

Naquag Elementary School PTO Open Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2015

President: Jen Barbarino

Vice President: Mary Shumway

Treasurer: Joellen Andrews (unable to attend)

Secretary: Briar Panagakis

Volunteer Coordinators: Deidre Morgan and Kate Annunziata

Open Meeting

- President Jen Barbarino began meeting at 6:35pm. She thanked all the parents who volunteered and provided donations for Fall Fest.
- Principal Herbst asked if we were able to cover our costs. Jen replied that yes, we were.

Approve October minutes

- A motion was made by Jennifer Plank to approve the October meeting minutes. Rebecca Pratt seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Mary Shumway gave the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Joellen. She reported that the Mixed Bags fundraiser raised a total amount of \$3483.17, not counting the \$520 in cash donations that were also received. We have a working balance of \$7271.82 after factoring in budgeted expenses (plus \$30, since the Girl Scout babysitters did not come this evening).
- Motion was made by Mary Shumway to approve the Treasurer's Report. Jennifer Plank seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Report of School Organizations

- Principal Dixie Herbst encouraged any interested parents to submit letters to join the School Improvement Committee (SIMCO). She shared that the WRSD budget for 2015-2016 had finally passed. School Committee Member Matthew Ehrenworth has once again been assigned to Naquag and will attend SIMCO meetings throughout the year to report on WRSD issues.

New Business (out of order due to time limitations)

- **Grants for Specials:** Mrs. Amy Salsman (gym) and Mrs. Jean Gough (music) were both in attendance to request funding for the specials at Naquag. Mrs. Salsman requested \$100 for the Dollar Store to buy the little things (balloons, etc.) that she needs to replace on a regular basis. Mrs. Gough requested \$100 for new egg shakers and rhythm sticks. Mrs. Mary Shepherd (art) was not in attendance, but Principal Herbst shared a letter on her behalf, requesting \$130 for Zentangles supplies.
- Kate Annunziata made a motion to approve giving up to \$130 to each of the three specialists (for a total of \$390). Emily Trevallion seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business

- **Read-A-Thon:** Principal Herbst shared that the Read-A-Thon brought in over \$7500. Family Reading Night was a success and the supplies came in well under budget.
- **Fall Fest:** Kate shared that 31 people donated items, and 10 people volunteered (plus the 5 board members). Asked for input on what people liked/how we could improve for next year.
 - **PROS:** Fortune Teller was great, People liked the cake walk, Having the event after Halloween made

people feel less stressed, Wasn't as crowded as previous years, Volunteers got to spend more time with family

- **CONS:** Not enough table space for some activities, Concern over hygiene issues at the Froot Loop necklace station (kids putting mouths on plates), More adult assistance needed at Mad Scientist show, Mad Scientist show really didn't need hay bales for seating
- **QUESTIONS:** Have we considered having a children's music performer (or some center-stage type act) at the event?

New Business

- **No Meeting in December:** Instead, PTO members will be invited to a social get-together at the Tavern. December 10th @ 6:30pm. Jen will create a Facebook event and invite everyone.
- **Ladd's Restaurant Night:** This will be a joint fundraiser for all three Rutland schools, with profits split three ways. Tuesday, January 5th, 2016. 20% of all proceeds will go to the schools.
- **Raz Kids for 2016-2017:** Jen shared that we have the option to pre-pay for Raz Kids for 2016-2017 and receive a discount. She recommended allotting \$1500 to pay for this. Rebecca Pratt made a motion to approve the funds. Christine Jean seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.
- **PTO Bylaw Changes:** Jen proposed to change the Marsh Harding Scholarship requirements in our bylaws so that Naquag shares the same wording as Glenwood. This should resolve some issues that have arisen in previous years due to differing bylaws, and will give the PTO some wiggle room. Jen read the current wording and distributed the proposed changes. Jen Collard made a motion to approve the new wording. Rebecca Pratt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Bingo Night on January 22nd:** This is our next PTO event. Jen recommended approving up to \$150 for food and supplies. Jen Collard made a motion to approve this amount. Jennifer Plank seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Session

- No items
- Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm