

## **PTO Minutes for Tuesday, September 13, 2016**

### **Mena's Report**

This year Mena hopes to have representation from teaching faculty at each meeting. Debbie Munger is here to talk about the 2/3 combined classroom.

She loves the model--Ms Breen teaches the 2nd grade and she teaches the 3rd grade class. Most days morning meeting starts together.

Today they reviewed time together, then they went to the swing space; there are also times where there will be smaller group work. This has gone smoothly and is not new as this also happened in previous 3rd grade classes. There is also more space when one group is in the entire classroom. So far this has worked very well.

The first School Site Council meeting is next Thursday, September 22. Open House is September 28 from 6:30-8. This year a librarian from the public library will be in the foyer to hand out library cards.

The schools are still in the process of approving conference dates. They will go out once they are finalized (most likely on Monday, September 19.). The Cunniff calendar on the web site is updated regularly. (though standardized testing dates will not appear until November). Please refer to this on line resource.

Power School is the new on line parent resource center. It will cut down on hard copies and paper notices being sent home. There will be information sent home to register on the site in the near future.

Enrollment: With 2 multi age classrooms (PK/K and 2/3), numbers in each classroom are at a nice size (between 18-22 each). There has also been redistributing of school assignments based on the new study. All but 6 or 7 students have been able to stay in their home district.

A goal this year is to add project-based learning to the Cunniff. Cunniff is hoping to become a weather bug school that would be linked with WBZ. More details will follow as Mena works on making this happen.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Currently there is \$2800.00 in the bank. Our goal is to raise \$16,000.00 in order to continue to fund field trips, visiting exhibitions, teacher appreciation gifts, 5th grade project adventure and Halloween.

Lowe's Grant update -Carolyn reports on How We Grow  
As of last week the \$5,000 grant has been spent. There are vegetable boxes in

the courtyard that are maintained by the school, flowers and a butterfly garden, a reading garden with benches and a short walkway in the front of the school paid for by this grant. We also added a shed and toys, balance beams, and a sand box in the courtyard.

Maria is in the process of applying for another grant to maintain these spaces.

Teddy Bear Picnic update: Carm

There was a great turnout this year with approximately 50 people in attendance. Thank you for the support of new Cunniff families!

Trex recycling contest: Lindi

This will continue this year. Please put your plastic bags in the blue barrel near the PTO bulletin board so that Cunniff can win a trex bench.

Box tops summer contest: Carolyn. Cunniff earned \$577 dollars from last spring's contest. (a check will be received in December). There will be another competition this fall (a continuation of the summer one) run by Erika. Box tops will be collected every other week (most likely on Fridays) from classrooms, then the bag will be returned to rooms on Monday.

#### **New Business:**

If you are interested in being a class rep, please contact Lauren

Meadow Farms is a large fundraiser for the school. Catalogs will be sent home. Orders can be placed on line or through the catalog.

Kickball will be Sunday, September 25 at 2pm. Registration is \$25. Please consider supporting the PTO by organizing a team of 8 players.

Color Run

is October 2 at Hosmer at 11 AM. This is a fundraiser for all three elementary schools that takes place at Hosmer. It is family friendly--walk, run, bike or scoot this 5K course. Volunteers are needed; please contact Lee if you are interested in helping. We are also looking for sponsors. If you have or know of a local business, see Lee as well.

Picture day is October 14 Friday

Erin is the point person.

The Halloween Party will be Friday, October 28 Lee is the contact. Please see her if you can help.

Charter School Ballot question: Lindi

Last year Watertown lost \$186,000 from Charter schools. Please consider voting

"no" on question 2 on Election Day.

Site Council: Jim

The site council sets a strategy and a long term plan for the school. It's a mandated body by the state to ensure that teachers, parents and administration are working together on curriculum, space and other educational issues.

They meet 5 times per year for an hour. The next meeting is September 22. The teacher reps this year are Zane Walsh and Charles Seigler.

5th grade update: Nancy

There are 2 upcoming events 1. September 24 is Faire on the Square where 5th grade will run a dunk tank. 2. November 8: Election Day bake sale. If you would like to donate baked goods, please contact Patty Grady.

Our next meeting is Tuesday October 4.

In attendance at the 9/13 meeting:

Donna Driscoll and Lauren Stephano, Co-Presidents

Tina Brisson, Treasurer

Julie Weeden, Secretary

Mena Ciarlone

Debbie Munger

Lisa Griffin

Kathy Beggan

Darlene Haley

Michael Sherman

Natalie Colon

Elaina Griffith

Nicholas Nitschke

Abby Rharib

Lisa Hayward

Kelly Marini

Lee Haley

Britt Days

Rebecca Cinci

Margaret Sherman

Kate Croft

Alex Revzin

Nancy Dicker

Rosa Diamond

Erin Macomber