

# Candia Parent Teacher Organization General Membership Meeting Minutes Tuesday October 7, 2008

**Call to Order:** The President called the meeting to order in the music room of the Henry W. Moore School at 7pm. An attendance list is available.

**Playground:** Mr. Lewis explained how well the pasta dinner and road race went. The playground fund took in \$1831 from the dinner, silent auction and toy sales. Senator Gatsas made a generous \$500 donation. The race raised \$2169 for the playground. That brings the account to \$6280 with another \$1000 donation promised. We are hoping to get more momentum as people hear and see the results of the fund raising efforts. Mr. Lewis is also looking at corporate grants, Stoneyfield Yogurt covers (they will donate \$50K towards a playground to 2 school) and Dollars for Doers. Any Northeast Utilities Employee (including PSNH) is eligible for up to \$300 in grants. Mr. Lewis will help fill out the applications so please see him. Pennies for the Playground will begin next Tues. Kris/Nancy Maloney will get a 5 gallon clear container that will be kept in the office. Need to have containers at local businesses as well. Need to get a visual "thermometer" so people can see how much money we have made and where we stand. Pickets for a fence around the playground will still be sold (starting Oct 10) but we need to find someone who can router the names on the pickets.

**Fall Craft:** Tami Baker showed examples of the 3 crafts that will be made on Oct 21 and 22. We still need adults to help volunteer. Dunkin Donuts is donating free snacks and we will purchase milk and cups to have with the donuts. It was suggested we add raffia bows to some of the crafts. Permission slips will go home Oct 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Movie Night:** The first movie of the year will be "The Game Plan" which is a Disney football movie. The movie is free and drinks, popcorn and pretzels will be available for a small charge. The movie will start at 6:30. The movie is shown on an early release day and the custodial staff needs to be out before 9pm so we will try to start earlier and see how things go.

**Fall Fund raiser:** Thanks to Linda McCabe for coordinating the fall fund raiser. Packets are due Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>. The fund raiser is QSP/Reader's Digest. We are looking for new ideas for next year. A member suggested putting student art on cups, flags, mouse pads, etc. The fall fund raiser will be in before Thanksgiving.

**Boxtops:** The current competition (raffle for webkinz) is bringing in lots of boxtops. The deadline for submission is Oct. 31. The competition after that will be a classroom competition. Emily was unable to get any free webkinz and wondered if anyone had any they would donate to the cause. Stacey Beauchamp will donate a webkinz. This should raise about \$800. There are submissions in Oct and Feb every year. We are also collecting Hannaford Dollars. Bring them to school or submit at the Raymond Hannaford under our school. This continues through Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Directory:** Vanessa Webb is almost done typing the entire directory. We still need to proofread it and add staff pictures. We are asking administration for staff pictures so we don't have to retake them. The hope is to have the directory out mid Oct. This is a book which contains class lists and parent information for those students who opt to be included in the book.

**Holiday Gift Shop:** Kris Pouliot explained that this a service for the kids- to be able to shop for parents and siblings. We will use the art room on Dec 9,10 and 11<sup>th</sup> for this event. We will be using some goods from Reindeer Lane and purchasing some materials from Dollar Store. The goal is to make things more affordable and avoid the junk items. The company will donate some money for us to help students who can not afford to make purchases. We will need parent volunteers to work the 3 day gift shop as well as help assemble gift bags/ baskets.

**Membership Drive:** Tami reported that our membership is higher than last year. Mrs. Morenz' class won the competition for the highest percentage of members and will win a pizza party.

**Teacher Reimbursements:** All teachers are given up to \$100 for reimbursements on supplies they purchased for their classrooms. All forms must be submitted by Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. Need to notify teachers of this deadline. Teachers must be PTO members to qualify for the reimbursement.

**School Gift:** It was decided to purchase a floor mat for the school. We have recently revised the design and it no longer includes a picture- but simply words. Jodi will order the mat, up to a \$500 gift, for the school.

**School Spirit Clothing:** Mrs. Maloney reminded everyone that \$5 from all sales of school clothing goes directly to the playground fund. The order forms are by the gym.

**Ice Cream Social:** The ice cream social happened at the school open house on Sept. 17. Kris had enough ice cream to serve 500 people but had to run and get more ice cream. We received more than \$300 in donations. It was suggested that we have an ice cream sundae night with face painting to raise money for the playground.

**Public Opportunity:**

Mrs Lindsey mentioned that the Candia Garden Club is now taking care of the butterfly garden at school but they need more help. They are looking for ways to get more people involved such as the boy and girl scouts.

Mrs. Lindsey states that she is now recycling wide cupped yogurt containers. She is going to email the list of recyclable items and we will include it in the next newsletter.

Mrs. Lindsey mentioned a cartoonist/comic which might be appropriate for the Artist in Residence Program and could be used in all grade levels.

Mrs. Raiche explained that 5<sup>th</sup> graders will not be going on the Museum of Science trip anymore but will be attending Science Camp. This year 6<sup>th</sup> graders will attend Science Camp in the fall and the 5<sup>th</sup> graders will go in the spring for a shorter version but still cost \$200 a child. Mrs. Raiche asked that the funds which would have gone towards the Museum of Science trip be used for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade science camp in the spring to help families that can not afford to go. It was agreed to leave the funds for that class.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$2200 in checking and \$3000 in savings.

It was suggested that PTO try to offer a course on Internet Safety or Inhalants for parents.

The meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

