

Minutes from PTA Meeting on November 16, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by President Hogan. There were approximately 30 people in attendance. The minutes from October 5, 2011 were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Buresh reviewed budget changes and stated an increase in the amount of the Goodwill gift certificate.

Board of Education Report

Mr. Gaynor discussed the 2% tax cap and how it affects planning the budget.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Pickett was in attendance for Mrs. Greiner. She thanked everyone for their work in the successful Walk for Funds. The following were also noted:

- Visitation day and everyone settling into the school years' routine
- Gratitude to families for their help in facilitating this at home
- Changes in the trimester report cards from P,M,E to a 1,2,3,4 grading system
- Upcoming parent conferences
- Professional Development for staff on November 8, including discussion of the Common Core Curriculum
- The high needs of our community this year and collections for the annual food basket, with donations by grade level for those able to do so
- Upcoming Spirit day – tie dye
- Craft and Vendor fair set for December 4, 2011
- Mrs. Greiner and Mrs. Pickett also wished everyone a happy holiday

Board of Education Report

Mr. Gaynor discussed

- The budget forum and mentioned opportunities to find out more detailed information. He detailed the tax cap and discussed it being an actual tax levy based on the CPI.
- Right to Intervention
- Dignity for All Student Act

Committee Reports

- Mrs. Whitsett stated that there are currently 232 members in the PTA
- Mrs. Gamache thanked all of the volunteers for their hard work on the Harvest Festival, which was enjoyed by many families
- Mrs. Giambertone thanked everyone for their support of the Scholastic Book Fair
- Mrs. Hogan spoke in place of Mrs. Wood regarding the success of the movie night, in which "Spooky Buddies" was shown. She thanked Mrs. Wallace for devoting library time for the vote. The second movie night is planned for January 20, 2012.
- Mrs. Buresh said that the directories are out. Eighty two families who were in it last year were not this year and a supplement of those who did wish to be included was being sent home. The need to change the process by which families can include their information in the directory was mentioned.
- Mrs. Catalano and Mrs. Lortie discussed the upcoming December 4 craft fair. They said seven crafts were planned but that there is a much needed call for volunteers.
- Mrs. Moorhead-Paton said that she is working on increased visibility for vendors at the craft-vendor fair. Also noted was the school sportswear sale at this event.

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Original Works Art Project

- Is targeted for Mother's Day and is not a fundraiser

Teacher's Report

- Mr. McNamara thanked the PTA for money towards the Bronx Zoo trip
- Mrs. LaRow said that \$1975 was raised through the Entertainment books. The remaining five books would be donated, in appreciation, to the lunch ladies.

Open Forum

- Special Report – Michelle Heinz Abrahms, from “Dance Crazy”, a local dance program, discussed the possibility of bringing the program to Boght Hills.
- David Gaynor stated that the North Colonie Foundation for Education was holding an event at Scarboroughs to raise money for programs not supplied for in the budget.

The next PTA meeting is planned for January 18, 2012. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.