

**STANLEY SCHOOL PTO MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2005**

Meeting was called to order by Reid Lyons at 7:10pm. 49 people in attendance

Dr. Cabrera announced that there was childcare available upstairs. 5th grade teacher Mrs. McNamara from Fitzgerald Elementary has volunteered to staff the childcare for us. She will be helped by 7 students from the High School National Honor Society. This is wonderful news for those parents who wish to attend but cannot because of childcare issues.

President's Welcome: Introduction of PTO board given by Reid. Grateful for the large attendance – we hope it continues to grow. Introduction of special guest speaker – Detective Auld to speak about the City's Sex Offender Register. Those in attendance were educated on the following:

The number of known offenders present in our community

Process by which offenders are classified

Process by which citizens can obtain information about offenders in the community

Safety tips to help keep our children safe

Safety Officer Ann Frassica also reminded us how easily even the most educated and aware child can be manipulated. Keep talking to your children and drilling stranger awareness – parents must be aware that most violators **are not** strangers and children must be taught to understand what is inappropriate behavior. Any questions, concerns or to report suspicious behavior contact Detective James Auld at **781 314-3558** or Officer Ann at **781 314-3589**.

Secretary's report was read and accepted. Motion by Collette B. seconded by Brenda N. Treasurer's report was read and accepted. Motion by Kathy B. seconded by Brenda N.

Old Business

Treasurer's Audit: Richard Brenner has completed the audit and reports that all is in order. Thank you Rich!

City Wide PTO Fundraiser: Will be held Friday October 14th at Brandeis University. Despite the time and energy that has gone into the event, ticket sales are not where they had hoped. Hopefully sales will pickup during the week. There are over 185 silent auction items.

On-Going Business

Waltham Day Committee: Cindi B. reports that we broke even for the event. Candy sales made for a very easy setup and breakdown. There were a lot of leftovers which were bought by Kimberly Jennings of the After School program. Thanks Kimberly!

PTO Membership Drive: Currently \$1565 has been raised which includes \$375 in additional donations.

PTO Directory: Colette B. will be sending it to print by end of week. She has forms for anyone in attendance to fill out. Thanks Colette!

School Web Page: Jen Murphy encouraged parents to e-mail her (murphyj@k12.Waltham.MA.US) with any notices or announcements they may want seen on the page. PTO Agenda will be shown 1 week before the meeting, fundraiser notices and announcements can all be used to improve communication within the school.

Committee Signup: We are still looking for volunteers to head some of the events for our School

Wrapping Paper: All orders and payments are due October 7th.

Pizzeria Uno Fundraiser: Kathy Lyons looking into the possibility of doing a fundraiser. We will decide after information is gathered if we want to move forward with this.

New Business

VOTE: To increase the 2005 Holiday Shopping budget by \$500 – unanimously approved

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Principal's Report

Before School Program: Dr. Cabrera introduced Kimberly Jennings from Ed Solutions to explain the process of starting a Before School Program. Ms. Jennings explained that a survey will be sent to the principal for approval, translation and distribution to determine the need for the program. They are hoping for an established minimum of 20 students. They would be willing to start with less to establish the program with the hope that it will increase over time. The program will run from 6:30 am – 8:30 am and can literally be put into place overnight because all the licenses are in place. The program will offer a light breakfast, arts and crafts, gym and homework help. There are currently 2 scholarships available. More to follow after survey results are concluded.

Latino Parent Meeting: October 3rd – very successful and thank you to all who attended

MCAS: Analysis and results for 3rd and 4th grades will be available in 2 days – teachers and educators to meet and discuss

PTO Meeting Childcare: Eventually would like to see 5th graders become involved and help with the childcare – it is a great opportunity for them to learn childcare skills and also to spend time with the Honor Society students who are great role models for the 5th graders

National Honor Society Student tutors: These students volunteer to help the 3, 4, & 5 grade teachers during class. The teachers are enthusiastically requesting the help of the volunteers and love having them involved in their classrooms.

Open Discussion

Miss Larson to give a 10 minute slide show to ask for help with library funding at November's meeting.

Reid asked for ideas for better communication as a group and institution to help give our kids the best education. He encouraged parents and administrators to ask questions if something is not understood.

There was a question on class sizes. Dr. Parella will be presenting her solutions and asking the School Committee for funding to help solve the problem on October 5th. Reggie and Jean spoke with the mayor to ask for her help in lowering the trigger number for younger grades so class sizes can be addressed in August not during a school year. Concerns given that dates for the City Wide PTO meetings were not posted. Mr. LeFort to provide future dates.

Question asked about the early dismissal plan. Reid will address the issue.

Mr. LeFort will look into the wishes of the 5th graders to sit with friends during their lunch period.- some confusion on this issue.

Motion to adjourn by Eileen. Seconded by Darlene M. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm