

Our mission is to help parents and the community understand and support the mission of the school, to encourage participation in the life of the school, to create a sense of community among parents, guardians, children, teachers and the town, and to create happy memories for our children.

## PELHAM SCHOOL PTO MINUTES OCTOBER 3, 2011

**The meeting was called to order by Kristin Maddocks at 6:00 p.m.** Childcare was available as well as pizza for meeting participants and their children.

### **In attendance**

About 20 people attended the meeting. Kristin Maddocks (PTO president), Diana Zahradnik (PTO treasurer), Elise Stromgren (PTO secretary), Lisa Desjarlais (Pelham Principal), Margaret Light (Pelham teacher representative), Ruth Carolan, Rebecca Feldberg, Whitney Battle-Baptiste, Lisa Candito, Sarah Scott-Kunkel, Cara Rigali, Scott Plotkin, Jessica Hanson, Anna Sloan, Jennifer Culbreth, Sage Scott, Lynn Hatch, Barry Parker, Brian Whitcomb.

### **Recap of Harvest Potluck/Ice Cream Social**

The event went well with many families in attendance. Lisa Desjarlais brought up a concern about unsupervised children (attending the potluck/social) on the playground during the event. Children came to Lisa to report fights/misbehavior on the playground. PTO acknowledged that this (unsupervised children being disruptive at PTO events) is a recurring problem. PTO will make it clear for future events that parents are responsible for supervision of children during PTO events; children are not to be dropped off, parents/guardians must supervise their children during the event and those that are brought by another family must be supervised while on school grounds. \*PTO also decided to station parent volunteers outside to monitor the playground at future events so this responsibility does not fall to school staff.

### **Halloween Party – Monday, October 31, 2011**

After discussion, PTO decides to hold the party on Halloween; Barry Parker and Ruth Carolan will be the coordinators/leads for this event. Ruth and Barry need assistance from at least 10 parent volunteers for this event, to assist with set up and clean up. Elise Stromgren and Lynn Hatch will coordinate the Trick-or-Treating part of the event with communications to "The Loop" neighbors to let them know about trick or treating and a letter to children and parents/guardians about Trick-or-Treat safety and etiquette. PTO will also need to contact Pelham PD (Gary Thoman) and the Pelham Lions Club.

### **Pelham "Spirit Wear" (Pelham Elementary School tee-shirt)**

PTO discussed the school tee-shirt idea; all agreed that some kind of a shirt for all students that "represents" the school community would go forward. PTO decides that all students should have a t-shirt if they want one. Order form will therefore have a place that allows families to order an additional shirt for another student who may not be able to afford one. In addition, PTO will fund t-shirts for children if needed. T-shirts for adults and other wear (sweatshirts/sweatpants, etc.) will be made available as a fundraiser. PTO decides that the color will be light green – dark green is the school color but the design will not show. Margaret Light says that years ago when the original "Be a Buddy, Not a Bully" shirt was given to all students in Pelham, the younger students had a large design on the front of the shirt, and the older students had the same design but smaller in the upper L chest of the shirt. Kristin will contact Print Associates about making the order for sample t-shirts.

### **Administrative Reports**

Treasurers Report: Diana reports that the current balance is \$12,962.85. Childcare and pizza costs for PTO meetings will be calculated and reimbursed from PTO funds. PTO received \$83.86 in donations at the ice cream table at the potluck/social. Gift Wrap packets need to go out soon; typically these orders need to be in before Thanksgiving Break. Diana will have more information next meeting.

Principal's Report: Lisa reports that the stage curtains are done; reason for the delay was that the wrong size was made. Bruce Klotz will be hanging the curtains; PTO will fund \$700 of the \$1400 to replace them (Afterschool plans to donate the other \$700). The Pelham School sign that the Maroulis family recently repainted is in rough shape. PTO will discuss this item at next meeting. Lisa says Lennie Ware is interested in hosting Mad Science program in Afterschool and wants to know if PTO is interested in assisting/contributing. After discussion and questions PTO decides more info is needed and perhaps a demonstration by Mad Science at a future meeting. Lisa will let Lennie know that the PTO is interested in more information.

### **Next PTO Meeting**

Monday November 7, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. School Cafeteria or Staff Lounge  
CHILDCARE AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE

**MEETING ENDED AT 7:45 p.m.**

