

September 23, 2014

PTC Minutes

Call to order 6:36pm

Attending:

Board Members: Samantha Rohmer, Wendy Farrell, Laura Kavanaugh

Faculty: Principal Elaine Pender, Kara Youan, Sharon Hughes, Allan Peterson

General Assembly: Monica Jalbert, Tracy Murphy, Karen Castro, Alison Wilkinson, Mark Filteau, Katie Sparrow, Emily Hilliar, Alison McCutchen

1) President's Report-Samantha Rohmer

Samantha introduced herself and the board members. Next Samantha gave an overview of what PTC does:

- a) Increase awareness of and encourage participation in the education process. Samantha stated that to increase parent awareness and participation, she would like to have a parent Liaison in each classroom to communicate PTC happenings and school events to all other parents. Most importantly she wants the PTC to promote a sense of community at OES.
- b) Sponsor programs, events, educational equipment & activities. PTC raises \$15,000/year which is dispersed to many areas of OES such as field trips, computer programming support, principal and nurse "slush" funds.
- c) Fundraise. Big money makers at OES are The Craft Fair, Book Fair and Fall & Spring Enrichment . She stated PTC also has a goal of reaching \$1,000 with Box Tops donations.

2) Vice President's Report-Wendy Farrell

Wendy stated she is the chair of the Craft Fair and that it makes a lot of money for the PTC. Tables for crafters are \$50-75. In addition during the Craft Fair there is a "Toy Table", where used toys are donated and sold to raise money, bake sale, raffle and refreshments sold. Wendy also stated the PTC is looking for a parent volunteer to take over the Toy Table.

3) Principal's Report-Elaine Pender

Principal Pender introduced herself and spoke to the importance of a solid partnership with the PTC and everyone's commitment to academic success. She also stated the partnership with families is key to create this success and she looks forward to a productive partnership with everyone involved. She also stated that she thinks the staff at OES is amazing and they are intensely committed to the children.

Principal Pender stated that parental and community involvement in the OES School Committee is very important and that the wants of parents are reflected in policies. She firmly believes the more people involved, the better sense of community and less work for each individual.

4) Teacher Representative Report- Sharon Hughes, Allan Peterson, Nancy Waldron (alternate)

Sharon Hughes reported that the New Wonders program is working out great. It's tech compatibility with the smart board is very useful. Allan Peterson agreed and added that it's a great resource in his classroom as it ties in nicely with ELA and math. He also offered to make a smart board presentation at the next PTC meeting.

5) General Assembly Comments/Questions

Mark Filteau- Why are the OES School Committee meetings held at 330pm? It is a difficult hour for working parents to attend.

Samantha stated it was a time set by the committee and a complaint she's heard before. She said to change the time, there needs to be a push from parents, possibly a petition. She will work on starting a petition.

Mark Filteau- Is "Calmer Choice" returning to OES?

Monica Jalbert explained what Calmer Choice is. Principal Pender said it is returning in October for grades 3,4 & 5. And the younger grades will get to participate after Christmas.

Emily Hilliar- Do teachers need classroom volunteers?

Allan Peterson (teacher representative), stated that at open house, he has a sign up sheet for parent volunteers and that most teachers welcome the help.

Monica Jalbert- Are the STEM program night events going to continue?

Principal Pender was sure that Joanne Harrington would continue with STEM program events.

Kara Wilson (OES Librarian)- Should the Theater Group she and Sharon Hughes (teacher representative) lead be incorporated into Winter Enrichment?

Samantha stated that the PTC is now extending Winter enrichment into the Fall too, and that the Theater Group could operate through the enrichment program.

Kara Wilson- How would that work? Fees? Time commitment?

Samantha stated Fall enrichment starts in October and runs 8 weeks. The cost is \$25/student and the instructors get paid \$225

Alison Wilkinson- Is OES going to offer a morning recess to students before school?

Principal Pender suggested that it's a possibility and that the wellness committee has been looking into this as an option.

Alison Wilkinson- Who's in charge of the garden?

Samantha stated that Robin Thayer began the garden, but it needs a new leader. Alison Wilkinson said she'd would be interested.

6) Adjournment

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Kavanaugh, PTC secretary.

Member Reminders & Assignments:

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| Samantha Rohmer | - Follow up on possible petition for OES School Committee meetings |
| | - Touch Base with Allan Peterson about smart board presentation |
| Wendy Farrell | - Find a volunteer for The Craft Fair Toy Table |