

**Central School PTO Meeting  
May 9, 2014**

**Call to Order** 845am in the Central School conference room

**Minutes** April 11, 2014 minutes were approved.

**Officers Reports**

**Co-Presidents' Report**

Election of 2014-15 PTO Officers: The following people were installed as PTO Officers for the 2014-15 school year:

Co-Presidents: Jessica Niekrasz and Lynda Murphy

1<sup>st</sup> VPs: Paula Fudacz & Amy Hill

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: John Ralph

3<sup>rd</sup> VP: Anna Lee

Secretary: Tracy Bohrer

Treasurer: Martha Curiel

Parliamentarian: Angela Izzo

**A motion was made by Kim Macchia to install the board members and Heather Manning seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Yearbook: Based on a request by Patty Friend and Lisette Jameson at the last meeting, Lynda investigated options to add a supplement to the yearbook of 5<sup>th</sup> graders containing photos of end of year activities. Forty-seven fifth graders ordered yearbooks (less than half the class). Lynda determined that it would cost \$500 to produce an 8 page self-adhesive supplement for the 47 yearbooks. In addition, we are going to purchase yearbooks for each staff member at a cost of \$250.. **Patti Friend made a motion to increase the yearbook budget by \$500 to cover the cost of the 8-page supplement for the 47 fifth grade yearbooks as well as add \$250 to the budget to purchase yearbooks to gift to the staff. Kim Macchia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

PTO Staff Member of the Year/Volunteer of the Year: Mr. Howes was selected as the PTO Staff Member of the year. He was not able to attend our meeting so Lynda will present him with his award at the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Spring Program. Due to her large amount of work on Science in a Can, Science Fair and Fifth Grade Activities, Patty Friend was selected as PTO Volunteer of the Year.

Flag Ceremony: Will take place on 5/23 at 830am. Lynda has purchased a new US flag for the event using PTO philanthropy funds.

Auction Committee: An Auction Committee will need to be formed to start thinking about an auction fundraiser event in to be held on Friday, Nov. 7, 2014. Kim Macchia, Angela Izzo and Anna Lee volunteered to be a part of the committee.

Board of Education April Meeting: Angela Izzo shared that D96 has decided that students will be released at 2pm every Monday during the next school year to allow for teacher professional development. This will drastically reduce the need to pay for substitute teachers to cover for staff when they are out in training. We still aren't sure if the district will pay for after care to cover the 2-3pm timeframe every Monday.

### 1<sup>st</sup> VPs' Report

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon: The teachers enjoyed the catered lunch held in the library. Q BBQ did a great job and we should consider using them again.

Room Parent/Committee Chair Forms: These forms will be sent out next week via feedblitz.

Teacher/Staff End of Year Gifts: Paula will send out this information to lead room parents in the near future.

### 2nd VP's Report

Philanthropy: \$2760 in philanthropy requests was approved last month and we are just waiting on recipients of funds to make their purchases. Mr. Howes' request has been fulfilled.

Jennie Hepker-Royer found out that Central does not own a microscope for the students to use. Instead, they borrow one from Hauser but they need to work around the Hauser schedule. She investigated the cost to purchase a microscope that is appropriate for elementary school students. She ran her recommendation past Ms. McCarthy who agreed that it is a good choice. The microscope would cost \$600. Jennie also proposed purchasing prepared slides for use with the microscope at an estimated cost of \$100. The microscope will need to be "serviced" once a year at a cost of \$50. We will not need to pay to ship it to the servicer as long as we coordinate shipment with Hauser with their scopes. **Lynda Murphy made a motion to add a philanthropy line item in the amount of \$700 to cover the cost of the microscope and slides. Paula Fudacz seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Jennie is now free to purchase the microscope and slides using Philanthropy funds and ideally the microscope will be in use in Fall 2014.**

Jennie also brought up that she purchases the Science in a Can favors that are passed out at the end of the program each year. She purchases two years worth of these favors so that she can obtain the best price by buying in bulk and because this is an every other year program, the students will not receive the same favor twice. She identified a favor that is currently on clearance at a great cost so asked for the funds to purchase the items now while they are on special. **Kim Macchia made a motion to increase the Science in a Can budget by \$400 so that Jennie can purchase the favors now at the best cost. Amy Jacksic seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### 3<sup>rd</sup> VPs Report

Installation Event Our end of year social event is open to all members of the PTO and will be held at Mollie's on 5/14 at 7pm. This is not a PTO funded event.

## Treasurer's Report

Budget highlights: \$7,769 was spent in April on Cultural Heritage Festival, Artist in Residence, Cultural Arts Field Trips and Screen Free Week. We had \$25,209 left in our funds. We anticipate spending \$17,000 of that in May and estimate being left with \$9,000 at the end of June.

A Summer Budget Meeting needs to be scheduled for the two presidents, treasurer and 2 appointees by the presidents.

## Parliamentarian

Nothing to report

## Committee Reports

Book Fair: Amy Jacksic shared that she ordered about \$2,500 worth of Common Core aligned books on behalf of Patty Prodanich using our earnings from the 2014 Book Fair. These books will be sent home this summer with "at risk" students to keep up with their reading. We have another \$6,000 for the staff to spend on books and Mr. Gatz is in the process of finalizing that so their book requests can be fulfilled.

Box Tops Labels: Angela Izzo reported that she received a check for \$279 thanks to our label submission.

Brick Pavers: Sale ends 5/14 and to date 3 have been sold.

Cultural Arts Field Trips: Third grade teachers still need to finalize a field trip for their students

Farm to Table Snack: Amy Jacksic & Sue Pipal are working with a local farmer to obtain mint for the students to sample and small basil plants for the staff. This should happen on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Fifth Grade Activities: Patti Friend shared that Games Night was a success. The picnic is coming up and needs to be held at the Big Ball Park because the Parks & Rec. Dept will already be using the Scout Cabin for summer camp by the date of the picnic. Children from outside of Riverside attend the summer camp in town and they will already be out of school and in camp in Riverside even though Riverside kids won't be attending camp yet

Plunge Into Fitness: Certificates are being provided to teachers today for distribution to the students who participated.

Screen Free Week: Ann Marie Dixon shared that the week was a success. She had a budget of \$400 and only wound up spending \$375. The Riverside Parks & Rec offered four days of activities at no cost to us, which is much appreciated. All classes requiring registration were filled for the week and the greatest participation was from 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and the least participation was among the 4<sup>th</sup> graders. She thanked Mr. Gatz for allowing us the use of the Central gym and for announcing 30 raffle winners. Dana Tomas has offered to chair Screen Free Week in 2014-15.

Shoe/Crayon Recycling: 45 pairs of used sneakers were received to deliver to the Nike store and in turn they will turn them into playground material. Jessica Niekrasz shared that the Student Council will be running a crayon recycling event in the next few weeks.

**Teacher Representative**

Mrs. Lutz was unable to attend so Mr. Gatz reported for both of them.

**Principal's Report**

Mr. Gatz shared that the staff has enjoyed Teacher Appreciation Week. Laurie Swanson is out on medical leave and Amy G. has assumed her responsibilities until Laurie can return. School Supply lists are complete and ordering should begin next week. MAP Testing and F&P Testing are going on now. Registration is open for next year and it is imperative that parents register their kids in the next few weeks to then allow Mr. Gatz the time to assess his teacher needs for next year and start hiring should he need to do so. It is best that he start hiring now as opposed to in August. Registration will hopefully be done online next year. The open Quest position will be combined with a RTI Math position to then allow for one person to be hired full time to cover both needs. 41% of parents responded to the recent school survey, which allows the state to share the results with us next fall. Air conditioning cannot be turned on in the school until the boilers are drained and they are reluctant to do that until they are confident that they will not need heat in the building. They will turn on the a.c. on 5/15.

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 10:20am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy Jacksic, Secretary.