

Cedar Hill PTO General Meeting

January 15, 2009

I. Call to Order

II. Officer and Committee Reports

Presidents: Elaine Edge/Laura Page-

A new sound system was purchased by the PTO in December. The sound system is IPOD compatible and has wireless microphones.

Absentee Ballots are available for the April 21st election/vote. Edge announced that if you fill in the form and send it in you will be sent an absentee ballot. This is crucial regarding the school budget as the vote will take place during Bernards Township's spring break. Every other Monday starting January 19th, budget meetings will be held in the district. Proposals for various budget cuts will be made that could impact all levels of the school system. Edge encouraged parents to attend these meetings in order to understand the cut proposals as well as voice any opinions.

1st Vice President Meetings: Jeanne Finn:

Julie Keating reported that James Gelsey, the Scooby Doo author will be at CH the week of January 19th.

The Valentine's Day Breakfast is scheduled for Thursday February 12th at 8 a.m. in the cafeteria. Volunteers and bakers are still needed.

2nd Vice President/Fundraising: Christina Ehret:

The Raffle Fundraiser this year will include a flat screen TV as well certificates for local shops.

The Flower Bulb fundraiser will be starting soon. The school will be selling from a company called Dutch Mill Bulbs. These bulbs are area appropriate and most are deer resistant. All bulbs will be available to plant in the spring.

3rd Vice President/Newsletter: Dana Hughes

2/10-12 Lisa Mularkey will be at Cedar Hill for the 3rd grade author in the school.

Secretary: Sarah Herndon-

Herndon asked for parents to be on the look out in the scoop for information on the Cedar Hill Parent social which will be held in late March.

Treasurer: Candy Pescatore

No report

Trustee: Laura Begg

Mother son event is scheduled for Friday, March 13th

Trustee: Joyce Tulenko

III. New Business

IV. Old Business

V. Guest speaker is CH's counselor Carley Aroldi:

Mrs. Aroldi spoke of her roles within the classroom as well as with students individually. She offers many programs depending on the individual or group need.

Developmental Counseling

*Developmentally appropriate activities facilitate healthy growth

*Meeting with individual students to meet their individual needs. Most students request a visit with the counselor. Parents also request visits for their child.

Confidentiality

*Stories told by the students are kept confidential. However, if at any time a child tells of danger to himself or others, that information is passed on to the appropriate professional.

Small Group Programs

*Lunch buddies, Newcomers Club, Banana Splits, The Boosters, Stress Busters. Permission from parents is required. Banana Splits is a group designed for kids who are experiencing a life change: divorce, separation. Boosters is for grades 1-3 and is designed to boost self esteem. Stress Busters is for grades 4-5 and focus on way to handle stress.

Classroom Programs:

Meets with the general classes to do themed lessons on Bullying, conflict resolution, self esteem....

Parent Education and Support

IR & S Intervention and Referral Services assists general education students who are experiencing significant learning, behavior or health difficulties. Process includes: Referral from teacher, committee meeting, action plan, follow up review

Areas of Focus:

Anxiety identification/reduction

Keeping family life stable in economic turmoil

Bully Prevention-through a recent survey, students were found to feel safe at CH. Students feel comfortable identifying Bullying as well as reporting it.

Boosting self esteem

Creating an empathetic caring community of students

If you want to contact Mrs. Aroldi you can reach her by phone or email :

Carley Aroldi

School Counselor

908-204-2639 Ext 107

caroldi@bernardsboe.com

NOTE:

*A bullying survey was conducted this fall to the students and results will be available for parents in the near future. Results are broken down by grade. Parents at the meeting felt strongly that they would like to view the questions that were given to the students to assist in home guidance regarding bullying and what it means to bully or be bullied.

Standardized testing dates....

2nd Grade-Sometime in April TBD

3rd and 4th Grade-May 4th – 8th

5th Grade-May 11th- 14th

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted, Sarah Herndon, Secretary