

**November 18th, 2014**

**PTC Minutes**

**Call to order 9:30am**

Attending:

**Board Members:** Samantha Rohmer, Wendy Farrell, Kevin Crepeau, Erica O'Reilly

**Faculty:** Principal Elaine Pender and Sharon Hughes

**General Assembly:** Alison McCutchen, Emily Hilliar, Tessa Szedlak, Katie Sparrow

**1) President's Report-Samantha Rohmer**

-PTC Website redesigned & currently being updates. PTC site hopes to be a resource for information on the PTC, school and community. Please investigate and give feedback.

-School council needs a parent representative. Flyer went out and is due this Friday with a mail in election held by the PTC to follow. The School Council is an advisory body to the principal.

-Volunteers needed:

Beanstock Fundraiser chair needed. Spring Family Fair help-for the day of the event, more information to come. Swap in the winter, save your kids clothes & sports equipment for this. Tessa Szedlak volunteered to help and accept & store the clothes & equipment at her house until the swap takes place.

-Parental input wanted & welcomed –PTC would like to hear what parents what the PTC to do as well as what they want OES school community to look like.

**2) VP Report-Wendy Farrell**

-Craft Fair-Sold out. All spaces have been sold. This year we are renting tables to the vendors for \$5.00. Kids spaces are still free. Wendy still needs help from 11am the day of, esp. in the kitchen.

**3) Treasurer's Report-Erica O'Reilly**

-Nothing to report, all is proceeding smoothly.

#### **4) Teacher Representatives-Sharon Hughes**

Sharon was happy to report that new this year, teachers will receive flex days to attend workshops, and teacher education classes, esp. ones aligned with the new common core. They do not have to use professional development days, but simply get a substitute for the days they will be using.

#### **5) Principal's Report-Elaine Pender**

-Principal Pender spoke to the preceding Parent Information Workshop, lead by teachers, Mrs. Moronta, Mr. Gregg, and Mrs. Frankel. She thought it was well done and happy to see parents come out and hopes to see more in the future. She feels this type of workshop is important to have, as parents need to be informed, and there is so much more to take in after the open house in the beginning of the year.

-She stressed the importance of parents, teachers and children all working together. She believes this partnership is crucial and hopes that all parents maintain regular communication with their teachers. Research shows that parental engagement is so important.

-Much has changed in education. Reading- The shift in reading is that children are expected to read faster now. She stressed the importance of reading at home and modeling reading with our children. Grades K-3 a major priority is reading. Math-The shift in math is that Math is thinking now. Children need to explain their math work. She stressed again, that using math in everyday life is crucial, show kids how it is used daily.

-Title One Teachers are no longer under the Title One budget. They are essential, they support and work with kids in all grades and all areas and she dose not want to lose them.

Kevin Crepeau asked if three title one teachers are enough, Principal Pender said yes. They focus esp. on K-3 grades, for these grades are learning basic skills.

- Principal Pender spoke about Monday's School Committee meeting. –The Capital Plan was discussed. The capital plan addresses major projects in the school. Some major projects that need to be addressed are, plumbing and heating. If all the major projects are put together, they will cost about 1million dollars. School Committee is considering consolidating all projects and applying for a state grant. If they do, all projects will not get done until 2020. One question is whether everything can wait till then. Budget will be discussed staring in January. The school's lawyer recommended a new waiver of liability for all field trip; this was tabled so that members can go through & read the extensive literature on it.

- Principal Pender said the Laura George is leaving to start her new job as Human Resource Officer in the central office. Her last day will be next Wednesday.

-School Council-They are putting together the school improvement plane. They want to simplify it and are focusing on prioritizing goals. Principal Pender passed out a survey from them on what one finds are the 3 most important aspects at OES for parents. More surveys available in the school office for anyone interested in filling it out.

6) **Public Speak**

Alison McCutchen reported that the Wellness Committee is looking into an am recess time before school starts. They are still in the investigating stages.

Tessa Szedlak had a fundraiser idea for the spring, a chicken coop tour. Tickets would be sold to both OES families and the general population. She will coordinate with Samantha.

Adjournment