

PTA MEETING – Thursday, November 04, 2010 – 10:00 am

Executive Members in attendance:

Dee Lanave  
Diane Scalisi  
Monica Barbato  
Karen Breslow  
Linda Berard  
Angela Barry

Ms. An

Dee has the list of all other attendees

Went around room and everyone in attendance introduced themselves

Robert Preiss (spelling) was our guest speaker – spoke about the wellness policy – also had three Fifth grade students in attendance to raise questions and concerns of their peers

Rob informed us of two changes this year to the lunch services:

1. My Lunch \$ - this year there is a transaction on all credit cards payments – the district was picking up the tab in prior years. Parents can still use the my lunch money account and avoid the fee by paying by check.
2. Also, on non popular menu days (i.e. non chicken nuggets or pizza days) the children have an alternate choice on the menu.

Parents concerns: Can we still review lunch choices our children make if you pay by cash/check – yes – as long as you sign up for my lunch money – will need student ID and birth date.

Fifth grade questions/concerns:

Would like more fruit choices in cafeteria  
Would like more juice options at breakfast  
Hot Dogs are too rubbery  
Grilled Cheese is Soggy  
Bring back ice cream

Rob is taking what the students presented into consideration – although everything has to fall within the guidelines of Clarkstown Wellness Policy – the group meets every six weeks- Dee is going to look into the schedule and supply the info on the eblast.

Rob answered a lot of food concerns from parents and were also informed of existing options that were open to students (i.e. yogurt).

Rob also spoke of the old crosby farm taken over by the Rockland Farm Alliance – They are working on pricing on getting food from them for CCSD – especially veggies

Another questions that was asked is what happens to your childs Lunch \$ account when the year is up – it follows them from year to year even when they leave little tor and go to felix festa – if they are seniors, it can be transferred to another child.

Other food choices that were brought up by parents:

Egg Salad and Chicken Salad Sandwiches

Big discussion on why we don't recycle lunch trays – not economic

Can we offer more child friendly veggies???

Ms. An asked Rob if we would be able to serve the veggies grown in our school garden to our children for lunch – Yes.

MS. AN spoke after Rob –

She is still trying to determine the best way to inform everyone of everything happening at Little Tor.

She went over her Blog and discussed some of the committees with everyone. All minutes are posted from each meeting on her blog. All action items are listed in yellow. The committees she discussed were:

1. Bullying – Olweus Program – will be occurring each week – part of the daily announcements so teachers and students are informed that it needs to be addressed that day. First meeting is happening on 11/5. Have to be able to tell the difference between actual bullying and not. Working with students to learn what is appropriate and what is not. Bullying = power imbalance/repetition. Started a new incentive program – every time a student is nice to some else in the building they will tell Ms. An or Mrs. Lampel and a penny will be added to jar – when the jar is filled up – the school as a whole will decide where to donate the money. If you have any spare pennies you would like to donate please feel free.

2. Health & Wellness - Walking Path  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile – each class is give the opportunity to use the walking path on non gym days
3. Green Committee – looking in to cell phone recycling fundraiser and also the school garden project - garden is going to be located near kickball field – may partnership with one of the boy scout troops to help with the garden.

DEE TOOK two votes for Council –

1. Ten scholarships \$500/each for high school seniors who attended each of the elementary schools – YES
2. Council can take money from fund – no more than \$150 at a time – YES

May want to get the specifics from Dee if including this in minutes. I do know that they were both approved.

BUDGET – Fall Fest made \$1900 and Gift Wrap brought in 2600 of which 1300 will be paid to cherrydale farms for the merchandise. Also afterschool enrichment brought in 6500 – still have to pay the teachers out of.

Directories – changes at clarkstown council of PTA is preventing us from sending out directories – waiting for a letter from district to guide us on how to proceed.

Will be sending out a flyer to ask parents if they would like to join the pta weekly email – if they do, they should email [littletorpta@gmail.com](mailto:littletorpta@gmail.com)

Book Fair - Lisa Coughlin – Last year the fall book fair bought in 1,000 – if we opt for scholastic dollars we can double to 2,000 and use to purchase a smart board for the school. The vote was unanimous in favor of the smart board.

Teachers need ELA guided instruction booklets for their classroom – may have a donation jar at the book fair labeled “ELA Instruction materials for classrooms” and any funds made there will be used to purchase the book needs for the teachers ELA instruction.