Woodland Home & School Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

9:15 am

In Attendance:

Elizabeth Drummond Susan Washburn Tommylynn Avelar

Zanthia Reddish Altaira Heiser Katie Shireman

Linda Ehmer Michelle Petco Julie Stern Delfiner

1. Sign in and Welcome
2. Old Business: Liz Drummond

The Watchdog Dads, is a lovely idea, John Hopf is possibly interested in heading this program at Woodland. We will follow up with him. There has not been much feedback from teachers to date regarding the Watch Dog Dads program.

Margaret Page has volunteered to set up the trinket drive box in the school’s lobby. Trinkets collected will replenish the teacher’s prize boxes.

1. Recording Secretary’s Report: Tommy Avelar, October’s minutes have been approved and will be posted to the H&S page.
2. President’s Report: Elizabeth Drummond,

The directories have come in and have been distributed. A job well done by Julie Stern Delfiner. Andy Toaso’s art work on the front cover is fantastic. Minuteman Press has done a very good job for us again this year.

The Fall Walk-a-Thon is in need of a chair for next year. The fruit snacks served at this year’s walk went over well with the students and teachers providing a less messy snack better suited for chilly days. We may consider fruit snacks in lieu of ice pops next year as well.

The Homecoming Parade on 10/24 was well attended by the Methacton community. Woodland was well represented by teachers, students, principal and our new wildcat mascot which arrived in time for the festivities.

5. Vice Presidents’ Reports: Sue Washburn and Michelle Petco, We continue to receive

 volunteer forms. The Pillows, Popcorn and Pajamas committee has started plans for this

 year’s event headed by Janet Kumar and co-chaired by the homeroom captains.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Altaira Heiser, Budget and spending updates:

 Revenue from the directory and KidStuff Book sales have been deposited. Ice-cream Social kitchen staff invoice has not been received. Art Goes to School invoice has been paid.

Mini Grants for Miss Fisher and Miss Traore have been paid however the mascot receipt is not yet in.

7. Corresponding Secretary’s Report: Tommy Avelar, Baby card for Mrs. Fogg and welcome cards to new Woodland staff.

8. Principal’s Report: Dr. Zanthia Reddish,

 The Homecoming parade was a lot of fun with the addition of our new school mascot.

 Plans are underway to step up our contribution for next year’s parade.

 A contest for the naming of our new mascot will take place this month with Mrs. Ehmer’s

 assistance.

 Woodland welcomes new first grade teacher Lisa Denner. Mrs. Denner has taken over for

 Mrs. Kosak who in turn has taken on a math support role.

 The fire drill went smoothly. With the new fence around the Shannondell property an alternate ERT route will be assessed.

 We are very excited about the Bright Lights survey. The survey, which students will participate in during library will collect information about internet and technology use in the home. Third and fourth grade students will be participating at this time and information gathered will help develop new tech plans for the school.

 American Education Week has just passed with parents enjoying a look into their child’s classroom. A math block plan is being discussed for next year’s parent classroom visits.

 With the district’s environmentally friendly shift to paperless procedures Woodland may be transitioning to the use of online report cards as are used in the upper grades.

 Teacher conferences are coming up this month and the forms have gone home with students.

 In the classroom teachers will work with students to develop ascertainable goals that focus on individual growth. The teachers will be working one on one with each student while tracking their progress. An important goal with this initiative is to help students to recognize the difference between a growth mind set verses a fixed mind set in the hopes that students will learn to look at problems and issues in a new way.

9. Teacher’s Report: Mrs. Linda Ehmer

 Once again this year the school will participate in the Feel the Warmth coat project.

 This month’s student project is concerned with student pride. The student’s of the month will have their pictures taken with our new mascot and posted on the bulletin board.

 A mascot naming competition will be held this month. Each classroom will submit a name for a school wide vote. The mascot’s new name will be announced before Thanksgiving break.

10. Active Committee Reports:

 a. Pillows Popcorn and Pajamas: Janet Kumar, organizational meeting to be held on 12/6

1. Building Beautification is in need of a chair person.
2. Cafeteria Volunteers: Tommy Avelar, volunteer spot is active for the months of November and December, ongoing.
3. Civic Committee: Andi Toaso and Michelle Petko, Veterans Day assembly plans underway for November 11th at 2pm. 25 veterans are expected. Rehearsals are underway.
4. Community Service: Tommy Avelar and Liz Drummond, Woodlands Giving Tree holiday food and clothing drive will begin at the end of this month and continue into December. Gym nights to begin monthly in January. This year we will be collecting food donations at the door. Discussed possibility of a hunger awareness spaghetti or soup dinner event in the spring.
5. Coordinating Council update, a new Coordinating Council Board has been elected and they have appointed a pro bono accountant. A district wide council event is being planned.
6. E-alerts: Liz Drummond, ongoing

 p. Fundraising:

 i. Box Tops: Heather Gulsby –Steiner, have brought in $700.00 so far.

 ii. Kidstuff Books: Katie Shireman, has ended.

 iii. No Effort Fundraising: Sue Washburn, Bertucci’s fund raiser December 9th.

 q. Holiday Craft Night: Sue Washburn, event 12/4/15, This year we are excited to include spirit wear sales and a bake sale. Crafters are aiming to provide 20 extra crafts each to be sold at the door.

 s. Library Volunteers: Preparations are ready for next week’s book fair.

 t. Newsletter: Gina Stover has done a very good job on the November news letter.

 u. Outdoor Sign: Julie Novia, ongoing

 w. School Board Rep: Open, in need of a volunteer. The new board is being seated on December 1st.

 aa. Student Directory: Julie Stern-Delfiner, Directory is complete and has been distributed.

 ab. Sunshine: Ongoing

 ad. Website and Technical Assistance: Liz Drummond, October saw 500 hits to the Woodland home page with 200 already in November.

 ae. Welcome Wagon: Tommy Avelar, New families are enrolled to begin in December, welcome packets will be made for them.

 af. Yearbook: Susan Candello, Cover competition is upcoming.

11. New Business: Home and School will begin using the Remind App giving parents a convenient choice to receive updates via either text message or email message.

 Learning Express and Red Robin are possibilities for new no effort fundraising. Next year we would like to participate in the Sweets for Soldiers Halloween candy buy back program. Woodland will receive $1 per pound of candy donated. A collection will be set up at the Veterans Day Assembly.

 A Woodland Home and School table will be set up for conferences and craft night to answer questions and help guide parents through the E-Alert sign up process.

 Finally, their has been a district wide push to make Signup Genius the official volunteer organizers site. By next year we should expect to be using this site exclusively.

The next Home and School meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13th

 at 7:00pm in the Woodland Library. Hope to see you there!