

October 2014 PTO Meeting Minutes

1. **Open meeting**-Pam Murdoch and Kelly Crawford (2014-2015 co-presidents) at 6:33pm on October 16, 2014.
2. **Introductions:** People in attendance: Pam Murdoch, Kelly Crawford, George Sanchez, Syed Ali, Kendyl Fiorito, Dawn Leonard, Jonelle Bailey, Lisa Medendorp, Terea Eid, Tammy Hopkins, Enza Zamora, Barb Goetzke, and Aaron Coadak. Introductions were made and teachers and new parents welcomed. Dr. Gehrig was not in attendance.
3. **Treasurer's report:** Looks like we will clear about \$1900 for Harvest Fest this year, which is about the same as last year. A final number should be available next month after final costs are submitted. Market Day made \$145, Oberweis netted \$226, Rosati's pizza paid out \$250, Target sent a check for \$895 and the amount made from spirit wear is still unknown. Scholastic book fair took in \$2462.60 in cash and checks and \$1139 in credit cards. We earned \$5000 in Scholastic dollars. The ending balance in the PTO account is \$894.88.
4. **Principal's report:** none. Dr. Gehrig is currently on the 6th grade outdoor education trip.
5. **Teacher's report:** 1st grade teachers in attendance are Dawn Leonard and Kendyl Fiorito. The 1st grade teachers request that anyone needing to miss or change conference times to please call or send notes, or emails so that can be done efficiently. On Tuesday, October 22nd, our school will participate in a program called Read for the Record. All classes will be reading Bunny Cakes by Rosemary Wells. Halloween parties will be held on Friday, October 31st at the end of the day. Parties will be 45 minutes long. K-3 will participate in a parade at 12:45 which will take place inside the school hallways. 4th grade does a harvest celebration within the classrooms and 5 and 6th graders go skating. On November 10th, our school will hold its 2nd Day of Honor (for Veteran's). Mrs. Burhans coordinates the program which will be a ½ hour long from 8:30-9:00am. There is a need for a volunteer from 7-8am for set up of breakfast items for the Veteran's. Our school will participate in an all school Science Fair on February 20th. It will take place at Horizon in the evening from 6:30-8:30. The first grade will work on a class project. Mrs. Leonard presented some examples of "I CAN" statements that the school is using in order to tie things into the common core standards. She gave wonderful examples.
6. **CAC:** Tammy Hopkins attended the previous CAC meeting that was centered on Curriculum and relayed that the district adopted a literature curriculum and that the district is working on adopting the math curriculum, Engage New York. Also there was discussion about changing boundaries and looking at feeder patterns. The district has hired a demographer and is currently doing a two year study in order to solve the issue of under populated schools and overcrowding in some cases. Jeff King, the director of operations, is heading up this project. The committee hopes to come up with 4-5 scenarios. Then they will narrow that down to 3 scenarios. When three are agreed upon, they will be presented to the public at public meetings and also to the principals around the district. Currently, Horizon is at 52% capacity. Jeff King thinks that 50% capacity is too low.
7. **Upcoming Events:** Day of Honor (November 10th).
8. **Harvest Fest recap:** Is there a better system of marking pumpkins so that pick up is not confusing? Maybe placing them on plates marked with their names, or pieces of tape? Only 100 people did the photo booth. Is that because we charged for this? Should we just make it free? Someone suggested we need lids on the pumpkin raffle buckets. There was discussion of getting a gift card to thank the volunteer that did the hayride all night long.
9. **BoxTops:** Tammy reports that she just sent in \$655 worth of box tops and that she just received many more. The next submission time is March.
10. **Conclusion of meeting:** Pam and Kelly brought the meeting to a close at 7:49pm.