

MINUTES

Potter Road Elementary School PTO

Date | time 1/9/2019 6:30 PM | *Meeting called to order by* SaRah BoweRs

Welcome – SaRah BoweRs

- Welcome by SaRah BoweRs, who let everyone know Dr. Chris Hauck of Healthy Families would be presenting on “Raising Healthy Families (In A Not So Healthy World)”

Administration Report – SaRah BoweRs

- Mr. Wolpe and Ms. DaCosta were both attending the Kindergarten Fair at Fuller Middle School and were not present at the meeting. SaRah checked in with them prior to the start and they did not have any significant matters which needed to be addressed. Mr. Weinstein attended as the teacher’s representative.

Treasurer’s Report – Kevin Harris

- The book fair raised \$7,990 (\$11 more than last year)
- Charleston Gift Wrap raised \$2,324.20 (\$400 more than last year)
- School pictures raised \$1,268.17
- Square One Art raised \$49.46
- Box Tops has raised \$666. (Currently there are already twice as many as first submitted awaiting the second submission phase.)
- Disbursements and reimbursements are now being sent from an electronic payment system and look very much like junk mail. If you are awaiting a payment, check your mail carefully. There is also an electronic deposit and disbursement form in the works that will be able to be submitted to Kevin online. Staff disbursements are still hand written and delivered to the office mailboxes.
- A new accountant has been hired who specializes in non-profits and is from Framingham. He is in the process of re-doing the books so the PTO will have better reports and tax reporting in the future.

Committee Reports

- Fundraising – Colleen Frost and Jasmine Laffin
 - There will be two Unos restaurant nights coming up; one over February vacation and one in March. The proceeds will be combined.
 - Potter Road pajama pants can still be pre-ordered through the My School Anywhere app; \$30 for adult, \$25 for kids. Will arrive within a few weeks.
- Sweetheart Dance – Lisa DeRosa
 - The dance will be Friday Feb. 1st from 6:30-8:30pm. This year guests can also use the gymnasium, which boosts the capacity to 450 people from 350. It is once again a family event, not only parent/child. Tickets will go on sale Friday Jan. 18th, and will be sold both online and with order forms sent home in Friday folders. The cost is \$3/person, with a \$12 family maximum. Come dressed up or casual, a DJ will be there for dancing, along with

some fun items for the children (glow in the dark necklaces, etc). The event sells out very quickly and the ticket cut off will be strictly 450, so purchase your tickets early!

- Kindergarten Orientation – Betsy Fishman
 - Monday June 3rd 10-11am. Incoming kindergarteners and their families come in to meet their teachers and PRS's staff. A team of parents will be needed to help the new parents feel comfortable and to answer questions. It is a great chance to be the welcoming community we are!
 - Kindergarten tours will be coming up; one day tour and one evening tour. Volunteers will be needed for this as well, to help show parents around and answer questions. The next few weeks (and always!) are an important time to keep online discussions positive not only about Potter, but about all the schools in Framingham.

- Boosterthon/Fun Run – Adina Kurzman and Kristi Johnson
 - Run will be Tuesday June 4th and this year's theme is STEAM. Family members are invited to come and cheer the kids on.
 - Students get pledges for the amount of "laps" they run, or flat donation amounts. The total of all laps are only ¼ mile, allowing everyone to finish. This is Potter's second year doing the fun run – last year was a great success which raised about \$15,000, and was a huge community building event. Mr. Weinstein shared that the students absolutely LOVED it, even the older ones. This year prizes will be handled somewhat privately so no student feels left out or behind. Teachers offer incentives and this year some classrooms may be paired up.
 - A week and a half before that the Fun Run team arrives and starts getting the kids pumped up.
 - A vote was made to purchase a \$3 t-shirt for each student; last year the t-shirts seemed to unify the students. Sponsors could help alleviate the cost of the t-shirts.

- FPTOC – Kevin Harris
 - The district's entire 4th grade class will be seeing the Boston Symphony Orchestra in March. A grant program for busing leaves the cost \$10 for each student. Things are in the works for it to hopefully be free for all students, including the option to sponsor students somewhere else within the district. Presentations to the PTO will be made shortly. In the meantime, if anyone would like to sponsor a student, a check made payable to Potter Road PTO, with "4th grade field trip" written in the memo, can be sent to Kevin Harris (via the PTO folder in the office file drawer).
 - Part of the cost of field trips are the buses. This year the district budgeted \$75,000 for field trip busing. Potter's PTO allots \$750 for each classes' field trip; Dr. Tremblay is hoping to pay for buses which would free up approximately \$600 for each field trip.

- What can the PTO do better?
 - The PTO is asking for feedback and ideas about what can be done better. Please send SaRah BoweRs a quick email, note, direct message, etc. It can be anonymous, and even if it is not, no one's feelings will be hurt!

Motion to Approve Minutes – SaRah BoweRs

November meeting minutes were approved by the board.

The next PTO meeting will take place **Wed. February 13th at 6:30pm** at an off-school site to be determined.