

PTO Agenda
10-24-19

In Attendance: Aline, Jenny, Kristin, Liz, Jessie, Lisa DJ, Giselle

Elections: Bylaws have been tightened and refined, with election procedure and positions clarified. Clarifies who has the right to vote in the elections, who has the right to vote in PTO business, and who has the right to determine funding

Vote for Treasurer: Liz Handel nominated to treasurer position. Seconded. Unanimous vote for Liz.

Secretary sign the state form - done

Vote for bylaws - unanimously approved

School Committee Update (Jessie): First read of bullying/harassment policy that goes beyond students and teachers - anyone on school grounds.

Sent letter in August about Charter School — resent the information

School choice legal guidance and advocacy - meeting of committee members October 29th, 2pm, Pelham computer lab - proposed language change for this.

Topics to be discussed/examined further will be added to the SC agenda

Joint meeting with Amherst to discuss math curriculum for 6th graders

Treasurer's Report: \$2071.00 income; \$1771.83 expenses; current balance = \$14,296.69; \$650 from online donations to direct appeal

Teacher's Report (Giselle): See Spring Fair below.

Communications:

- Update on Knitting Club and Engineering Club
 - Giselle will start in January- will provide a list of materials needed. Would another parent volunteer allow more than 8 kids in the program? Smaller group is more feasible, could do 6 weeks, and then another 6 weeks.
 - Knitting club - Email Kelly Carlisle asking for costs so we can vote and move forward. 12-13 members; 3 boys and 10 girls, all 6th graders. Folk music playing in background. Also during read aloud, and Tuesdays during recess. Planning a yarn bombing. Items to sell at a bake sale later this year. Budget - \$100 for skeins of yarn and circular needle for kids who want to make a hat. Agreed to fund \$100 for the club.
- All room parents have been emailed with their classroom lists and all teachers have been notified of their room parent rep.

- 3rd grade received Amazon wishlist and purchased 8 books plus a set of 12 - most of the list was purchased.
- Should we remind teachers of this option by having the room parent reach out? Yes, ask room parents to talk with teachers to help with setting up list. Jenny will make a sign about this for the staff lounge.
- Sensory Path Update
 - Met with facilities manager, Lisa and Aimee over the Summer. Need to follow up with questions regarding waxing and stripping the floor. Jenny was tasked with this and Summer just went by too fast. Will work on reaching out to company and other schools that have put something similar down on their floors. Our OT Dory would like to help get this done! Doing this in front of the gym by Leann's classroom.
 - Teacher/staff questions for PTO website - What if PTO focuses more on the fun stuff? A questionnaire: What is your favorite food? What was your favorite subject in High School? Do you have any pets? Do you play any instruments? What is your favorite animal? Where were you born? Who is your favorite musician? What is your favorite movie? For Bios of teachers and staff that are a fun and light - with pictures of each person in action - Pelham Paw Prints photographer takes the pictures
- Parents night on equity and race (talk by Lamar and colleague) - pairing this with possible library event, community read on White Fragility?
- Music stands (did Lisa contact Heather?) They were ordered and came in two days ago.
- Protocol regarding funding requests - Jenny goes to Lisa DJ first if feels that the request relates to something that the school should be supporting. If this is something that the school can fund, gives us more room to fund things the school can't fund.
- FSB: handed in 29 votes and submitted 8 votes online - need to hit 50 votes by December 31, 2019.
- Lego Replay: Should we offer a collection box next to the Crayola markers? Collect old legos/scraps - they take them, sanitize/wash them, bundle them, and send them out to organizations for children.
- Reusable keurig cups with ground coffee for staff lounge? Could Giselle run this by the staff to see if this is something they'd be interested in? Purchase silverware for staff lounge? Dollar Stores and IKEA sell them for cheap. One day/week of food waste/scrap for people who have chickens (I.e., Food Waste Friday). Green path committee (Jessie, Kristin, Jenny, Liz) - Jenny will reach out to Kate Thurston about this to; 2 different levels of food waste—compost and scrap.
- Should we do a PTO news item for Pelham Press? Yes. Have Lisa send press schedule.

Events/Activities Update:

- **Trunk or Treat recap:** Kristin and Liz - 6 college students were helpful—they should have name tags on (name, UMass); helpful to have parents stationed in pairs, at

haunted house would be helpful. Parent should be out in line of haunted house to help with flow. Clear checklist for clean-up.

- 20 pizzas ordered (12 slices/pie) / 7 left over (Becky said 16 inch pizza next year will fit in warmer) sold for \$5/pizza
- 3 dozen cider donuts ordered/ 0 left over
- 2 boxes of coffee ordered/ 1 left over
- 6 gallons of cider ordered/ 1 left over
- Water was also available
- 6 bags of extra candy bought - 1 traded for ATM costume (the rest given put in staff lounge)
- Received all positive feedback regarding the time of day - especially about the time of day and date of event - let Margaret Light know about earlier date ahead of time so that parents can know; I personally did not hear anyone ask where the donut contest or hay pile were)
- Sorority might help out with spring fair
- Volunteering roles could include volunteering to "host" a trunk
- If volunteers are lacking for set-up and clean-up, then the trunk or treat is the main emphasis + haunted house
- **December Parents Night Out**- Kate will be attending November meeting. Friday, December 13th. Kate Paradis will oversee the event this year. Jenny touched base with Ashley and she will secure childcare for the evening. Offering childcare from 5:30-8:30 for \$10/child. Will send out announcement by November 1. Includes pizza, drinks, snacks, crafts and a movie. Jenny will send out google form for sign-up. Payments must be made by a week before the event by check/cash or online. Children 4+ and must be potty trained.
- **Multicultural Night**- Genesis and Jaysree signed up to coordinate. Will be coming to November meeting to discuss. Need to come up with a date. End of January/beginning of February.
- **Family Fun Night Date** - Saturday, March 14th (confirmed with Brad and Matt). Timing tbd.
- **Spring Fair** - last year that LeAnn is overseeing this. Co-coordinator would be helpful, so they can learn how this runs/what works.

PTO Fundraising:

- **PAWS Sponsorships** - (received FSB) Olivia is following up with all requests. Pelham Auto and Coldwell Banker will be sponsoring. 1st Advantage asked to be contacted in the new year.
- **Direct Appeal:** Sent home in folder with envelopes, posted on website and facebook. \$1905 (\$100/facebook, \$550/mightycause; \$1255/checks)
- **Pelham Goodies Online Store:** October 18th - November 4th. Offering T-shirts, Long sleeved shirts, sweatshirts all in youth and adult sizes, coffee mugs, travel mugs, car magnets. Sent link to Susannah at Town Hall and she put it on website. Jessie posted to

neighborhood app. Lisa will sent out school wide mail (should send again on Monday?) Jenny sent home in folders. So far only 4 orders. Repost FB announcement with Pelham T-shirt of sweatshirt photo prominent. Flyer in the library would also be useful. Send email out again with online store announcement ASAP.

- **Original Works:** November 1st forms will go home with students. Everything due here November 8th, mailed out by the 11th. Proceeds to benefit the art program and school library.
- Sent in 2113 **box tops** by Nov 1st. Should receive check in December for \$213. Perhaps have the sorting in future as a 6th grade community service or student council project.

Curriculum/Program Update:

- SGEE Curriculum: Re-Orientation session, Tuesday, October 29th, 7-8pm to review revisions with Pelham parents/caretakers. PTO funding for childcare and pizza requested. Yes, this is fine.
- SGEE Club: PTO asked to fund \$400 for childcare and food for club. Yes, this is fine.
- Pelham Paw Prints: Delivered reporter notebooks.

Principal's Comments: Lisa DJ is working with head of drama at ARHS to start a drama club after school and met today—initiative with students at the high school to do outreach/diversify. One day a week after school for 45 minutes.

Lisa has a copy of the film, *The Resiliency*, about building resilience around kids who have trauma. Lots of supportive materials that go with it, as well as a website. If Lisa shows the film, could PTO support childcare and food? Lisa will share with teachers and paras during one of the early release days. The film would be shown in January or February.