

## Minutes for the PTA Meeting on Sept. 27, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Seide welcomed everyone and thanked the PTA for the wonderful events that they had sponsored.

She also thanked the parents for coming out for Meet the Teacher night. She addressed a number of other topics:

- Wellness Policy - extra recess is an option for a birthday celebration once a month
- Head Lice - A few cases have been identified, so take precautionary measures. If you have any questions contact Mrs. Dorry
- After School Programs - there are currently 4 - 5 programs being offered :
  - Golf
  - Mad Science
  - Spanish
  - French
  - Homework Club - has 2 sessions - K - 2 and 3 - 5
- Changes in Curriculum Assessments - NYS changed the Proficiency levels for the Spring 2010 tests over the summer. This change meant that some children that would have been proficient under the past standards are now considered to be basic proficient. This change was brought about because there is now data available that challenges whether or not children are ready for college. Also, the teachers are now working with Common Core Standards in lieu of NYS Standards for Curriculum.

Parents are being asked to help promote literacy at home and to "limit screen time"

Budget: Liz Curran asked that any reimbursements be requested by using the proper form and must be accompanied by a receipt. If you need to make a deposit let Liz know. Do NOT leave cash in the mailbox for her. Also all monies must be counted by 2 people. She also mentioned that a new line was added to the budget this year. We are holding money for the 2010 Moving Up Committee. This money was donated by them for the Mentoring Program. Budget for 2010 - 2011 was voted on and passed.

Welcome Breakfast and Welcome Back Picnic - Volunteers were thanked.

School Pictures: Margaret Alaimo was thanked for a job well done. Reminder that pictures are done again in the spring.

Membership: Jen and Michelle reported that so far there has been a good response.

Reflections: Lee Shanley spoke about the contest and had a display of some past entries as well as a Smart Board presentation. The theme is "Together We Can". There are 6 categories and 3 winners from each category move up to the council to be judged. Deadline for entries: Friday, Oct. 15th.

Fall Fundraiser: Due date extended to Oct.8th. Pig Races will be held but as an after school activity.

Halloween Fun Night: Will be on Fri., Oct.22nd from 7:00 - 9:00PM. It is only for West Nyack students, their younger siblings and our 2010 graduates. Older children may fill out a volunteer application and they will work at a station.

Book Fair: Roseann Routolo is heading the committee. It will be held the week of Nov. 1 - 5. There will an evening sale also since there is school on Election Day.

Yearbook: Roseann is also heading this committee. She needs pictures of the 5th graders through the years . Save pictures on a disc and send them in to her. If you send in the actual picture, label it on the back so it can be returned to you.

Smart Board Committee: This is a committee that the PTA is supporting but we are not sponsoring. Jenn Ferrick spoke about them and her goal to get one in every classroom as soon as possible.

Cultural Arts: Dawn Guarino and Jeannie Syzmanski are heading committee. The goal of the committee is to get 1 - 2 programs for each grade level as well as some whole school programs. The teachers are asked for their input so that the shows will align with the curriculum. Several programs are in the works.

ECHO: It is the school newspaper and Karen Moore is trying to get it put on the website for all to read. If you have something that you would like to put in the paper, contact Karen.

Apparel: New items are available this year. Sharon Naughton and Kelly Morales are selling the apparel. The new jersey that was displayed is only sold as a pre-order.

5th Grade Moving Up: Dawn Guarino spoke about the upcoming Family Fun Night to be held on Fri., Oct. 8th. Tickets are \$ 8.00 if preordered or \$ 10.00 at the door. It will be from 7:00 - 9:00 PM.

Science in a Shoebox -Sarah is taking over the committee. She is organizing the boxes and getting them ready to be sent home.

Blood Drive: There will be a blood drive on 12/9. Theresa Smith is heading up the committee. She needs volunteers to work it and donors to come support it. There will be 2 drives this year.

Box Tops: - Committee is headed by Lynn Mueller. There will be a collection on or about 10 / 15. Deadline to send them in is the end of October.

Next meeting will be Nov. 16th.

Meeting was adjourned @ 8:10 PM.