

**Central School PTO Meeting  
January 11, 2013**

**Call to Order** 8:30 a.m. in the Central School Library.  
Board Members Present: Amy Jacksic, Lynda Murphy, Angela Izzo, Kim Macchia and Aberdeen Ozga, Meg O'Brien, Kim Dixon, Mary Komperda, Samantha Lutz, Jessica Niekrasz, Paula Fudacz. Dr. Janice Limperis

**Minutes** October 12, 2012 and November 12, were approved.

**Officers Reports**

**Co-Presidents' Report**

Nominating Committee Members of this year's nominating committee are Jessica Niekrasz, Sue Pipal, Sandy Briolat, Amy Hill and Katie Leander. Molly Carl and Angela Izzo agreed to serve as alternates.

**Motion to approve this years nominating committee** was set forth by Aberdeen, seconded by Paula, and was unanimously approved.

Playground Safety Parents were reminded to supervise children on the playground after school. Also, children should refrain from playing football or other games in the triangle in front of school.

**1<sup>st</sup> VPs' Report (out of order)**

Teachers Holiday Gifts Paula discussed the need in the future to give Riverside Bank a list of names of all room parents who may be purchasing gift cards. It was also noted that room parents have discretion to purchase gift cards anywhere, not just Riverside Bank.

Kindergarten Room Parent Night Forms have been updated for this event that will be held on March 7.

**2nd VP's Report**

Philanthropy Requests Jessica Niekrasz gave a presentation on the philanthropy requests from the first trimester in the amount of \$8500. The requests included: global beat instruments, books for the library in Ms. Patterson's room, indoor recess games, carnival games, a new library book cart, signage in the library, a sculpture for the garden, and two additional locally produced snacks. Jessica noted that some requests that lacked specificity were returned to the initial party who submitted the request for revisions or more information. The next philanthropy deadline is February 1. Dr. Limperis will put the form on the school's wicki website for the teachers.

**Motion: Aberdeen made the motion to approve the philanthropy requests. Mary Komperda seconded. The philanthropy requests were unanimously approved.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> VPs Report** Specials Collections Kim stated that the holiday collections for Specials (which includes Art, Music, PE, Custodians, Librarians, Paraprofessionals and other staff) raised \$1600.

Bereavement: The PTO donated three books to the Downers Grove Library in honor of Mrs. Murdock's son. A thank you note was circulated from Mrs. Murdock.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Angela Izzo reported the auction raised a net amount of \$8013. Innisbrook raised \$4349 (net). It was noted that spiritwear sales totaled \$2571, and made a slight amount of money, although this sale is not a fundraiser. The holiday Kids Care drive collected \$560 that was used for target gift cards for families who qualified financially and requested the assistance during the holidays. The PTO paid \$788 for the RAIN resource fair. Hike and Bike week was settled during the month of December, with \$500 for water bottles. The PTO spent \$192 on apples for a 1<sup>st</sup> trimester farm to table snack.

### **Parliamentarian's Report**

No report.

### **Committee Reports**

Brick Pavers This fundraiser will begin in the spring.

Target Katie Leander indicated there has been no significant change in the Target fundraising account. See the Kids Care report above.

Central Artist in Residence Sue Pipal reported on behalf of the AIR committee that Redmoon has been hired and working with the teachers and Dr. Limperis to define the AIR experience. In a nutshell, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will write poetry, which will be recorded and edited by the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students as audio art. The fourth grade students will then work with this audio art to design and perform an outdoor spectacle of performance art on May 18, 2013 during the Riverside Arts Weekend. The theme is "We Define This Place" and the poetry will focus on the generational differences in perception of 12 major Riverside Landmarks. Redmoon will bring 20 teaching artist to Central school over the course of 2.5 months to work with our children. The cost of the Redmoon experience to the PTO is \$8,000.

Book Fair: The book fair will be set up on January 17<sup>th</sup> and will run for the entire week. Amy reminded the teachers to put their wish lists together so parents may purchase books from the teachers' baskets. The winter wonderland social is Thursday, January 24. The theme this year is science and the laboratory. Jen Talbot and Katie Leander are preparing the decorations. One For Books is an initiative to collect spare change for the Kids Care families to buy books at the fair, and the Lurie Children's Hospital. A discussion was had about labeling the books that go to Lurie with a sticker that designates them as a gift from the Central School Community. Paula, Angela and Lynda volunteered to label the books. Five more volunteers are needed for the Winter Wonderland Social.

Flying Carpet Aberdeen Ozga reported that 60 students are participating. This year group size in grades 1-3 have a maximum number of 6 students. In 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, the maximum is 8 students. The first week of Flying Carpet was very successful and enjoyable for both the students and parent volunteers.

Ice Skating Party: Kim Dixon reported on the status of the party and a discussion was had that the PTO should fund adult skate guards hired by the rink to assist during the event. This year, Kim will buy the snacks and water for the event, instead of accepting

donations. The PTO will also pay for skate rentals, so the entire event will be free for the participants. Parents are encouraged to bring a helmet for their child.

RAIN Mary Komperda reported the next RAIN meeting is January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Riverside Public Library. A support meeting immediately follows the business meeting. RAIN is currently working on making sure they are involved in all the schools. Based on the success of this resource fair, the RAIN committee would like to do a yearly resource fair. It was noted that RAIN has a facebook page and a website. Mary Polk also requested that artwork be hung on the walls near the special education offices.

Read to Succeed Paula Fudacz reported that this activity will take place from January 25 until February 22. This year, if one student participates in a classroom, the teacher will receive a free ticket to Great America. This is a change from last year, where all the students had to participate.

Raging Waves This program will run again, encouraging 30 minutes of exercise a day. Mrs. Dost has approved this program.

Science in a Can: Jennifer Royer is looking for parent volunteers to help her prepare the cans. This program starts February 4 and runs for 4 weeks. Kindergarten, second and fourth grade participate. The budget for science in a can has been increased this year.

### **Principal's Report**

Dr. Limperis reported that Central has added as staff member to the fully supported program, Kelly Meyers. Ms. Meyers is in Dr. Polk's office so there has been some rearranging of space. There will be changes in the ISATs as states are banding together to focus on a core curriculum. There will be new terminology, and the core curriculum will change what is taught. For example, under the core curriculum, all students will take algebra. If you would like to learn more, Dr. Limperis directed parents to PARCC, Partnerships for Assessing College and Careers. The state is projecting that with these changes to the ISAT, scores will fall initially. The state is trying to prepare parents for this different looking profile. The ISATs will be given from March 11 to March 22.

On a safety related note, Dr. Limperis echoed the concern over cars and children playing with balls in the triangle after school. Mr. E will host children who are waiting for Hauser-aged siblings to pick them up in his classroom after school. Therefore, the kids will be monitored in a safe way.

In light of the tragedy in Connecticut, Central has been working with students and patrols to be sure the children do not let anyone into the building.

The staff at Central will hold data meetings the week of January 28. In these meetings, the reading and math specialists, the social worker and the teacher will look at scores to see if these scores are in line with the standards in the district. Tier 1 children are standard learners, Tier 2 children need extra assistance, Tier 3 children need greater help or have a referral to a special ed or Quest.

On February 21, Central will host the preschool screening.

The district is seeking feedback regarding the laptops for learning program. Any parent with a comment or antidote should send that information to Mr. Bettis or Dr. Limperis directly. The world language study group is initiating Spanish in the elementary school next year. The special education committee will serve for two years. Quest/Gifted committee will look at the elementary school and high school.

### **Teacher Representative**

Samantha Lutz reported that the teachers are looking forward to the book fair. Teachers are doing Fontis and Pennel testing now. Winter MAP testing will take place in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and for the tier 2 and 3 students next week. The conferences on February 8 are by invitation only. The teachers are looking forward to AIR and working with Redmoon. The fourth graders will be very excited and all the staff is happy with the creative aspect of this project.

### **Other Announcements**

The Central School PTO will sponsor speaker Dr. Maniacci on Monday.

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m..

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Pipal, Secretary.