

Granby PTO

Tuesday, October 11th, 7:00

Kearns School

Present: Jennifer Henry, Kelsy Aldrich, Ivana Walker, Ida Gilmore, Suzy and Jack Brinegar, David Rooney, Rebecca Taylor, Devon Kaczka, John Kroninger, Anna Rzecienski, Frania Fairchild, Deb Ranicar, Michelle DeGagne, Sarah Thrall, Amy Milbrandt, Kristina Gilton, Ted Krumm, Bob Gilbert, Kim Dessert

1. Call To Order at 7:08 by A. Milbrandt

- Welcome & Introductions

2. Topic: Granby PTO 101

- Basics of Granby PTO
 - Our PTO is comprised of three schools; Kearns, Kelly, Wells, which is unique to PTO
- Robert's Rules Of Order – we run loosely on these; feel free to ask questions
- Website-Committee info, meeting minutes, Budget, By-Laws, forms
 - Visit www.granbypto.org to locate information above
- Budget – roughly operate on \$50,000 budget per year

3. Treasurer's Report – Ivana Walker and Kelsey Aldrich

- Savings & Checking balances
 - Approximately \$36,500 in checking and \$10,000 in savings
 - Co-treasurer role being defined differently and they will be working as a team and sharing responsibilities. Quikbooks is being used. Just received a debit card to use for purchases to streamline process for teachers
- Profit and Loss Budget Overview
 - Recent expenditures include TIE checks (\$50 per teacher), Patricia Pollaco, High Touch/High Tech, and Nature's Classroom down payment
- Programs the PTO Funds
 - Seedling, Acorn, Nutmeg Books (\$1500), Cultural Arts(\$10K), ELF(\$9K), Exploring Arts(\$400), Family Activities(\$2K), Field Day(\$600), High Touch/High Tech(\$6K), Nature's Classroom(\$6K), Pond & Stream Studies(\$900), 6th Grade Picnic(\$1500), Teacher Appreciation(\$1600), TIE checks (\$4500)

4. Principal and Teacher Report

- Thank you from all 3 principals for funding Patricia Pollaco, who was fabulous
- Positive feedback on the Jog-a-thon
- Many thanks for the TIE checks
- There were no teachers present for a report

5. Committee Reports

- Bear Calls – Ted Krmm
 - Should be finished by 10/14
 - Class listing now includes all contact information (not so in past)
 - Bill expected to be about \$2K for Bear Call
 - Kearns sold 242, Kelly 232, Wells 228
 - Suggested to have electronic payment (PayPal?) to avoid confusion with cash only system (lost, misplaced, liability of large amounts of cash)
 - Collect money at Open Houses was suggested as well
 - Parental consent for inclusion in Bear Calls down (just over 90% when consent used to be 96%)
 - Trending over the past three years:
 - Number of books sold: 865 (2009), 730 (2010), 702 (2011)
 - Money made: \$125 (2009), \$920 (2010), \$1510 (2011)
- Book Fair: Dates of Fair Nov.18-23, At all three schools -
- Box Tops/Geisslers –
 - Stop and Shop and Target also participate in programs and your card must be registered each school year
- Campbell's Soup Labels – Anna Rzecinski
 - Please be sure to include the UPC code. These also are located on all Pepperidge Farm products (Goldfish, Pop Secret, Glad Bags, etc.)
- Calendar and Notepads
 - Database being created to track rotating schedule of children artwork
- Clothing – Devon Kaczka
 - 150 pieces of new clothing have been sold for a \$500 profit
 - We are out of sweatshirts
 - Can order new products anytime, pictures are on website
- Cultural Arts – Eileen Swan
 - Patricia Polacco-Thank-you letters from students (\$3200 spent)
 - Approximately \$300 was made on her book sales
 - Mother Goose coming to Kearns

- Science program to Kelly and Wells
- About \$6000 left in Cultural Arts budget
- Will be receiving \$900 from school photographers for Cultural Arts program (as a promotion for switching to new photographer)
- Electronic Communications
 - Weekly Wednesday
 - Reply goes to PTO president – good communication tool
 - Advertising on Weekly Wednesday
 - PTO has offered local businesses ad space in our Weekly Wednesday and website to help off-set web costs
- ELF-Enhanced Learning Fund
 - \$3000 allotted for each school
 - Teachers apply online for classroom needs
 - Committee is 3 parents and 3 faculty
 - The PTO debit card is used for ELF purchases
 - In March, the unused funds are pooled and offered to any of the three schools
- Exploring Arts – Frania Fairchild
 - Most classes have a volunteer, but a few remain
 - November 5th adult field trip to Wadsworth Atheuneum (\$6)
 - New storage location at Wells; next to cafeteria
 - We can no longer display artwork at Starbucks, but are exploring leads at Lox, Stock, and Bagel and Granby Village Health
- Family Activities – Ida Gilmore
 - Hayes Corn Maze
 - 74 prepurchase, many showed up night of
 - Collected 4 bags of food for Granby Food Bank
 - Food Drive will be done at all events
 - Events being planned include movies, Disney on Ice, UConn Men’s basketball game
- Jog-A-Thon – Amy Milbrandt
 - Goal per school was \$10K, needed \$15K overall to cover costs for the year
 - Current Numbers: **\$36,329**
 - Kids were excited; nice to see principals and teachers involved
 - Most classrooms have a wish list
 - Top classrooms earn the Golden Shoe Trophy

- The highest raising classes get Tina's Ice Cream party as do the classes with the highest participation at the Jog-a-Thon
 - Changes for next year – pick a later date in 2012 (1st weekend in Oct?)
- PTO Cares is full
- Room Parents – Michelle DeGagne, Suzy Brinegar
 - Kelly Lane is full, 1 needed at Kearns, 1 needed at Wells
- School Pictures – Suzy Brinegar
 - Last week in October is picture week
 - Forms will be sent home next week
 - Online purchasing is an option (prepay)
 - Seeking volunteers in the Weekly Wednesday
 - New company this year – are guaranteeing last year's number and is giving each child a class photo
- Website – John Kroninger
 - Please contact John with updates and changes
- Other Committees
 - Art Project, Drummer Articles, Scrapbooking Fundraiser, 6th Grade Picnic, Teacher Appreciation, Paul Cryan

6. Old Business

- Facebook- 170 “likes”
- Thank-You Notes from teachers
- Granby 225

7. New Business

- Cumberland Farms Fundraiser – to be decided by board
- November Meeting:
 - Monday, November 14-Wells Road
 - Topic: The Workshop Approach to Reading and Writing in Granby? (get literacy specialists, LA consultants, teachers) Suggestion of a reprise of Everyday Math. Perhaps even a Common Core Curriculum overview
- No December PTO meeting

8. Open Discussion

- Wells Harvest festival is postponed

9. Adjourn 8:08 PM - moved by K. Gilton, seconded by T. Krumm