

Lebanon Borough School
PTA Meeting
12/2/24

Attendance: Heather Berg, Amy Sjursen, Ruth Karavidas, Mike Pepe, Brandon Borzelli, Kristen Abeles, Bruce Arcurio

Paperwork: Agenda, Treasurers Report, Log of Expenses/Deposits

The meeting was called to order at 6:29 by Heather Berg.

Dr Arcurio's Report

- Next Wednesday (Dec 11th) we have an early dismissal for teacher in-service
- We have TREP\$ Marketplace from 5-6:30 PM - Teachers are grateful for the PTA funds to purchase items at the Marketplace
- We have our Board Meeting on Monday at 6:45 PM.
- Report Cards will be available in the Realtime Parent Portal on Monday, the 9th, at 3 p.m. Please be sure to log in before then to ensure that you can view your child's report card.
- Our winter concert will be held on Thursday, December 19th at 6:30 pm
- We will have an early dismissal on the 20th and then the school will be closed until January 2nd for Winter Break. We have a full day of school on Tuesday the 2nd.

Universal Pre-K Questions

- Brandon Borzelli asked whether the decision to adopt Universal Preschool and move the sixth grade to Clinton Public will be made during the upcoming Board of Education meeting. Dr. Arucio responded the since the town surveys are due after the December meeting, the discussion about Universal Pre-K will take place during the January meeting. Dr. Arcurio will note in the Friday email that no decisions will be made in the December meeting.
- Dr. Arcurio clarified that the surveys were intended to gauge the general opinion of the town, but would not in themselves be the deciding factor. The school board will decide the best course of action.

- Dr. Arcurio noted that he had received questions about why we don't currently participate in universal Pre-K, as the other towns around us do. Additionally, he has spoken to local schools that participate, and he learned that the funding for Pre-K becomes part of the ongoing state aid. There is a "use it or lose it" situation in which aid may disappear if we don't take advantage of it now.

Treasurer's Report

- Our current balance is \$4424.14, not including Venmo for Kids Night Out, and does include un-cashed checks.

Old Business

- The Scholastic Book Fair took place November 12-14.
 - The gross sales were \$1450, not as high as in the Spring but still good. We haven't learned the Scholastic dollar amount yet.
 - Mr. Pepe thanks the PTA for fulfilling the teacher wish lists for books.
- The Broadway trip hosted by Mrs. Ingram was successful. Ruth Karavidas reported that they went to the Producers Theater to hear a talk about Broadway, how to get involved in theater and trivia. This was fun for the adults, but the kids preferred the show that followed. Following the informational session, the participants saw Back to the Future, which was great fun for all.

Upcoming Events

- Kids Night out will take place on Friday, December 13.
 - So far, we only have five students registered. We will need to have 10 students registered or else we will cancel. Last year, we had 20 students, but many registered late or were walk-ins.
 - Heather Berg will send reminders and resend the flyers.
 - Amy Sjursen will coordinate a craft.
- The Hot Chocolate Social will take place during the Twelfth Night Recreation Committee event on January 6. Kristen Abeles will find out what the Recreation Committee requires.
- The Dance will take place on February 21.
 - We need a Dance Committee. Angela Carlucci volunteered, and Kristen Abeles will verify that she is willing to run it. Amy Sjursen also volunteered to help.
 - Heather Berg will call DJ Dan to make sure the 2/21 date will work.
 - Last year all snacks were donated.

- The March event is still open for discussion. We need to decide by the January meeting what we should do. Here are some possibilities.
 - A STEM night. This was successful the last time we hosted one.
 - A Multicultural Night. This was popular in the past as well.
 - Animal show. Amy Sjursen suggested that this would be similar to an assembly that includes families.
 - “Taste of” Event was suggested by Heather Berg. People love food, and all thought this would be popular.
- We would like to host an assembly. Dr. Arcurio and Mr. Pepe will poll the staff for ideas.
 - Mr. Pepe suggested combining the assembly with a field trip to save costs.
 - Brandon Borzelli suggested reaching out to the Hunterdon Central Robotics club to see if they would host an assembly. This would be cost effective. If the Hunterdon Central team isn’t available, we could check with North Hunterdon.
 - The State Police helicopter with dogs and the SWAT team. This was free when we did it in the past.
 - The hip hop groups were popular in the past.
 - Amy Sjursen suggests looking into local farm sanctuaries.

Miscellaneous

- We don’t have a Kindergarten PTA representative currently. PTA will request that Mrs. Muia reach out to Natasha Maglione for permission for the PTA to email her. We are also missing a 5th grade representative.
- Mr. Pepe requested to post a reminder on the PTA Facebook page about the Student Council Can Drive. Heather Berg can also send a flyer through the Remind app.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm by Heather Berg.