

Champlain PTO Meeting - February 10, 2010

Present:

Principal: Leslie Colomb

Staff/Teachers and Parents: Nancy Pruitt, Laura Nugent, Jessica Nordhaus, Jenny Breckenridge, Mary Riley, Russell Beste, Patrick Halladay, Melissa McConnell, Silvia Jope, Gwen Causer, Dawn Moskowitz, Diane Officer, Kari Bierbaum, Roxanne Scully, Bridget Thomas, Lisa Lillibridge, Jennifer Francois, Karen Flynn

Proceedings:

The following Thank You's were given:

-to all of the members of the community who have been participating in the effort to best support ALL Champlain students.

-to the kindergarten classes, staff and parents for their support of the Humane Society.

Introductions were then given.

Announcements:

Dawn Moskowitz reported on the status of the "3 C's" initiative. The ideas and information gathered from over 100 from parents on ways to improve the Champlain experience has been organized and summarized. The next step in this process will be to bring this information to the open faculty meeting on February 16 from 2:45-3:45, where parents and faculty will work together to further collaborate this information. After this, the Climate Committee will implement the changes which most reflect the mission of this initiative, which is to best support ALL of the Champlain students in a way that makes the most sense for the faculty and parents alike.

Parents should notify Jessica or Lesile if they plan to attend the meeting.

Lunch for Dinner: This event will be held Thursday, February 11 at 5:30 PM. This event is free and open to all families. At the dinner, there will be a PTO table and possibly a representative (Dawn will confirm) to discuss the upcoming school budget vote. Silvia is looking for volunteers to help set up and clean up. Also, she is looking for baskets to hold the bread.

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon: Melissa is looking for someone to coordinate event, which is usually held in May. Responsibilities include coordinating volunteers to bring in food, etc. Class parents could be utilized to help as well. Please contact Melissa if interested.

Parent Education Workshop: will be held March 17. The subject is "Why Love Matters; helping children cope with strong emotions" and Melissa is coordinating this with Bonnie Poe and Karen Prouty. This event will also include families of children from the Pine Forest Children's Center.

Treasurer's Report: Karen reported on the budget, as well as the mini-grant program. The forms for the mini-grant program have been distributed to teachers to complete, and the mini-grant committee will meet in March to determine distribution of these grants.

Fundraising: Roxanne will organize a fun-run again this year. The date will be 5/16 at 9 a.m. The SPOT may host a fundraiser, "Trivia Night" which Patrick will organize and emcee. This will possibly be held in April. Jenny is looking for someone to take over the coordination of the Pizza Fundraisers. Please notify her if interested. The "No frills" fundraiser letter will be sent out at the beginning of the next school year.

The February community event will be February 19 to benefit C.O.T.S. This event is being organized by the 1st grade team.

The March community event may be a benefit for Haiti relief, but this has not been finalized.

"First Steps" flyers: Gwen needs help posting these. Please take some to post at various, predetermined locations.

The School Budget. The PTO decided to endorse the upcoming budget, which will be voted on on Tuesday, March 2nd. As such, they will help "get the word out" and encourage all eligible voters to vote in support of this budget.

Action Items:

Jenny will be doing a slide show for "Step Up Day" for the 5th graders and asks that parents provide her with pictures of the 5th graders, from kindergarden forward.

Please vote in support of the school budget!