

PTO Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2018

In Attendance:

Sara C.
Leticia
Lorissa
Cindy
Linna
Vanita
Pauline
Katie
Sara S.
Marisa

Meeting began at 5:30 p.m.

Project Linus:

- The event will take place on a Saturday in April or May, the exact date is still TBD.

Read Aloud:

- The date has been set for Thursday, May 9.

Big Map Night:

- The map will feature Africa, and the event is set to take place on Wednesday, March 20.

Geography Bee:

- This year's event will follow a different format, with the preliminary round being held during the school day. The top ten will then advance to an after-school round.
- The registration deadline for this year is by the end of the day on November 20.
- Funding of the \$150.00 registration fee will come from New Initiatives this year.

Geography Bee Vote:

- *The majority made a unanimous vote to approve permanent funding of the Geography Bee in the budget for future years.*

Science Fair:

- The date is set for Friday, February 8.
- A kick-off event will be held on December 13 and will feature guest speaker Celis Brisbin.

Communications Update:

- Committee chairs are able to email the presidents with text regarding their events for posting on Twitter.
- Chairs are also encouraged to use the newsletter to publicize events, even to reinforce standalone emails.

Treasury Updates:

- If anyone has been unable to obtain requested checks, they should check-in with the presidents.

Frogs:

- There will be an overall revamping of the display area, which will include monthly facts.
- A drawing competition will be held before January for students make a frog illustration which would be featured on future displays, handouts, etc.
- February 22 is National Wildlife Day and will be preceded by a Frog Fundraiser (jar collection) on February 15. There is an idea to pass out stickers to all students featuring the winning frog drawing, should we reach a target goal for donations.

Book Fair:

- The next newsletter will list all dates and volunteer options. Class-specific flyers will also be sent home.
- Following previous years' difficulties, the gift certificate system will be discontinued. Instead, teachers will be able to indicate their book choices with slips that can be brought directly to checkout.
- Additionally, parents may write checks to the Book Fair to be sent with students and change would be provided in cash.

Estafest:

- There is a request for additional chair volunteers. Openings include: food donations, prize selection and silent auction.
- Book donations are also needed, hoping to reach about 500.
- Some prize options may be replaced.
- An online payment option for the silent auction will be explored.
- The idea of hosting an adults-only evening fundraiser on alternate years was revisited and will be discussed further.

METCO:

- The METCO School Committee Meeting will take place in Boston on November 27. Dinner and transportation will be provided. RSVP is requested if you are planning on attending the dinner portion or will need the bus service.
- The PPC representative is hoping to organize more joint activities in the near future.
- Estabrook has the largest Family Friends population among the elementary schools, as such, hoping to increase program funding in the future to facilitate more activities and meet-ups at convenient locations for all participants.

Meeting ended at 6:45 p.m.