**Lincroft Elementary School PTA**

**General Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 7pm in the Leopard’s Den**

**President’s Welcome – Heather McGrath**

Heather called the meeting to order at 7:10pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Principal’s Report – Mr. Imbimbo**

Mr. Imbimbo welcomed everyone to the meeting and presented the certificates to the January and February Pawsitive Attitude recipients. The students that were present took a group photo.

Mr. Imbimbo reported that report cards will be available on the Parent Portal beginning March 22nd. The Taste of the Arts presentation will be held at the school next Tuesday, March 26th at 6:30pm and will include student artwork as well as presentations by the band and chorus. On Wednesday March 27th at 8pm, Mrs. Wagner will be recognized as Lincroft School’s Teacher of the Year at the Board of Education Meeting at High School North. Please come out to support Mrs. Wagner for this tremendous honor!

Mr. Imbimbo stated that Girls on the Run will begin on April 1st and Spring Pictures will be taken on April 11th. Kindergarten Orientation will be held on Friday, April 12th and will include a meet and greet with the Kindergarten teachers, a craft and a bus ride for all incoming Kindergarteners and their parents. Last names from A-L will meet at 9:30am and M-Z at 1:30pm.

Students from some of the after school clubs presented information as to what they have learned in their clubs so far this year. The student representing the STEM Club reported learning how to create a paper house that lit up with LED lights, how to make butter, how to make square bubbles and how to make paper helicopters and planes. The student representative from the Hip Hop Club demonstrated some new moves she learned and the student representative from the Journalism Club spoke about the latest addition of the school newspaper, The Paw Print. The Paw Print includes movie and book reviews, poems, interviews with a teacher and happenings within Lincroft School. The first and second addition of The Paw Print can be found on the PTA website, the school website and on the school’s Twitter stream.

**Teacher Representative Report – Mrs. Barbara Fortunato**

Mrs. Fortunato thanked the PTA for organizing Read Across America (RAA) week and for the Planetarium assembly. Information cards were handed out to parents to mail to legislators to ask to preserve state school funding as much as possible.

**President’s Report – Heather McGrath**

Heather thanked everyone who supported the Gamblers’ Gala on February 1st at Eagle Oaks Country Club. The PTA raised almost $16,000 from this event. As of now, the Gala will be held every other year unless a parent or parents are interested in Chairing the event for the upcoming school year. Some PTA members have inquired about a Pocketbook Bingo fundraiser. Heather stated that due to permit restrictions for gambling, the option of a Pocketbook Bingo fundraiser is not being pursued at this time.

Heather reported that planning is underway for the upcoming Mother/Son Carnival and volunteers are always welcome! Reach out to Heather McGrath if you are interested in helping out with this event. The event will be held on Friday, June 7th.

Heather stated that there are two open PTA Board positions for the 2019-2020 school year - Vice President of Fundraising and Corresponding Secretary. The Nominating Committee will be chaired by Siobhan Smith and Meg Connolly. Please reach out to Heather, Siobhan or Meg if you are interested in joining the PTA Board.

**Vice President of Programs Report – Karen Whitaker**

Karen thanked Liz Yeserski for all that she did to make Read Across America (RAA) Week so successful. Karen also thanked Liz for coordinating the Magic of Books Assembly. Liz stated that Brian Curry, the Magic of Books presenter, will be signing and personalizing every book that was ordered with each child’s name and that the ordered books should be available for distribution within the next two weeks. Liz also stated that money earned from book sales will go towards having another Brian Curry assembly next year.

Karen also thanked Deidre Blasucci for all of her hard work with the Winter After School Clubs. The Spring After School Clubs will include Journalism Club and two others, to be announced.

Karen stated that the Fifth Grade Event will be held on Thursday June 13th and that there will be a 5GE fundraiser at Pinot’s Palette in Red Bank tomorrow night, March 22nd. Two seats are still available for the event.

Karen reported that the Variety Show – “Lincroft’s Lucky Stars” will be held at Thompson Middle School on Thursday April 4th and there will be a $2 entrance fee per adult.

The Sarah Bruno Genius Hour Charity Fun Run will be held on May 17th and all money raised will be donated to St. Jude’s Foundation. More details to follow.

The Family Fun Committee has been very busy planning events! On April 11th there will be a Bingo Night. On Thursday May 23rd, the Parent Play will be performed with a Toy Story theme. Actors, actresses and set design volunteers are needed – please contact Sandi Hines if you are interested in participating. On Friday May 31st the petting zoo will be back once again on the playground of the school for students and their families to enjoy.

Fun Day will be at the end of May or in early June – dates to be announced.

**Treasurer Report – Michele Ellis**

Michele presented the current financials for the PTA and reviewed funding sources and how money raised is spent by the PTA. Please see the PTA website for full details.

**Corresponding Secretary – Sheila Vargas-Makrinos**

Sheila thanked everyone who helped out at this year’s Luau-themed Father/Daughter Dance. The committee is in need of two people to Chair the event for next year. If you are interested, reach out to Sheila or Heather McGrath.

**Recording Secretary Report – Gail Pellicone**

Invoices will be emailed soon to those who have missing books from the school library. Families can either pay for the cost of the missing book or purchase the book that is missing.

The next School Store will be on Thursday, March 28th. Two fourth grade students gave a presentation during the meeting and requested to sell their homemade bracelets during School Store. All money raised from the sale of the bracelets will be donated to the Make A Wish foundation. A vote was taken during the meeting and the membership agreed unanimously that the students could sell the bracelets during School Store. These students are also accepting donations of string and gift cards to AC Moore, Hobby Lobby and Michael’s to offset the cost to make the bracelets. String and gift cards will be collected in the Main Office.

The Earth Day Book Swap will be held on Tuesday April 16th and 30th in the library. Schedule to be announced. Students can bring in a gently used, grade appropriate book and receive a “new” book during the Swap. Please send in books that are appropriate for the grade level – for example, if you have a second grader, send in a book that another second grader would enjoy. No picture books, please. The collection will take place from April 1st-10th.

**Committee Reports:**

Heather McGrath reported that the most recent PIC meeting focused on topics related to high school students, for example – AP Honors courses. Many attendees at the PIC meetings are parents of elementary school students and it was requested that more topics related to elementary school concerns be addressed. It was stated that options other than the YMCA are being explored for Before and After Care. Please see the PTA website for the PIC meeting minutes.

**New Business:**

The PTA is looking into purchasing an upgraded sign for the front of the school. The sign would not be digital or illuminated, due to issues related to traffic accidents and light pollution. In comparing costs to other schools in the district, the cost may be approximately $6,000. More details to follow at the next PTA meeting.

The next PTA Meeting will be on Thursday, May 16th at 7pm in the Leopard’s Den. This will be a voting meeting to select Board members for open positions for the 2019-2020 school year and to discuss purchases based on money raised this year through fundraisers.

**Adjournment:**

Heather McGrath adjourned the meeting at 8pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Pellicone

PTA Recording Secretary