PTA General Membership Meeting – February 27, 2013 6:30pm

 Attendance:

Anne Shikany

Diane Hill

Cassandra Collazo

Elena Rodriguez

Ms. Guido – Principal

Ms. Barzelatto - Teacher

8 Parents

Meeting called to order at 6:40pm

Principal Report – Ms. Guido

* Presentation on tips for talking with your elementary school child about the Common Core Standards and Changing State Tests.  Parents were shown samples of the changes. A presentation was done on the changes expected to this year’s test for 3rd grade to 8th grade. The tests will measure whether students at each grade level are on track to succeed in college and be prepared for a good job. On March 6th at 7:00pm, the Chancellor will conduct a webinar called “College and Career Readiness, The Common Core Standards” ([www.learndoe.org/chancellor](http://www.learndoe.org/chancellor)).

Financial Report – Anne

* Bank Balance - $18,350.91
  + We are currently in the process of purchasing 2 Ipads and will give them to two classes for a week long pilot program. (Mrs. Kaufman and Ms. Lucarelli classes) The Ipads will be used to connect to their Smart boards to help present classwork.
  + District 6 Presidents Council Dues - $50
    - These dues are used to help support the council.  General membership voted to approve.

Minutes –

* Moved to review Jan and February at next month’s meeting

SLT Report – Sarah Townley

The SLT has discussed the new standards in the Common Core testing and is addressing the question on how do we help students and parents to improve their reading skills.

Committee Reports –

501©3 fundraising Committee -

Medical Center Committee Benefits Fund Grant – applied, still waiting for a response. Funds from this can be used for the Ipad cart only. Great news from Ydanis Rodriguez – We can apply for funding to use for improvement the auditorium.

             Title 1 – Cassandra Collazo-Fjotland

                            Fun Night and Pilates and Zumba

                            Both successful events coordinated by Cassandra Collazo-Fjotland.

WITS – Sarah Townley

Chalk – This is a new program that is in our school for 4 years. This program works in conjunction with WITS to help improve and promote a healthy way of living for our students.

Cafeteria – We need volunteers, preferably, Learning Leaders to help the students with various issues, i.e., opening milk, promoting salads and just assisting where needed.

            Title 3 Committee

Letters sent to the homes of ELL parents this week giving them a special invite to attend our Title 3 workshops that will be held in March.

Gardening Committee- Danielle Strauss

Junior Energy has been around the school help and mentoring the students in planting and gardening.

New Business

* Career Day is tomorrow

Kristen – Coordinator - has worked very hard to get many special guests in our school to present to the students

* Nominating Committee

Susie Fuller has volunteered her time to help with getting parents to run for the PTA of 2013-2014

* Book Fair – 3/11/13 Seana Wyman and Anina Young are the leaders.

Setup for the Book Fair will be on March 8th afterschool. If you help with setup you can be the first to purchase any books, posters and/or supplies. The Book Fair will be open every day and until 2:20pm

* Bake Sale – 3/12/13                                                                                        �

PTA was asked if the money from the sale can be used to help the Basketball team. The basketball team needs $1000.00 to use Good Shepherd’s gym for practice 2 days/wk. The membership all approved to give the money to them.

* Basement Cleanup – 3/13/13 – 10:10am

            Volunteers needed

* Visual Art Showcase

Not a school project, not mandatory. We are collecting materials to help kids that are interested in displaying their art at a gallery.  We are hoping to have a gallery opening at a location on Broadway to have parents and friends come and purchase the children art.

* Spring Fair

Group planning to begin after book fair is over. Letters and flyers will be going out to families. We need volunteers. The issues for discussion are whether we should we open the event up to a larger crowd or raise prices.  We will decide these issues next month.

            Meeting adjourned 8:05pm