

Wanaque School
PTA Meeting
Technology Room
September 12, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Leane: Welcome everyone. Glad everyone could come tonight. This will be a fun meeting as we kick off the year. There are refreshments please help yourself.

Ms. Cardiello: This is my favorite meeting of the year and it will definitely be an exciting one. Please remember you are always welcome to attend the BOE meetings. We really want to hear your thoughts and questions. We have a lot of new things coming through this year. Welcome to Mrs. Nash, our new assistant principal. Let's all be champions for our children.

Mr. Frick: Good Evening: Great to see everyone here. First a great big thank you to the PTA for the new teacher luncheons and all the survival kits. Thank you for the beautiful bulletin board as well. Back to School night is Wednesday 9/14. On October 5th we will have a Parent Academy to review the science programs. This was a change of date so hopefully you received an email reminding you of the change. Like Mrs. Cardiello mentioned, we really want to hear from you, we all have an open door policy and will make ourselves accessible to you as much as possible.

Mrs. Nash: Very excited to be here in this new role. I had been teaching at Haskell so I am familiar with the administration and am really looking forward to this year.

Mrs. Lisby: Excited to join the Wanaque School as the new school nurse. I like to be very informal so the kids can call me Ms. Pat. I am an RN with school nurse certification; I have taught K-12 health and am also trained in Autism and emotional disorders. I returned to NJ after 16+ years in NY State. I too have an open door and would love to hear your comments and suggestions. I would like to have the nursing office considered a resource for health information for the children, teachers and parents.

Leanne: Welcome to our teachers and thank you for coming

BOE: Rob Barnhardt: Looking forward to working together with the PTA again this year.

Leane: Would like to introduce the new officers:

1st VP: Elise Gamariello

2nd VP: Jennifer Spear

Treasurer: Sharon Berkenbush

Corresponding Secretary: Tracy Purcella

Recording Secretary: Yvette Stoker

We would like to thank everyone for a great year last year. It was a great success; we had a lot of new and exciting programs for the children and some memorable events that will stay with them for a long time. As always, we welcome and need volunteers; if you can dedicate some time or take over a vacant committee it would be greatly appreciated.

We also need to get the memberships in. Remember you cannot vote, be a class parent or on a committee if you are not a member. It's a very small investment for a very big payoff. We are currently at about 30%.

Officer Reports:

President: Leane Excited for this first year, will need lots of support so thank you in advance

1st VP – Elise: Nothing to report

2nd VP - Jen: Nothing to report

Treasurer - Sharon: We will be voting on the budget at the next meeting.

Corresponding Secretary - Tracy: Read some thank you notes for the Scholastic gift cards to start the year, they are on the table to look at

Recording Secretary - Yvette: Nothing to report

Standing Committee Reports

Bingo: Juanita will continue to chair this committee, 1st Bingo is 11/18, 1/20, 3/17 and 5/5 7-8:30 for grades K-4

Box Tops: Turn in all those you collected over the summer! Be sure the student and teacher's names are both on the envelope so that we give proper credit. We did really well last year, our check for the second submission was \$1654. Our first submission for this year will be November 2 so start getting them in. I would like to have them all turned in by 10/21 to allow for counting and preparing them for November 2. There is a new bin in the office. There is a carryover of \$488 from last year so we are off to a great start. Labels for Education are also still being collected until we have a final date for submission.

Class Mom Coordinator: – we will be choosing class moms at the October meeting. Forms have gone home, if you are interested, please fill out the form and get it back in as soon as possible.

Cultural Arts – Open committee: There will be an anti-bullying presentation, “Rachel’s Challenge”. A permission slip will go home just so that parents are aware of the presentation and what will be taught. The presentation involves readings from Rachel’s journals and her thoughts on kindness & compassion. Rachel was taken at the Columbine tragedy however there will be no reference to that in the presentation.

Dances: Handan Palmer and Melissa Anderson are the new chairs. The first dance will be a Halloween dance at Wanaque on 10/28 for grades 6-8. Haskell will host the Valentine’s dance and Wanaque will host the spring dance dates TBD. There has been some discussion about inviting the 5th graders. In the past there have been fewer 8th graders coming which would leave room for 5th. If this is not the case we will have a holiday dance for 4th and 5th grades. We will need chaperones for all dances there needs to be at least 4 from each school, ideally 6 from each. There will be a Big Guy Little Gal dance for Pre-K through 5th and an activity for Big Gal, Little Guys as well. We are thinking and pricing out paintball. The Battlecreek paintball facility in West Milford said they can accommodate kids as young as 7, they use a much softer paint ball and they are very accommodating. More to come.

Dine to Donate: Juanita is working on this as well. Some dates are:

Luigis – 9/20 from 10-10

Wendy’s – 10/11 from 4-8

Pizza One – 11/8 from 5-9

Each of these establishments will give us between 10 and 15% of the check back

Drama – 3rd – 8th: Lisa S.- We have been in touch with the director, we will choose a play and work on dates so more to come.

Egg Hunt: Tentatively scheduled for April 1. This event is in partnership with Haskell, more to come

8th grade committee Gina, Kate, Tina: Lots of information coming home soon. There will be an information table at Back to School night to hopefully get some volunteers. There will be an envelope for your child if you are an 8th grade parent at that table with some information on yearbook/slide show and upcoming events. There will be a pre-meeting with Haskell in the next little while. Ms. Sisco will have her meeting after Back to School Night first and after those 2 meetings there will be a parent meeting – stay tuned.

Fundraising Committee: We still need volunteers to head this committee. Some of the fundraisers we are already starting:

Kid Stuff: Jen Spear will be running this committee. Forms will go home starting Monday. For each one sold \$12.50 comes back to the school, the coupons are good for a year+. If you buy 5 you get one free.

Mum Sale: Money is due 9/15. The flowers are beautiful and a great buy. Pick up is 9/23 at the school from 5-6:30. We can always use help with organizing if you are free.

Comment from Mr. Frick: Please don't confuse the PTA fundraisers with the middle school fundraisers. The middle schoolers get funds credited to their personal accounts toward their 8th grade activities starting in 6th grade. They will have lots of opportunities to raise money.

Clothing Drive: Scheduled for 10/1. You can drop bags of clothes here from 9-1, all collection will go to Big Brothers – flyers are coming. This is a great opportunity for the 6-8th graders and anyone who has high school aged kids to collect some community service hours. Ms. Weaver moderates that requirement for our school; you can speak to her about opportunities as well.

Fall Fundraiser: We are looking to do Kastle Kreations. That should start 10/19. There are lots of things to choose from in a variety of price ranges. Delivery is 3 weeks after the close of the sale.

Pocketbook Bingo: Ann P. is in charge. 10/1 at the first aid squad building. There are 86 tickets sold and there are more available. Bags are from Coach, Kate Spade, Vera Bradley, Michael Kors and others

Holiday Bazaar: This committee is also open. Date is set for December 3 from 10-3. 30 tables are already sold with lots more interest. Tables go for \$35 per table and we can fit many more so spread the word! We need help with refreshments and crafts – this is another great opportunity for community service hours for the middle schoolers.

Holiday Shop: Kids will have a chance to shop December 2 in school and then at the bazaar in the music room. We need lots of volunteers for this as well.

Membership: As we mentioned, please get your forms in as soon as you can.

Book Fair: The first fair will be at the Holiday Bazaar on the stage.

School Apparel: Tina– new styles available and you can see them at the town picnic.

School Pictures: not present: Photos are taken 3 times a year. Fall pictures will be 10/17 with retakes 11/21 when the cap and gown pictures will be taken. January 18th will be superlatives and the 8th grade retakes. End of March will be spring photos and sibling pictures.

Town Picnic: Scheduled for 9/24 from 2:00 – dark

We will have the dunk tank and there are many folks signed up to be in it already!

We will have a table as well where school apparel will be for sale. We need volunteers for all of these activities. Another opportunity for hours.

Tricky Tray: Scheduled for 4/8. This event carries us through the year. We profited about \$20k from last year's event and look to make even more. We need help with this committee, as you know this is our single biggest fund raiser and we need to make sure it is terrific. There are many ways to get involved, please look in the book and sign up to help! The children are the ones who benefit and we are able to give them lots of extras when we have a great year. No doubt this is a lot of work, but the more hands the better.

Trunk or Treat: We will be working with Haskell again on this event. It is scheduled for 10/28 at Back Beach from 6-8. We have the haunted maze, hayride, DJ and fortune teller already secured. We will need volunteers to help direct kids and cars. Forms for cars are coming soon and we will be staggering the grades and times for participating.

Website: Steve Mehr is taking over this project and has already done great things for the site.

Stop & Shop: Stop and Shop is once again offering the A+ rewards program so be sure and register your card for Wanaque School, we will have information out at back to school and the picnic too

Old Business: If you have anything you would like to circulate through the membership please make sure you send it to Tracy and include your contact information in case members have questions about your information.

New Business: The PTA is a great place to get involved with your school, you can be as involved as your schedule permits and we need every one at every level so please don't think if you don't have a lot of time to give that we cannot make the best of it, we can!

Door Prizes drawn

Motion to adjourn until October 3, 2016

Motion: Tracy G.

2nd: Shannon

Meeting adjourned until October 3, 2016, 7pm

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Respectfully submitted September 28, 2016