

MINUTES OF WOODLAND PTO MEETING  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

The PTO meeting was called to order at 9:31 AM by Danielle Scala.

**Welcome** (Danielle Scala)

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2015 MINUTES** (Danielle Scala)

On a motion by Tanya McAusland and seconded by Carolyn Sena, the membership approved the minutes of the September 9, 2015 Woodland PTO Meeting.

**TEACHER LIAISON** (Anita Brower)

Mrs. Brower thanked the PTO for sponsoring Rachel's Challenge, the Book Fair and for the donations to the classroom and through Scholastic Bucks. She also spoke about the positive effects and motivational impact of the behavior chart.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** (Mr. Heaney)

Mr. Heaney:

- Thanked Mrs. Zaleski for her efforts in finding The One and Only Ivan, coordinating the development of the program and schoolwide theme and its connection to the Rachel's Challenge Assembly;
- Consistent with the schoolwide theme, reviewed efforts to promote and recognize good character and citizenship, including Week of Respect activities and participation, behavior charts and recognizing good behavior and citizenship through awarding of leaves.
- Thanked the PTO for the Book Fair and the presentation of Rachel's Challenge.
- Provided an update on PARCC testing: 2015 results are anticipated to be available in November 2015; 2016 testing dates are currently being developed and are expected to be in April 2016.
- Noted that Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for November 2-4, 2015.
- Announced that there would be a 5K Walk at East County Park to benefit Peyton Walton, a former Woodland student, who is battling cancer.

**LIBRARY UPDATE** (Kate Zaleski, Librarian)

Mrs. Zaleski:

- Thanked the PTO for its support.
- Provided an overview of changes in the Library and the district's library curriculum.
- Presented an overview of the creation of Maker Space, an area in the Library that would provide materials and tools to promote independent learning and discovery and a higher level of critical thinking. She presented a video on Makey Makey kits, which could be incorporated into the Maker Space.
- Provided an update on the plans for Young Author's Day, including potential guest authors and workshops.
- Patti Puglisi contributed updates on Young Author's Day and Tanya McAusland contributed information on efforts of the Education Foundation.

**PTO MEMBERSHIP AND FUND DRIVE** (Danielle Scala)

Danielle Scala thanked the PTO members for their participation and reported that the fund drive closed on October 1, 2015 and raised \$6053.

**DIRECTORY** (Danielle Scala)

Distribution of the directory is expected shortly. Information in the directory is gathered from data inputted into InfoSnap. Fiona Shanahan won the cover art contest.

**PTO INSURANCE** (Danielle Scala)

Danielle Scala reported that the subject of PTO liability insurance coverage and Board of Education requirements had been discussed at a recent President's Council meeting. Danielle Scala outlined the availability, coverage and cost of such insurance policies.

**CANDIDATE MEET AND GREET** (Danielle Scala)

The Board of Education election is November 3, 2015 and it is anticipated that there would be an opportunity to meet the candidates on October 19 at Warren Middle School. More information would be provided as it became available.

**GIRLS ON THE RUN** (Danielle Scala)

A volunteer is still needed to chair and coordinate the Girls on the Run program for Spring 2016.

**CULTURAL ARTS** (Patti Puglisi)

This year's major program was the presentation of Rachel's Challenge, an Anti-Bullying program, on October 8, 2015. No other events are scheduled at this time.

**BOOK FAIR** (Danielle Scala)

Danielle Scala thanked the chairs for coordinating, and volunteers for helping with, the book fair. Approximately 4800 in Scholastic Bucks was raised as a result of the Book Fair. Scholastic Bucks can be used to provide books, equipment and other resources for the classrooms, library and events, such as Young Author's Day.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION (Box Tops)** (Danielle Scala/Rosa Krause)

Rosa Krause provided an update regarding the collection of box tops, how the program works and its benefits. She suggested improved communication with parents regarding the Box Top program to promote awareness of the money that can be raised through the program. Danielle Scala thanked Rosa Krause for her time and effort in coordinating, collecting and redeeming Box Tops.

**UPCOMING EVENTS** (Danielle Scala)

- Brite Nites will be held at Wagner Farm Arboretum. Woodland's night is October 14 and tickets are available.
- Trunk or Treat is October 25, 2015 from 4 PM to 6 PM. Rosa Krause said that there will be a fire truck, entertainment and carnival games and asked for additional volunteers to help at the event and decorate cars.
- Parents Night Out is February 26, 2016. Tickets are available for purchase.
- 2016 Patriots Game: A chair is still needed for this event. It was hoped that Warren Township night could be coordinated with the Gold Band's performance at the Patriots game.

The next PTO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 9:30 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 AM.