

The Windsor School
P.S. 154 PTA – General Membership Meeting
Tuesday April 13, 2010, 6:30pm
Multi Media Room

Welcome

Deb Capone welcomed the crowd and encouraged families to take part in the Brooklyn PTA's 5K Run for Schools. This Walk-a-thon is on May 1st in Prospect Park. Registration is \$25.00 per family and each family can collect sponsors. Proceeds from the walk go to each school according to numbers of participants.

Budget Update

Diane Bromberg, Co-treasurer, updated us on the 2009-10 budget and fielded questions. The Read-a-thon did amazingly well with accumulated funds expected to reach \$7,000.00. Parents Night Out events came to a net of \$7,000.00 combined.

PTA Survey Results

Deb gave a qualitative overview of the survey results. Deb received approximate 50 surveys (a 10% sample). The newsletter and email notification via class parents was well received. The PTA web site is under-utilized and the Google calendar was said to not have enough details when the user clicks on the events in it. Of the people who attend PTA meetings, 100% found them useful. Those who do not attend PTA meetings documented their reasons. The Book Fair was experienced as too long and parents requested more books and less specialty items. Kids love the Boo Bash and parents are less enthusiastic about it. The Spring Fair gets very expensive. Afterschool received generally positive reviews. Parents were very pleased with homework help. Parents Night Out received mixed reviews. Discussion about parent reactions, PTA reactions, culpability, and opportunities to make changes to increase membership ensued.

2010-11 Planning for Next Year

- **Distribution of 2010-11 Proposed Budget**

A discussion of the proposed budget for next year began. Deb made the following recommendations to trim down the existing budget in order to make the job of the PTA more manageable: Cut \$43,000.00 out to reduce manpower needs and reduce burn-out. Shift the focus to grant writing with the hope that 501C3 status will allow us to receive more grant money. In reviewing proposed budget, some funds were added for Garden Maintenance and Teacher mini grants were halved. Poetry Night needs a sponsor for copying the poetry compilations; Band and Theatre were moved from "Funded Programs" to the Afterschool program. Expectations for the PTA Annual drive were reduced and some of the events like Parents Night Out, the Book Fair and Movie Nights were reduced to one event each.

- **Discussion regarding Executive Board for Next Year**

Open positions were reviewed and responsibilities described.

- **Nominations to the Executive Board**

1. Co-Presidents: Chris Werben and Debby Wattedbarger
2. Executive Vice President: Tracey Armstead
3. Co-Vice Presidents of Fundrasing: Emily O'Connor and Christine Catacutan
4. Vice President of Publicity: **Open**
5. Co-Vice Presidents of Membership: Sherry Dietchman and Julie Weintraub
6. Recording Secretary: Carolyn Altman
7. Co-Treasurers: Diane Bromberg and Kathy Lewis
8. Corresponding Secretary – **Open**
9. SLT: Deb Capone, Jacki Roach (Chris Werben)
10. Members at Large: Nicole Bilu Brier, Sharon Matz, Annette Taconelli, Deb Capone, Jane Rennert

Upcoming Events

- April 22nd - Earth Day
- May 1st – PTA Walk-a-thon
- May 8th – Art Craft Fair n Prospect Park – Art Donations and Parent volunteers, 10:00am to 6:00pm. Contact Emily O'Connor if interested at brendemily@earthlink.net
- May 14th – Music Matters: All School Concert in the Yard, Haitian RaRa Band – Traditional Haitian Folk Music
- May 22nd – Spring Carnival
- June 24th – Staten Island Yankee game – tickets will be sold in the school yard
- Theatre Production – Pinocchio
- Poetry Extravaganza

Deb fielded additional questions and answers.

The meeting came to an end at approximately 8:00pm. The next PTA General Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 13th at 6:30pm. Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Altman.