



## **Dale Street PTO**

**November 15, 2023 7:00 PM (Zoom)**

**Attendees:** Nesse McCabe, Nicole Saulnier, Nicole Crocker, Nicola Tessier, Kristen Storer, Bob Weisse (MCPE), Ali Abba, Steve Grenham, Leo Brehm (School Committee)

### **Kids Night Out Update - Nicola Tessier**

- Dates: 1/19 for 4th Grade, 1/26 for 5th Grade
- DJ with dancing/games, snacks, crafts, etc.
- Action items: Nicole Crocker to revisit volunteers to find 3-4 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents to join KNO team. Once teams/DJ is confirmed, send email to Anne/Steve confirming dates for event calendar.

### **Cradles to Crayons Sock and PJ Drive with Student Council – Nesse McCabe**

- Looking for volunteer activities for students and to partner with Student Council.
- Collect socks and pajamas (any size, any age, youth only) for Cradles to Crayons. Student Council is initiating/working on publicity.
- Target dates are 11/13-12/15. Collection boxes at Dale. Potentially offer incentive – if the school reaches a particular goal (TBD), each student is entered to win a Park Street gift card.
- Also trying to get a Dale Day of Service at Cradles to Crayons. Date is TBD.
- Action item: Nesse to purchase 2 \$25 gift cards to PSB.

### **Programming – Ali Abba and Karyn Healey**

- Door Decorating Contest – Winter Theme – start mid-January until February break. Provide supplies to teachers. Have 3-4 volunteers help set up the doors. Joe Ahern helped with voting in the past.
- Action items: Karyn/Ali to regroup on supplies. Steve to circle back with Joe Ahern. Steve/Karyn/Ali to regroup on all programming efforts.
- Looking into getting an author to visit – perhaps Scott SanGiacomo (Bedhead Ted). Include Julie Lowry in conversations.
- Rhode Island Black Storytellers – MLK presentation – going to reach out to them to see if the program is only 1 person and if so, find something else.
- Growth Mindset – have inspirational speakers come and talk at lunch – Kristine Lilly, Janel McArdle, etc.
- Teachers were going to reach out to Ali/Karyn with any ideas and we write up grants – no surveys this year. Steve will continue to encourage teachers to have dialogue.
- Field trips – Duck tours and Lowell Mills – extra \$2000. Margot Hayes meeting after school to discuss.

### **Classroom Rugs Grant**

- Nicola Gutierrez put in request for new carpet that's flame retardant. PTO approved for \$135.
- Action item: Dale/Nicole to purchase and Kristen to reimburse.

### **Variety Show Update**

- Meg Cazedud running this this year. Date is TBD, aiming for 2/13 or 2/15.
- Goal to run at the high school this year.
- Action item: Nesse to circle back with Meg.

### **Principal Update: Steve Grenham**

- The conferences went well. Good feedback from parents.
- Halloween was successful – thank you to all PTO/parents that came in and created activities/helped with parties.
- Second SEL assembly – Mrs. Nee's class tomorrow.
- Illustrative Math Program – feedback has been great – high level of students in great math conversations. Entertains kids talking a lot more than former program. Teachers are doing a great job leading the new curriculum.
- All 3 schools are partnering with Kate Shade – works at Children's Hospital in Neuro and Literacy. Working with teachers with lessons and strategies on science of learning. Sits with group of teachers and then models a lesson. 2-year project – looking to pilot an ELA program next school year to roll out the following year.
- 3 principals – Student Support Series – talking about different things that will help parents. First one was about Student Well Being. Other topics include placement, Illustrative Math, Jamie Callahan, etc.
- Grade 5 class picture was taken today, 11/15.

### **Treasure Report - Kristen Storer**

- Increased our budget – last year we spent shy of \$28K, budgeted just over \$28K. Increased budget by 50%.
- \$42K earmarked for this year, spread out across various categories.

### **MCPE Update – Bob Weisse**

- Book vending machine grant request is pending review/approval.
- Fall Fest raised \$21K. Received \$63,000 in grant requests (15 grants) so looking into further fundraising efforts. Additional grants from Dale include spin bike for library, Nicole Gutierrez flexible seating (MCPE approving).

### **School Committee Update – Leo Brehm**

- Budget season is starting – cautiously optimistic.
- School building project still ongoing.
- Class size report coming out shortly– larger sizes in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Illustrative Math is a highly regarded program – excited that we're rolling it out.

**Hospitality Update:** Inger Kenworthy (via Nesse)

- Working with Memorial and Wheelock to align wherever possible. Shoutout to Inger and team for pulling together a Power Up Station for teacher conferences. Really well received. Note to continue in the future.
- Next hospitality effort is in December (TBD).

**Volunteer Needs Update** - Nicole Crocker

- Lots of volunteers filled out form, reviewing and placing people appropriately.

**NEXT DALE PTO MEETING: January 17th 9:45 am at Dale**

**TOWNWIDE PTO MEETING: TBD**