking*: New schedule for deposits - only once a month. The first Wednesday of every month children can deposit money into their account at school.
- *1st Grade Square Dance*: Looking for a good "caller" that is inexpensive.
- *School Pictures*: All pictures will be taken on October 6th. New vendor "Coffee Pond". Pictures to be taken outside. Quality is superior to LifeTouch. Hoping for higher response from parents for purchases which would facilitate a higher contribution to PTA from the vendor. No spring pictures this year. Coffee Pond will also be doing the 5th grade yearbook.
- *Cultural Arts*: The first event will be an anti-bullying program presented to the students on Monday, September 26th.
- *Reflections*: Theme this year is "Diversity" and deadline for submissions is October 28th. Problems with forms - they must be downloaded first and then opened. There will be a separate PTA meeting for the awards ceremony in the spring.
- *Food Drive*: 10/3 to 10/9. Bring in food items and other things such as school supplies, pet food, holiday wrap, baby care and birthday celebration pack.
- *Plant Sale*: Samples presented at meeting. Large bushel mum to be raffled off.
- *Special thanks to*: Janette Pica and Joanne Lanzilotta for the school store.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vera Chwostyk  
Recording Secretary