

# Pennwood PTO Meeting

## May 12, 2016 - 9:30AM - Student Dining Room

Meeting was called to order by Lisa Gayle at 9:35AM

Welcome new 5th grade parents!

### STUDENT REPORTS

Student Council rep Eva Crosson:

- There will not be a “lock-in” this year but perhaps another time in the future the idea will be revisited.
- Workshops are currently being held during OP. The topic is “how your words affect other people”. Bringing deeper awareness of how to treat others around us.

NJHS rep Emmy Scheg:

- During 5th grade orientation, volunteers from the NJHS are needed to help assist families. Visitation will be held May 19th at 7PM.
- There will be a “Penny War” set up on tables in the cafeteria. Each team has a “container” where students can place pennies. Each penny counts as a point toward their team’s final total. Opposing teams can “blitz” other teams by placing nickels, dimes, quarters and dollar bills of any amount. These denominations will be counted as points taken away from that team. The winning team will earn Field Day Points. The proceeds collected will be donated to two different military charities; Brave Hearts Scholarship and Hope for Warriors.
- There will be a Police Officer Breakfast coming up (date TBA).

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

PTO teacher rep Mrs. Pursell:

- The teacher breakfast put on by the PTO was a wonderful success and greatly appreciated by all.
- Thank you for the 2 pencil sharpeners that were donated by the PTO.
- “Girls on the Run” event revisited for August discussion. The registration deadlines for Spring happen in the Fall.

Mrs. Aldridge:

- 5th grade Parent Visitation night is May 19th at 7PM. Student volunteers from NJHS will provide guided tours. There will be sample gym uniforms for parents to see for sizing before ordering.
- Gym uniforms will be handled differently this year. They will be ordered online and delivered to each family’s home. If a family has an older gym uniform that

they wish to reuse it is fine and does not matter if the lettering looks different from year to year. In past years students wore one shirt that was reversible. This is no longer an option and students will need to purchase two different color shirts. Information about gym uniforms will be sent to families.

- Bids for Pennwood's reconstruction project will open June 3rd. At that time the District will assess if we can move forward with the proposed plans. If so, preparation will be over the summer, mainly outside the building bringing in equipment. Actual renovations would begin with the start of the school year. The first areas that will be attended to for the 2016/2017 school year would be the boys gym, the girls gym, the auditorium and the pool area. The entire project would take 2 years to complete.
- A suggestion was made that as the construction ensues, the PTO can earmark certain funds to help purchase things along the way for the classrooms that may extend beyond the budget. Perhaps a wish list? Perhaps a fundraiser specifically geared toward certain items? Suggestion was noted for the future.
- Pennwood mixer for 5th grade students is May 25th.
- Trying to schedule a "Clap Out" for 8th grade students June 17th. Inside the building, 6th and 7th graders clap while the 8th graders "parade" through the school. Parents can come and clap for them as they continue to parade outside the building. More details will follow when finalized.
- June 9th will be the 8th grade awards ceremony during school hours. If a student is winning an award their families will be notified in case they would like to attend the ceremony.

Mr. Majikas:

- The 8th grade field trip was discussed. Clarity was given about some questions students and parents had about the trip regarding what to wear and what to bring. An email was sent to families directly after the meeting addressing these details.

## OFFICER REPORTS

Lisa Gayle:

- Some open positions remain. There is a sign-up genius on the Pennwood website for parents to sign up for different positions. Positions that need to be designated right away are: Spirit Wear, Hospitality, and Walk-A-Thon.
- Students will be getting an award for achieving "High Honors". Students must have earned straight A's in the first, second and third marking periods. If they awarded all students on the honor roll they would have over 600 students. By narrowing down the students with straight A's it is a more reasonable number to ask of a franchise to donate gifts.

Tabitha Peters: No report

Shana Hastings:

- Reminder to sign up for the newsletter and LIKE the Pennwood Facebook page to stay connected.
- You can sign up for the PTO online now, and pay dues through Paypal.
- The best way to stay on top of what is going on with Pennwood day to day is to check the "Daily Announcements" section of the Pennwood website. The announcements for the day that are broadcasted to students in the morning are posted there daily.

Sally Glantz: No report

Lisa Zawacki:

- Budget report was provided.
- The school social was not intended to be a money-making event, however there was some money made through sale of food. This will go toward a scholarship fund that will accumulate over time and be designated at a later date.
- Some funds went toward the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast. They provided warm breakfast this year for the first time and it was well received.
- Funds from Box Tops went to purchase T-Shirts for the incoming students for next year.
- June 5th there is a need for people to read scholarship essays written by student applicants. May 27th is the deadline to volunteer.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Kathy Colavita (absent):

- The school social was a big success bringing in about 240 students - higher numbers than in recent years. It was right after school from 3 to 5PM. There was an Ice Truck and Chick Fil-A sandwiches.

Sue Deutsch (absent):

- Dinner Night Out was a success

Laura Roche (absent):

- Teachers appreciated the warm food and thought it was very nice.

Lisa **Gayle**:

- May 19th is 5th and 6th grade orientation starting at 7PM. Help is needed to man the PTO table. Help with new PTO sign-ups, sell items and answer questions.

Sue Deutsch (absent):

- May 11th was "Top It" Family Night after the Spring Band concert. 20% of the sales go to Pennwood. The next one is May 26th. Destination TBA.

Shana Hastings:

- Spring Book Fair is May 24th to May 27th. This is not a money-making event but it is to support summer reading. Need a LOT of help to make it run smoothly.

Denise Carey and Kim Zedalis (absent):

- Field Day is June 3rd. The rain date is June 6th. Parents can sign up to help with water stations throughout the day.

Shana Hastings:

- 8th Grade Happening: June 10th. It is like a mini-prom. The theme this year is "The Big Apple". Plans include creating a miniature version of Times Square and all things New York like the subway, Central Park and the Statue of Liberty. If you help the High School decorate for their prom you can take some of the decorations after it is over (prom is May 21st). Sign up to help during the week Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to make this a huge success. Please donate any white Christmas lights (you will get them back).

## ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

Donna Pagano/Jennifer Burgfechtel:

- The teachers have been chosen to be taped onto the wall during 6th, 7th and 8th grade lunch. Lucky teachers are Mr. Davis, Miss Bevington and Mr. Kennedy.
- Plans are in place to send students home with baggies to explain the Box Tops rewards program so they can start collecting over the summer. Proposed is to offer a reward to the family that donates the most box tops. Also offer other competitive incentives.
- Jennifer would like to organize a "Box Tops Committee" for next year.

Laura Roche, Suzanne Watson, Shana Hastings:

- Send in receipts from McCaffery and Shop Rite. Giant and Shop Rite cards also earn money for the school. Also "Shoparoo".

Lisa Gayle, Shana Hastings:

- Falcon magnets for sale \$5
- Falcon socks for sale \$15
- Clear "Principal Approved" water bottles for sale \$10 (not mandatory)
- Mention "Pennwood" when ordering pizza from Fat Tony's. They donate \$2 for every pizza purchased.

Denise Wilson:

- Mixed Bag sale was a huge success.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

New President: Beth McNamara

Vice President of Fundraising: Sue Deutsch

New Recording Secretary: Sharon Bove

Meeting commenced at 10:50AM.