

OQS PTO Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 11, 2012

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Attendees: Theresa Richardson, Sarah Kniffin, Christina Scott, Emily Clough, Lorin Durand, Lucy Archie, Nan Ingenloff (Faculty/Parent), Sue Fosdick (Faculty), Melissa Michaels, Fabi Hammond, Kate Kebbekus, Samantha Prior, Allison Weglarz and Amos Kornfeld

General Discussion Notes

- Introductions and welcome to new parents!
- Dues: \$5 per year. This gives parents voting privileges.
 - Submit dues to the PTO inbox in the office. Cheryl (Secretary) can help you find it.

Principal Report

- OQS Parent Guide was distributed. Parents seemed to find it useful.
- Approximately 250 children in school this year and class sizes still under 20.
- New, big initiative: PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support)
 - Responsive classroom approach - school wide. (Nationwide philosophy)
 - Recognize children for positive behavior and then have celebrations.
- NECAPS being phased out and a new test coming in 2014 - called SBAC.
 - More details to come in a future meeting
 - NECAPS in October
 - Snacks will be provided by the PTO
- We are continuing our relationship with regular visits from a VINS naturalist
- Room parents are needed

Treasure Report – 2011-2012 Budget

- Income: Total income was budgeted at \$15,000 and our actual income was \$10,954.96 which created a negative variance of \$4045.04.
- Expenses: Total expenses were budgeted at \$15,000 and the actual expenses were \$12,537.72 which created a positive variance of \$2462.28.
- We ended the year with a net loss of \$1582.76.

*Changes in budget for 2012-2013

Income – modified budget lines

- Clothing to \$100
- Box tops to \$1000
- PTO Dues \$100
- Breakfast with Santa \$500
- Ice cream social \$2200
- Ski Program \$3100
- Garden Club \$200

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Expenses – notes and modifications to budget lines

- Mini grants (Classrooms)
 - \$ allotted per classroom for things like field trips
 - We should include Student Aids in the budget projections
 - We should budget \$17 per student x 247 students + 8 Aids
 - \$4350 will be the new budget for Minigrants
- There was an instrument purchase of \$160. \$75 from classroom mini grant and \$65 from general academics mini grant
- Breakfast with Santa – reduce to \$100
- Ice Cream social – reduce to \$300
- Harvest dinner – increase to \$900
- Open house and fall welcome back combined – reduce to \$600

Back to school cookout

- Positive feedback on the event from parents and teachers.
- New Change: Open House and Cookout on the same night
 - There are so many afterschool events, this helps cut down the work and time involved in after school commitments for teachers, parents and children
 - Combining them also provides the opportunity for more parents to attend
- From the PTO perspective it was very hectic.
 - Ran out of food
 - PTO parents were not able to spend much time in the classroom (open house) with their children

Changes for next year's cookout:

- More grills (4 ideal)
- More food (bought for 200 this year, we should double that for next year)
- Open house and cookout on the same night is ok but new times
 - 5-6:30 open house
 - 6:00 – 7:30 cookout

PTO Fall Events

- Innisbook fundraiser – going on now
- Garden club – starts tomorrow (9/13) and goes through to Harvest Dinner (last weekend in October – 10/26 - time to be determined. Will discuss the possibility of 2 seatings.
- Halloween Party – 10/28 2-4pm
- Movie Night – 1st one in October and monthly with a consistent date – official date and time to be determined. PG night and G rated night
- Clothing order – OQS paraphernalia – 11/2 fall orders go out and 3/1 spring orders to go out

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- Box top collections and labels for education – All box tops in by October 26 and February 15
- NECAP – October 2012
- Breakfast with Santa – December 15, Saturday, 8am-11am
- Ski and snowboard program – Jan-Feb – 6 dates for 4 sessions – TBD
- Inservice for teachers – Nov 9 and March 5 – PTO will supply food – veggies requested
- Ice Cream Social – May 5, 1:00-3:00
- Teacher Appreciation – Month of May
- Clothing Drive with DBS – Operation warm and cozy - October
 - Donate winter wear and families were able to visit DBS and receive free clothes
 - We will collect clothes here at OQS and bring to DBS

Fundraising ideas

- Halloween costume swaps
- Book swap
- Sporting goods
- Art works – sell children's art
- Pie/dessert swap
- Art sale

Notes and new Business:

- Trees on the playground
 - Consider doing a special fundraiser to raise money specifically for the trees
 - Need to work out logistics – tree placement, vandalism concerns, cost
- We need to think of better ways to get information out to parents: Bulletin board, facebook, phone calls, newsletters, email, pintrest. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

Discussion for next meeting

- Communication – find ways to draw in more volunteers at events and get information out to parents.
- Bulletin Board – PTO
- Finalize event dates
- Reschedule December meeting (Winter concert)
- Fundraisers

October 9, 2012 7pm – OQS School Library – Next PTO meeting.
All parents welcome!!