

January 11, 2012 Parkway PTA Minutes

Meeting called to order. Members welcomed.

Attendance book and share folder passed around. Notepads, car magnets and field blankets available for sale.

November meetings accepted. No meeting held in December.

Treasurer's Report: \$18,762.16 balance with one book sale bill outstanding.

Arts & Ed: Hip Pickles visited school with anti-bullying messages. End of January, illustrator Andrea Pickney to visit and autographed books will be given to all students.

Curriculum: Possibility health teachers may be eliminated from elementary schools.

Music department had a discussion last year with parents and 4th grade teachers who were concerned about the number of pullouts for Chorus and instrument lessons in 4th grade. Possible solutions are seriously being considered. Josh Golbert, chair of music department, and the elementary principals are looking for input from parents.

OLSAT permission letters were sent home to second grade parents. Those third graders who scored higher than 115 would be permitted to retake the exam for possible acceptance to Project Challenge. Going forward, the OLSAT acceptance score has been lowered to 125 from 130. However, evaluation from teachers, principals, and specials teachers will be weighed more in the acceptance to Project Challenge even for those students who score over 125.

Health: Relay for Life Kick-off upcoming event at Main Event; all residents invited to attend.

LOVE: Melissa Zeidman won first raffle for LOVE participants

Nutrition: Parents owe money on food services. Please contact food services.

Book Fair: Successful sale with \$7500 sold. \$925 was given in scholastic bucks and received cash of \$1400.

Box Tops: Parkway received a check for 2000 tops collected to date.

Cookie Dough Sale: Sale begins this week. Notices and forms were sent home.

Holiday Boutique: Successful and fun for children to purchase gifts for relatives.

4th Grade Memory Book: Every 4th grader sent in baby pictures. Committee received 19 pieces of word art and over 900 photos from throughout Parkway years. \$900 worth of Parkway boosters were sold.

Picture Retake: Scheduled for Friday, January 27th.

Founder's Day: March 14th, 6:15 - 10 pm. Honoring from Parkway: Beverly Sender and Mrs. Guido, 1st Grade teacher

Site-Based: We are in need of new playground equipment; our request is pending.

Islander Game; February 12 at 3pm. Ticket money is due by February 3rd.

SEPTA: Next meeting is January 25th featuring a speaker from POINT regarding special needs students.

Say No To The Flu Campaign: All teachers except 4th grade, received wipes, tissues, and hand sanitizers.

Nominating Committee 2012- 2013: Representing the current PTA Board: Monica Grossman, Melissa Zeidman, Bev Sender. Alternate: Natalie Drebsky. Representing PTA membership: Lori Buchs, Demi Prototensis. Alternate: Jennifer Leest

Legislation Phone Chain: Class parents will receive a phone chain to begin lobbying campaign of our state and Congressional legislators regarding school budget, class size, and other relevant issues.

Procedure Book Committee New committee seeking volunteers to compile a procedures book for all committee chairs and members to reference.

PTA Guest Speaker appearing at March Meeting: Nassau County Police officer speaking to technology and our children

MahJongg Tournament: new date is March 1st.

Popcorn Sale: low response.

Race to Nowhere: Free showing on March 13th; free advance tickets necessary for admission.

4th Grade Moving Up Day: new date is June 19th not June 20th as published on calendar

Mrs. Hershkowitz:

Thank you to the PTA for hospitality at Parent Teacher Conference evening; teachers appreciate the goodies.

Brownies will meet in the main hallway to facilitate school dismissal.
May 15th is the 4th grade end of year activity; not June 14th as previously planned.

There have been some issues of children not being nice to each other. As a result, a 4th grade anti-bully group has been created with our social worker. Any child who violates the school's anti-bully rules will be punished and any 4th grader will not be able to participate in end of year activities.

4th Grade trip planned to visit Nassau County Legislature hosted by Judy Jacobs.

Our public school system is collapsing and there is a great need for parental involvement and action at the State level. It is your children's education and parents should be calling representatives and legislators expressing concerns.

Next PTA meeting is March 7th at 9:30 a.m.

Next BOE meeting is January 23 at 7:45 p.m.