

PTO Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2014

Proposal to adopt September meeting minutes.
Motion passes all in favor.

Treasurer Report:

General Account
Paid off Avalon Screen Printing for t-shirts
Scholastic Book Fair \$3,425.75
Deposit Slips –deluxe checking cost \$13.25

Checks are offset by proceeds.
Jim states we should ask Mrs. Hannon about the orders for the book fair.

The Auction account \$9,278.93
Account paid \$500.00 towards Puritan for 2015 Auction.
\$600.00 received from MSD for overpayment from the Chrome Books.
Balance \$9,329.03

No Further questions on treasurer report.
Motion to accept report.
all in favor

Principal Report:

Mr. McCafferty thanked Tanya and Jim for coming in to judge the top three winners for decorating doors during Red Ribbon Week. three way tie for 1st place. Veteran's Day assembly on Monday. It was special. Students did readings, and videos were played and students made cards.

This Friday- jean day for staff. Money will go towards Decca.

Thanksgiving donations are being taken and families in need will receive donations.

Builder's Club met today-Beautification plans in the works.

Friday- "Beak Speaks" and report cards will go home.

Mr. McCafferty has not been able to make contact with Officer Ledoux.

Screens (monitors)- Mr. McCafferty is speaking with a company in Connecticut.

Mr. McCafferty thanks all who are helping with the auction.

Officer Nick was not able to make the meeting. Jim O asks Mr. McCafferty if we should be aware of anything.

Academically- Teachers will have grades posted today. Teachers keep in contact with Mr. McCafferty and parents are contacted if needed. Teachers will try every avenue to reach out to parents.

Behavior- Some minor incidences but Officer Nick is working on these incidences which have been minor.

Jim O states Lisa W has reached out to a Bedford officer and they are looking at dates in December and January for meeting with parents on safety issues.

Middle School Leveling was a topic of discussion. A decision in Manchester about eliminating leveling at the middle school level was in the newspaper today. Committee addressing leveling invited middle school principals. Maureen H asks Mr. McCafferty for insight.

Debra Gagnon Langton and Sarah Ambrogi were invited to the PTO meeting but they could not make it.

Curriculum Instruction Committee asked middle school principals to come to a general meeting and leveling came up. Currently math and language arts are leveled.

Mr. McCafferty feels that leveling/no leveling isn't a concern when the classes are at capacity.

Flexible grouping would allow schools to move students around in classrooms. pro's and con's to leveling.

Leveling isn't the fix for all. Some students require a specialized program and some need small group. A broader continuum of services for special education classes is needed. More staff is needed. More time needed for leveling consideration. It will not happen overnight.

Mr. Colby reports Hooksett moved away from leveling about 20 years ago when Mr. Ryan (assistant superintendent) worked there. They found that when eliminated, grades went down. Mr. Colby can see issues happening when students transition to high school.

Parents ask questions about leveling.

Mr. McCafferty explains the history of leveling and also states that parents have a voice and can voice concerns.

School Improvement/Auction

Auction is March 13, 2015 at the Puritan Conference Center.

Soliciting and sign ups for tasks are underway.

Auction committee has met to focus on needs was considered.

-Create media center in the library

-Chrome books for team.

Also looking into grants.

Auction will look like past auctions and will continue to be a community builder.

Each year has honored a staff member.

Some ideas about who should be honored:

-students/alumni who are now successful

-employers who have reached 20 years of employment

-Hillside Spirit Award nominated by teachers and students or principal nominated

Mr. McCafferty has met with the president of United Way. Mr. McCafferty asked for more Chrome books. Possibility that the United Way might contribute. The carts are approximately 1,000.00

Jim O motions PTO buy Chrome books in conjunction with the United Way. Parent seconds All in favor. O opposed.

Mr. McCafferty suggests "Donor's Choose" be put on the Hillside website. Jim asks Sherry to putting this up on the website.

School Store:

Tanya states she needs to meet about school website. Sherry states she will put up some new things on Friday.

HAMMS

First week of December are concerts

Sports

Boys and Girls basketball tryouts are this week.

Clem Lemiere leagues are not school sponsored.

spring soccer is moving forward.

Jim O has been talking about expanding soccer with Chris Donovan from the district.

Soccer will be implemented at Hillside and then through all other middle schools.

2016 Baseball will be introduced to middle schools.

Jim O would also like to ask Mr. Ryan about World Languages in the middle school.

6th grade social is Thursday, November 20th.

8:08pm End of meeting.