

## **MB PTO Meeting December 1, 2011**

Attendees: Bobbi Abbott, Jane Ripley-Blin, Eileen Moore, Deb Thompson, Tiera Porter, Mary Small, Carolyn Millham, Julie Benay, Brian Hunt, Trish Rowsner, Astrid Lague, Amy Siegel, Meghan Mead

### **School Update – Julie**

- The NED Assembly went well, and we made the right choice in purchasing a block of yo-yos for prizes throughout the year
- Houses are working on community projects:
  - The Lighthouse decorated bags for Meals on Wheels
  - The Harmony House is making Gingerbread, coupled with a food drive that they held
  - The Summit House is having a food drive in February
- PBIS – Positive Behavior Intervention Support
  - Students are very engaged
  - Classes are setting goals towards positive approach
  - Achievements are celebrated and announced
- Pertussis continues to be a health concern, and the school and district are working together on keeping families informed and updated

### **Clothing Sale – Julie**

- MBS Osprey apparel is still available and will continue to be sold

### **Genevieve's Fundraiser- Mary**

- We collectively discussed what worked well with distribution
- Julie notes a voicemail the night before pick up next time might help
- We discussed distribution at parent/teacher conferences next time
- Overall, fundraiser was a great success!

### **Treasurer Report – Mary**

- Paid out \$40 in childcare for PTO babysitter coverage
- Paid out \$250 for Red Barn Coupon Books (additional books available, connect with Astrid if interested)
- Paid out \$124.50 for PTO sponsored pizza for faculty/staff during conferences
- Paid out \$650 for yo-yos in support of NED Assembly
- Received \$600 for PTO participation in holiday party last year

### **Holiday Show – Tiera**

- We need volunteers to help work at the show (café) - 15 combined hours needed
- Minimum time investment can yield a solid donation amount to PTO (~\$600)
- Update: Show occurred yesterday, December 3, will discuss update at next meeting

### **Colchester Youth Basketball League – Tiera Porter**

- Discussion of PTO sponsored snack bar during basketball games
- We discussed reaching out for donations, subsidized goods for sale from GMCR
- Brian notes the café is a logical location for the sale
- We'll reach out for a parent volunteer to organize the approach

### **Yearbook – All**

- Julie notes contest for cover artwork was in the works
- Bobbi will connect with Matt at Jostens to reconcile invoices from last year, in addition to determining how we reimburse parents that have ordered via Jostens so far
- Let's work towards a full yearbook update next PTO meeting

### **Grant Requests**

#### **Friend to Friend Program**

- Carolyn discussed the 'Friend to Friend' program (formerly Kids on the Block puppets)
- Friend to Friend is a research based program and would focus on demystifying Autism, and additional child interaction/support
- Carolyn notes that smaller, more focused groups – to engage and promote interaction – are the most effective and suggested method of presentation
- PTO would like broad brush approach, not just select classes
- Carolyn notes that if there are more classes interested, we would pair teachers (2 teachers per presentation)
- Motion granted for \$2575 to be paid out throughout year for total school engagement

#### **iPod Proposal requested by Aimee Boucher was discussed**

- The grant proposal was introduced by Tiera
- The iPods requested (2) would help support and grow technology needs and direction(see Grant for full description of need)
- We determined ~\$250 would be needed for one iPod, \$500 for two

- The PTO granted a motion to support one iPod purchase at the moment, and would like the technology kids and/or Aimee come in to present to the PTO on iPod use as it relates to furthering technology, prior to approving the 2<sup>nd</sup> iPod request

#### RAZ Kids Proposal in support of Mrs. Hunt's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class

- Amy present the grant proposal for Mrs. Hunt
- Grant requested is for \$160 for a RAZ Kids subscription for the year for the class
- RAZ Kids is an online reading program
- The kids have been using the program for about a week, and feedback has been very positives
- Julie will check in with other classes, along with other schools within the district and see if we can leverage/pool subscriptions to get better pricing to support the initiative for the entire school
- We noted that we will make a motion via email prior to the next PTO meeting

#### 80's Dance – Julie

- Julie notes the 80's dance committee of students are ready to roll, and we have the support we need for the dance
- The dance is scheduled for Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>
- We volunteered Todd as the DJ for the dance
- Additional information will be forthcoming

#### Bingo Night – Tiera

We discussed having Bingo Night on January 13th – Tiera will coordinate

#### Next PTO Meeting – January 5th

- We discussed having pizza and snacks at the next PTO meeting to help foster additional attendees
- We will highlight food, snacks, free childcare via an eVite (Bobbi will create and distribute to Julie for review and communicating)
- Astrid will post the invitation on our Facebook page
- Tiera will include the meeting invitation in the next PTO Newsletter
- Bobbi will check in with Melissa for assistance

#### MBS Garden - Jane

- Jane and Libby are working on ways to communicate gardening information throughout the year
- The furniture has been stored indoors for the winter
- Jane is connecting with the Burlington Friends and Garden for additional ideas and garden related dialogue, in addition to learning about grant opportunities

- Jane discussed additional taste tests in the Spring with early crop (radishes, etc.)
- Julie noted that Melanie LeClair at CHS presented to the board and students came over to MBS for garden discussion/taste tests
- Julie noted a new group of students will be engaged for this
- Julie noted that 4<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum, grade level meeting will tie in with the school garden

Notes created by Bobbi Abbott, and submitted to attendees on December 4, 2011.