

Love of Learning Montessori School

PTO Meeting Wednesday, September 09, 2009 at 7:00 pm Media Center

During the September 9th meeting, the board and chairs were introduced, the mission of the PTO was read and attendance was taken by the President.

Attendance:

The following board members and chairs were present during today's meeting:

Emily Calkins, President
Christy Lassen, 1st Vice President - Membership
Luzi Robinson, 2nd Vice President - Room Parent Coordinator
Anne Marie Wagener, Secretary
Lopa Patel, Bake Sale Co-Chair
Teresa Krastel, Book Fair Co-Chair

The following parent's were present

Tatiana Pham
Gudell Ward
Ania Banyas
Sara Wheeler
Jaishiri Mehta

The following staff members were present:

Diomar Torres
Awilda Torres

Membership/Treasurer Reports:

New for the 2009-2010 school year is automatic parent membership. The P.T.O. will accept \$10.00 donations but there are no annual dues for membership. Membership forms still need to be completed. There are new forms with the new school logo. The forms are loaded on the computer.

The treasurer report is that there is currently \$1,412.65 in the P.T.O. account. There are extra year books that will be available at the Ice Cream Social. Pre-paid year books will be issued in the near future. There are some outstanding unpaid orders.

Pizza Lunches:

Pizza Lunches are scheduled for 1 time each month on Fridays. There are 8 lunches scheduled.

Room Parents:

The 2nd Vice President and Room parent Coordinator, Luzi, asked for parents to sign up as room parents. This year there will be one returning parent and one new parent per classroom. A discussion concerning the room parents' responsibilities was conducted.

A follow-up was conducted regarding last year's suggestion regarding orientation for room parents and listing volunteer opportunities. Luzi emphasized that there is a place for everyone at LOLMS for volunteer help no matter what the dynamics of the family/classroom.

Bake Sales:

Bake sales will be held on half days that fall on Friday. The first bake sale is scheduled for Friday, October the 16th. Pizza will also be available by the slice or whole.

Book Fair:

A date has been secured with Barnes and Noble for Friday, October 23rd through Sunday, October 25th. Anyone who wishes to purchase a book can let Barnes and Noble know that 10 - 15% of the proceeds should go to LOLMS. A Pajama Party will take place October 23rd. The time is T.B.D.

The P.T.O. decided that the book for the month for October will be "Who Moved the Cheese" by Dr. Stewart Johnson.

Project Mitten Tree:

The plan for the Mitten Tree collections will be in mid November. A discussion of the disconnection that children have between coloring the mitten and purchasing the item was brought forward. The P.T.O. would like children to witness the outcome to build community for caring for others. The room parents or randomly selected parents can help on the delivery day.

Teacher Appreciation:

There are two new chairs for Teacher Appreciation, namely Melissa Fields and Dawn Watson.

Evening Event:

To be decided. There is the possibility of a silent auction.

Upcoming Events:

The ice cream social is scheduled to kick off the new school year and meet new families. A call for volunteers to help shop for food was brought forward.

The Claire's Gourmet fundraiser is taking place through October 9th. Delivery will be November 2nd.

Community Service Event to be decided. Suggestions included soup kitchens, "Christmas in April" (communities help others do things like paint homes), and food bank donations.

Community Event For Health-
The possibility of a walk or run was discussed.

Fundraisers-

Tee-shirts and mugs can be sold with the school's new logo. It was suggested that rather than having an inventory, order as you go such as Zazzle.com or cafepress.com. Another suggestion was 10% Family Nights at local restaurants or stores where 10% goes to LOLMS.

Miscellaneous:

The P.T.O Vice President of membership, Christy Lassen, requested that an administrator be placed on Facebook. Diomar agreed to be the administrator listed for Facebook.

A discussion was conducted concerning the new pick up policy in the gym. Security was emphasized including a discussion regarding the use of new equipment including a portable video cameral and remote control door opener.

After the normalization period of about 6 weeks and the availability of the above stated equipment, parents will be able to ring the door and the school will be able to let parents into the school. Currently, Diomar is preparing for Dismissal at 2:00-3:45 and in not available to let parents in through the front door.

Parents expressed concern regarding early pick up. Parents should call staff with use of the new "Quick Start Guides" which will be distributed one per family. If a teacher is not able to be reached via e-mail within 24 hours, parents must call teachers/administrators

via the Quick Start Guide. It was emphasized by staff that parents must not just rely on e-mail as teachers have responsibilities in the classroom and are not able to check e-mail during the school day.

The next P.T.O meeting will be decided and a day will be set for the rest of the school year.