

PTA General Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2012

In attendance: Jessica D'Amore, Mi Jung An, Meghan Clark, Lenore Tynan, Marni Blotner, Jenice Lyons, Michelle Bowman, William Bowman, Monica Barbato, Maddy Dwyer, Angela Barry, Katie Ottenheimer, Linda Berard, Sarialba Pimenlee, Stacey Gosman, Mahesh Vidyasagar, Danielle Jacobson, Adam Jacobson

Meeting called to order at 7:35pm by Angela Barry

President's Report - Angela

- Introductions of all in attendance
- Happy that all the events have been well attended so far this year
- Announcement that **PTA website** is now up and running! Can access it by going to www.littletorpta.org or by clicking on the PTA link on the LT website.
 - Thank you to Terrence Roker for putting the website together
 - Angela went through the website on the SmartBoard
 - People were asking about ordering LT gear, since that page is still in progress
 - Need to update the "Upcoming Events" page as an old flyer was still there

Treasurer's Report – Katie

- Passed out copies of current budget
- After-school enrichment classes doing well so far
- Book fair made about \$1000
- Cherrydale Farms fundraiser made about \$1400
- Fall Fest made about \$2500 – this is the most it has ever made to the knowledge of the treasurer

Cultural Arts Chair Report – Linda

- A good deal of PTA money goes towards funding the Cultural Arts program (assemblies) at our school
- PTA budgets \$13,000 and \$6500 is added from a state allocation
- We have already had some great programs this year
- Coming up in December is School House Rock
- Coming up in January is a clay workshop – the classes will collaborate on clay art pieces which will then be auctioned off at Family Fun Night to raise money for the school
- Mrs. Bowman asked how parents can learn more about these assemblies, since not all children give a lot of info to parents about them
 - It was suggested that the links to websites about each assembly could be put on the PTA website for parents' viewing – it was agreed upon to do this
- Ms. An noted that it's beneficial that LT is a small school since we can have the whole student body watch an assembly at the same time, therefore saving us money since we don't have to repeat them

Principal's Report – Ms. An

- She hopes parents are checking out her blog – tries to update it 2-3 times per week

-Really excited about staff vs. students basketball game which is coming up on December 4th. Please come out and show school spirit and support the Green Committee.

- Green Committee is raising money to buy supplies to plant in the newly created planting beds (done by former LT student and Eagle Scout hopeful)

-December is a fun month at LT

-Winter singalong always on the last day before the winter break, organized by Ms. Upton

-CHSN is coming to do a theater presentation

-Most asked questions Ms. An has gotten recently:

1-Regarding the unexpected power outage at the school

-All students got home safely that day

-Team debriefed afterwards and suggested some changes for the future in case it ever happens again

-Going to have a “blackout drill” at the school soon

-Students will be dismissed from a centralized location (gym or cafeteria) instead of classrooms to avoid confusion

2-Parent/teacher conferences

-Teachers are doing them on their own time since a new day is not being scheduled

-Will get communication from each class teacher regarding how they will handle it

3-Make up of missed days?

-Waiting to hear back from state about how this will be handled

-Curricular updates

-Singapore Math is new in K-2 – follows State Common Core standards

-Fountas and Pinnel phonics system is also new in K-2 – will be different from the spelling programs of years past

-Teaches decoding and encoding skills to make students better writers, rather than just memorization

VP of Programs - Maddy

-Blood Drive is coming up in March – competition between the schools

-Shortage of blood due to Hurricane Sandy – please donate!

Open Floor

-Jenice Lyons asked about percentage of families that are PTA members? Can we put this in weekly emails and on website?

-Jenice also mentioned that she helps with the Sunshine Fund, so please let MaryAnn Wood know about any births, deaths, or other things to be recognized in the LT community.

-Jenice also asked about next Box Tops contest. Marni answered that it will be held around the Super Bowl.

-Jenice also mentioned that Staci Gelb heads up collecting Labels for Education.

-Angela asked people to register for the Stop and Shop A+ program

-Monica mentioned that school clothing flyer will be coming home next week so people can order for the holidays. Deadline to order is December 7th!

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm