

October 21, 2014

PTC Minutes

Call to order 6:36pm

Attending:

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

Faculty: Principal Elaine Pender and Sharon Hughes

General Assembly: Anna Besciak, Alison McCutchen, Emily Hilliar, Jennifer Clark, Amy Kaser, Alison Wilkinson, Sharnali Keren Castro, Sharon Basso

1) President's Report-Samantha Rohmer

Samantha stated that Fall Enrichment is going great and running smoothly. She is still looking for a volunteer to chair Fall Enrichment next year. Samantha also spoke about Box Tops For Education. This year's goal is to raise \$1,000 with Box Top donations. The PTC raises usually \$13-15,000 a year and Box Tops is an easy way to help. Samantha suggested we might like to try an incentive program this year. The class which brings in the most Box Tops will win a pizza party, extra recess or an extra P.E. class. Most meeting attendees agreed with this idea.

Samantha stated she is working on a parent survey. One of the focuses of PTC this year is to improve communication with OES and parents and she would like the PTC to have a pivotal role in that. She stated that the PTC would like any input, concerns or topics from the general assembly.

Samantha next spoke about other upcoming events. She stated that the OES School Council meetings are open to the public and encouraged parents to attend these meetings. Principle Pender added that parent input at a Council Meeting can help guide her decision-making and encouraged parental involvement too.

There was a brief question and answer session following the President's Report:

Anna Besciak- Is there a list of what products have Box Tops?

Samantha said she would send out a list through kids backpacks. Sharon Hughes also mentioned Box Tops are located on non food items such as back to school supplies.

Amy Kaser- Has there been any responsibilities sent out to room liaisons yet?

Samantha said no, and that communication for room liaisons would be emailed out through "mail chimp."

Sharon Hughes- What is the website to view School Committee meetings?

Samantha stated the town website. She also stated that the OES School Committee was a policy making board of elected OES residents. The Committee meets on Mondays in the Town Hall at 330pm. She highly encourages parents to attend these meetings.

Alison Wilkinson- Alison stated that there has been very low attendance at these meetings in the past and was wondering if they could find somewhere else to meet. She also stated that the public/parents need more info on the agendas for the meetings. That way the public can be better educated about topics before they attend a meeting.

Samantha stated she would try and post an unbiased meeting agenda on the PTC website and on the PTC Face Book site. Principal Pender also suggested to host the General Public PTC meetings one week before the OES School Committee meetings. Then parents can give her input about their concerns and she will be able to bring these topics to the table. She again encouraged parents to talk to her directly about all concerns. Samantha stated she definitely is trying to work that into the schedule.

Sharon Hughes stated that upcoming November OES and Regional School Committee meetings will begin to discuss Superintendent Richard Hoffman's replacement. Gail Greer was the OES representative for the search committee and that

they will be looking for parent representatives too. Samantha encouraged parents to get involved in this process. It is very important to the Nauset Regional School System.

2) Vice President's Report-Wendy Farrell

Wendy stated that the OES Craft Fair preparations are going great! She has 30 crafters so far. The luncheon is going to be run by Zia's Pizza and we will ask for donations for water and apples. She stated that she still needs help with:

Bake sale donations

5th grade volunteers to run the coffee/soup cart.

Toy table donations (stuffed animals accepted too)

Volunteers to help with set up

Wendy stated that there will be a lot of flyers and advertising going out soon regarding the Craft Fair. She will have an Ad in the Cape Cod Times, emails out through OES and The Chamber of Commerce and announcements on FB, so spread the word!

3) Treasurer's Report-Erica O'Reilly

Erica stated that all fundraising requests were approved which amounted to approximately \$15,500. The requests were for Field Trips, Audubon, Doug Smith Science, Coastal Explorer, special library programs, art programs and Hyannis Sound among others. She also stated that if anyone had any questions regarding funding to please ask. Erica stated that an easy fundraiser that she would like to see continue is the Stop and Shop rewards program. Last year we raised \$800 through Stop and Shop and would like it to reach \$1,000 this year. Principal Pender asked that the information regarding sign up be sent out again. Erica said she would do that.

4) Principal's Report- Elaine Pender

Principal Pender talked briefly about Students adjusting well to school and enrollment. It seems the number of students is increasing and people are seeking out OES. School Choice was mentioned, and it was explained that OES does not accept Choice students.

Next topic was a brief discussion regarding the Fall Sizzler, Principal Pender said it went great! Some suggestions to improve this event were:

- possible pre-selling of tickets
- trying to relieve the "bottle neck" at the entrance of OES
- Incorporating foods at the Sizzler from the OES Garden

Students portraits were brought up. Many parents agreed with Principal Pender that the quality of the photos were poor and that they would like to have portraits re-taken, including the class photos. Principal Pender said she would speak with the photographer. Parent Alison Wilkinson suggested choosing another photographer for the future and suggested Kim O'Reilly.

School security was discussed by Principal Pender as well. She stated it is coming along slowly and there is no projected final date for the new entrance construction. She also stated that all classroom doors and hallway doors will shut and lock automatically during an emergency situation. The presence of the police officer at student drop off was also mentioned. Principal Pender stated the officer is very important to school safety and community outreach. The officer is meant to give parents "peace of mind." Samantha stated that when there is a lock down, it would be appreciated if the school could email blast parents about the event so they can speak to their children about it when kids get home. Principal Pender said that could be done easily.

Principal Pender next addressed the OES "Report Card." She stated overall, students are doing really well. The Summary of Results were:

- 1) OES continues to perform well in most areas and is ranked 84% of comparable schools.
- 2) MA uses the Progress & Performance Index (PPI) & school percentiles to classify schools into one of five accountability & assistance levels.
- 3) OES has been identified as a Level Two School for not meeting the gap narrowing goals for students who fall into the 'High Needs' subgroup.
- 4) On Target progress is 75 or higher within Cumulative Progress and Performance Index of 1-100. Orleans student group of "All Students" met the target reaching 89, however the subgroup of students in "High Needs" did not due to earning a 56 CPI.

****Further explanation of Level 2 school in relation to OES scores is:**

This does not mean the entire school did not meet the level of improvement of student performance as directed by the state. OES population met the target at 89 last year, only one grade at OES did not achieve the state desired level of academic improvement, and therefore OES is now categorized as a Level 2 school**

Principal Pender stated because the school is small, individual students can be looked at and interventions can be implemented. The school also looks at students who historically do well, are they flat lining? Are we helping all students? Shifts can be made to instruction and problems can be resolved.

Principal Pender also spoke about the OES School Committee meeting. She stated she was asked to work on the budget and address class size. She stated she wants to maintain small sizes since small classes are linked to better scores. She plans on keeping the present 1st grade class in 3 classrooms for next year as well.

There was a brief question and answer session following the Principal's Report:

Amy Kasar- How did OES compare to other elementary schools?

Principal Pender stated all the elementary schools are Level 2 except Wellfleet.

Alison Wilkinson- Are the teachers able to support all the needs of the different students?

Principal Pender said absolutely. It can get tough, but the staff is exceptional.

Jen Clark- How about teacher conferences? Will they be earlier next year? This could help with student interventions.

Principal Pender stated that she's not sure since the conferences are based on the academic calendar. She encouraged parents to reach out and meet with teachers any time during the year, not to wait until December.

Lastly Samantha stated we needed to approve the PTC Minutes.

6) **Adjournment**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Kavanaugh, PTC secretary.

Member Reminders & Assignments:

- Samantha Rohmer**
- Follow up on possible petition for OES School Committee meeting time.
 - Touch Base with Allan Peterson about smart board presentation
 - Look into a "Box Tops" incentive program
 - Work on parent survey
- Erica O'Reilly**
- Send out information to parents regarding Stop and Shop program for OES