

PTO Meeting Notes: May 12th, 2010

Jessica Nordhaus let us know that after a lot of parent pressure, presence and letter writing the district has agreed to an additional 5th grade teacher at Champlain.

Leslie and Matt were at the board meeting. Leslie thanked the parents for attending the meeting and writing letters.

There will be an informational meeting planned to speak to the 4-5 team concerns. Leslie explained that the search is taking a long time. The board is a much bigger presence in the hiring process.

Leslie noted that going to straight 4th and 5th classrooms will be much better for the Bridges program. There was some discussion about “looping” the teachers for the 4th and 5th graders.

“Looping is an educational practice in which a single graded class of children stays with a teacher for two or more years or grade levels. The children and the teacher remain together as the class is promoted. At the end of the second (or third) year in the pattern, the children move on to a new teacher while the looping teacher returns to the lower grade level to receive a new group of students.”

Leslie noted that Champlain could potentially be taking a few Edmunds 5th graders because their class sizes are bigger than our are projected to be

There are 42 families coming for the Kindergarten Treasure Hunt. There are 7 families on the wait list.

Friday the 14th is a workday in the garden after school.

Sylvia Jope is working on the parent resource book. A copy was circulated to make changes and comments.

2010-2011 PTO Officers

Jessica Nordhaus: Al Dworshak declined the opportunity to become the PTO president this year. But, is ALL IN for the 2011-2012 school year. Thanks, Al.

Jim Devoe-Talluto will be the treasurer next year.

Mary Riley will be the secretary next year.

Patrick Halladay will be the Vice President next year. Thank you everyone.
PRESIDENT (Co-Presidents) needed.

Leslie suggested that we reach out to class parents. A 2nd or 3rd grade parent would be ideal.

The PTO President or Co-Presidents duties:

Set Agenda

Run Meetings

Serve as a liaison to the administration

WAY TO GO WEEK (Leslyn Hall) is next week. We're hoping parents will commit to getting to school other than in cars for one week. We would encourage families to invite other children to walk whose families usually drive. For students whose families have to drive they can get to school at 7:45 and do a few laps around the field for an alternative walk in the morning.

SAFE KIDS donated the scooter shed.

Monday morning Mr. Eli is going to take kids and show them how to lock their scooters up.

Tuesday morning: Silly Walk Day. Judged by Mr. Hajdun with music provided by Laura Barbieri and her Kick Back Sax.

Wednesday Morning: Art and poetry around the soccer field courtesy of Ms. Gregory's class.

Thursday: Decorate your bike day.

Water Bottles and a Sports and Fitness Day Pass for students for Way to Go/Way to READ week.

Jessica will create something to go home with all events listed. Hard copy to be sent home with kids about which day is what activity.

Monday-Wednesday more morning volunteers needed from 7:45 to 8:10. Find Leslyn in the bright, official looking gear and she'll give you a brief task.

FUN RUN: Roxanne Scully/volunteers needed at 8:30
8:30-9:00 Registration

Music • Raffle • Bagels • Drinks

FUNDRAISER with NOYES Automotive

1st Annual Earth Day tire collection.

June 5th (anyone can bring in old tires to be recycled)

Parking Lot of Champlain School

Free Oil Changes

Hot Dogs/Bake Sale (need volunteers to man the grill and bring baked goods)

Need to talk thru set up ideas for traffic flow.

Ambient Photography Fundraiser

Also June 5th/Side Courtyard Garden of School

Family Portraits or Pets or Whomever you wish to photograph

Ambient is offering packages from \$25-\$90 range.

Sitting Fee can be a sliding Fee (suggested donation amount)

Ambient Photo will set up tent.

Gwen Causer wondered if there is an option to purchase the digital images?

Standard sitting fee is \$100

Appointments would be made directly with Ambient

So, get your family portrait taken, recycle your old tires, get your oil changed, buy some baked goods and have a hot dog all at The Champlain School on June 5th.

GREEN UP DAY (Gwen Causer)

Mr. Hajdun and Sclafani's Classrooms Assembly 8:30

each class will be assigned an area to attend to (parent volunteers needed for an hour). We may need to trash the place so the kids have something to do.

It seems that a TOOL DRIVE may need to be planned for the garden and doing yard work. Karen Hunt suggested **Tools for School**. Perhaps a WISH LIST could be posted. Contact: Betsy Patrick about what is still needed.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Hunt

\$10,904 raised this year.

\$200 Box Tops

\$_____? Hannafords

There is new software we are purchasing to manage volunteer opportunities, what is needed for classrooms and projects.

There also is an effort in remaking the PTO Grant process. Karen Hunt is looking into creating a process that makes the grants accessible and equitable.

Dawn Moskowitz

There is a model in Vermont where the schools offer grants (cash) for more access to teachers for family events. Would a stipend be a way to eliminate some barriers for attendance to evening events?

Book Groups?

Curriculum events/nights? Would doing this raise questions with other districts?

Unions?

Jenny Breckenridge: Spoke briefly about retirement gifts.

STEP UP DAY: More photos needed of 5th graders. Baby photos would be nice as well. A discussion about the easiest way to provide access. Photos should be sent to Jenny Breckenridge.

FALL PLANNING

Handbook

Family Directory

NO FRILLS FUNDRAISER (letter written-will go out in the fall)

Coordinator for AppleFest is needed.

Roxanne will run the silent auction again. Thank you, this is our largest Fundraiser of the year (\$6,000).

ACTION ITEMS:

- AppleFest Coordinator
- Finding President (Co-Presidents)
- Retirements
- Way To Go Week morning volunteers
- Fun Run volunteers on the route
- Finding someone to run: WAY TO GO WEEK/we need to keep it up to get the grant funding
- Green Up day volunteers