**Steele School PTA**

**General Meeting Minutes**

**Monday 1st April 2019**

***President Jennifer Vitale called the General Meeting of the Steele School PTA to order at approximately 7:14 pm.***

* Pledge
* Fire Exits
* Community Fund collection.

**Executive Committee Reports:**

**Allison Phillip – Recording Secretary**

* Presented minutes from March 4th, 2019 meeting to the Executive Committee and the PTA members, all (17) in attendance voted to adopt minutes into the Manifest.

**Mathieu Lorentz – Treasurer**

* PTA Funds bank total at $47,595 at end of February, we are now at $47,434 as spending has begun to pick up.
* Picture Day raised a total of $1105.
* Community Fund now has a total of $175.

**Jennifer Mugford – 4th Vice President, Juvenile Protection**

Completed Facility Management Course, in regards to incident at Meadow School the following concerns were brought up.

* Possible Assemblies for our kids in regards to “See Something Say Something”.
* ID cards for elementary students.
* Dr. Camhi our District Superintendent is very forward thinking in regards to technology and how to incorporate it into better securing our schools e.g. introducing the use of swipe cards for entering buildings.
* Security protocols changes made for when parents wants to visit school facilities by calling first to schedule an appointment to be allowed into facility.
* The use of computer systems and having visits logged into and recorded into the database so that security can have access before hand of those visiting.
* Security guards making regular patrols around facility making sure that the gates and all entrances onto school grounds are secured. Especially for safety at lunch/recess.
* In future new doors that automatically closes should something happen.
* New procedure for teachers to keep lock on doors in the event of something happening.
* Three stages put into play for emergencies in cases of “lock out” or “lock down” mode.
* Superintendent is keeping on top of making sure that our schools are secure.

**Mrs. Nicole Hunn – Principal’s Report**

* Thanks for opportunity to gather and acknowledge the need for kids to speak up in regards to school security.
* Continued diligence in following all security procedures. Students are well equipped in knowing the difference between a “lock down” and ”lock out” situation and how to react accordingly.
* As discussed with Mrs. Brady and staff just having the door kept in lock position when kept open can save seconds and make a difference when responding to emergencies.
* Security is an important priority so any concerns or questions regarding kids security us welcomed.
* Book of the Month – Alma and How She Got Her Name by Juana Martinez-Neal
* Working with staff and entire community this month on celebrating how we have our names. Celebrating our heritage and cultural differences.
* Packet to be sent home and to be filled out for the meaning behind their names and introduce members of the family.
* School community coming together at the end of the month to celebrate the uniqueness and differences behind our names.
* “BOM” will be posted on school website for kids to follow along with Read Aloud to cultivate literacy and new pathways to reading.
* Proud of Student Council and the many initiatives that they have been working on.

**Student Council** members (Brandon Firth, Kimberly Perez, Ryan Healy and Liam Mugford) presented the “Pennies for Patients Program”. This is a fundraiser for the Leukemia Society.

* Each child will be given a box to help collect change. The money collected will be used for cancer treatment and education.
* Every child in the school that collects money can be rewarded based on how much collected.
* Contest between classes for the largest amount of money collected.
* Goal is set at $1000 for the school.
* Presentation to be done for each class on being members of the “Hero Squad”

**Mrs. Brady - Teachers Report**

* Kindergarten- working on reading muscles, learning about non-fiction and writing books about trees. Visited Science museum and learnt how to tap trees for maple syrup. Looking forward to planting later this month.
* 1st Grade- Reading non-fiction, learning about fishes, observations on behaviors as part of the water unit studies.
* 2nd Grade- as part of soil studies they are observing worms, ants, then butterflies
* 4th Grade-finished a unit in literary essays in Writer’s Workshop, they wrote about themed character change and traits and used evidence to support their writing. They finished historical fiction book club and discussed historical time periods, characters and thoughts about the time period.
* 5th Grade- finishing up literary essays, identifying claims and showing support by use of text evidence. Learning to multiply fractions. 5th Grade field trip to the Natural History Museum on April 1th, chaperones may be needed.
* All grade level studying fractions.
* K thru 5th grade attended Health Fair in gym presented by Molloy College, which included pet health and safety this year.

**Committee Report:**

* April 8th setup for BOGO Book Sale at 3:30 pm. Book sale 9th and 10th, volunteers needed and must be on list for Mr. Darren to be allowed into building. Pink flyer already sent out for volunteers.
* Plant sale scheduled for May 9th and 10th.
* My Girl Gala Dance themed “Under the Sea” scheduled for May 17th. Donation of different candies from each grade needed for candy table. Part of our Male Initiatives so the men from our community welcome to volunteer. Shifts for volunteers needed also for setup 3:15- 6:30pm, during the event 6:30-9pm and a shift for cleanup afterwards 8:30-10pm. Invitations to be sent out.
* May 27th Memorial Day Parade march, students to assemble at 8:30 am by the Dollar Tree on Grand avenue. Volunteers needed to help represent Steele community.
* June 1st Adult Spring Fling Gala and Fundraiser starts at 6:30pm- it includes cocktails, three course meals dancing and raffle baskets, location in Syosset. Tickets will be on sale for $50. Letter to be sent out soon. Opportunity for bonding and a stronger Steele community
* Fun Day may be scheduled for May 31st.
* Field Day set for June 7th.
* Camp Wa-Klo offered Steele with two scholarships for girls in 4th or 5th grade. Girls have to register to apply. One scholarship is for 100%, second for 50% of cost of camp, uniforms included and is for 3 weeks. Deadline for application on Wednesday April 3rd. Please reach out to Cat, Ginelle or Jennifer if interested in submitting an application. It is an opportunity only offered to Baldwin students since Mrs. Kloberg one of the founding members of the camp was a former employee in the Baldwin school district.

**Old Business/New Business**

* In regards to play being done by Mr. S - The PTA graciously allocated funds and is waiting for approval of funds by the district office board of education. Hopefully by April 10th more information will be sent out.
* B’jai raised a total of 688 from Sweet Treats minus $95 in costs so final amounts raised totaled $593.
* Rotary Track uniform, t-shirts for field day, new digital signs and recess equipment on list of things to do.
* Quick raffle done for anyone interested in receiving $100 coupon voucher for new summer camp registrants.
* Butterfly enclosure 75% done and will be delivered soon.
* On track for meeting PTA 100% membership goal only need 28 more members to sign on.
* Autism awareness month, kids/parents to wear blue tomorrow to show support.

*Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.*