**HYES PTO Minutes**

**Highland and Yalesville Elementary Schools**

**Date: January 11, 2017**

**Time: 6:30 pm**

**Meeting Place: Highland Elementary School**

**Attendees: See attached Sheet Call to Order:6:30pm**

**Executive Committee Reports**

Presidents’ Report-Dee/Donna-

Vice Presidents’ Report-Shannon– not present

Treasurers’ Report- Megan-

* Review treasurer’s report

Secretaries’ Report- Lynn/Kelly-

* Approval of last month’s minutes – approved by Dee Ferry and Mrs.Kurtz

Highland Teacher Rep Report – Ms.Denya/Mrs. Hajjar-

* Hat day this Friday; PJ day being rescheduled
* Assembly this week
* Getting back into swing of things
* Yankee Candle Fundraiser went home today
* Sportswear flyers went home today/tomorrow. Since copy center only sent black and white, prinicipals will electronicly send forms so everyone can see colors.

Yalesville Teacher Rep Report-Ms.Mezzi/Mrs.Kurtz–

* Yankee candle goes home tomorrow.
* T-Shirts/spiritwear will go home tomorrow
* Variety show info coming out soon

Principal’s Report Highland – Ms. Reed-

* Hat day is this Friday
* Had to reschedule PJ day due to weather
* Assembly on Friday- about Arab culture,language, and music
* Reading program kick-off will be on 1/27 for 6wks. 3/24 wrap up and evening event for parents. Theme is something about running

Principal’s Report Yalesville – Mrs. Poisson – Jamie Hocking-Ferrone, Literacy Coach. To present information about implementing a "Free Library" at our schools. Here is a link for more information about Free Libraries:  Info as follows:

[*Little Free Library Website*](https://littlefreelibrary.org/) *is a great resource. Jamie Hocking Ferrone is 3-5 literacy coach in Wlfd servicing Parker Farms, Pond Hill, Rock Hill, and Yalesville, in conjunction with Angela Buccari as a 2yr project would like to pilot Little Free Library. It can help sustain literacy skills with parents and families to get reading scores up . There are no registered Little free libraries Wlfd, but are about 50k in the country. In CT, Middletown and Waterbury have them, and Southington getting them. Kids that live closer to library, are more likely to use it and read. So if we install this, will people read more? Proposal is to install 8 in the WLFD elem schools over 2 yrs. We are asking local stores to fund it (e.g. Wlamart, Home Deopt, Lowes, and to have Sheehan kids build them. 1st set of boxes would go up by end of May. This would be in conjunction with Wldf public libarys. Looking for PTO to steward these boxe by having parents ensure books are there andn check boxes weekly. Also looking for $42.45 to register box as a Little Free Library. Jamie and Angela will need a decision by Feb so paperwork is up and running by March.*

*\*they are outside the building as perminant sturcutes. So grounds keepers are aware and discussing where. This ensure access and all year round availability.*

*\*size of box will be probably size of old newspaper dispenser with 2 shelves*

*\*initially books will be provided by Read to Grow and Wlfd public library. Replenishing will be based on contribuations, or if needed scholastic, or grants.*

*\*greatest need is for stewarts to check for books*

*\*YES to get one this yr. Working on plans to re-front the YES school where old playground was.*

*\*Perhaps Girl souts/boy scouts- can try to do it- even kids can do it on their way in/out of school*

*\*Perhaps student with para at YES*

*\*PTO won’t commit to checking boxes, but will pay money needed, and can help get book donations*

*\*PTO will need money to give money by March.*

*\*Maybe bring it up at book fair/open house and see if a grandparent/parent want to do it.*

Reading program kicked off yesterday Marti Gras theme.

* Floats will be made. Beads given for every 2hrs of reading.
* Mask in the hallway revealed “unmasking new learing potential”
* Staff member- OT from Easter Seals- got star award for 2016
* Testing coming up OLSAT grds 3 and 5. Grade 3 paper test, grade 5 on computer
* NAP assessment grd 4 on computer- Total of 71 kids to take it out of 94 . 12 kids will take paper/pencil version and have 60 minutes. 49 kids will take it on tablet, and have 90 minutes. Participants randomly chosen, and findings will yield info about school performance, not students., Assessors come to do it for reading and writing only, and students with accommediations are taken into considersation,
* Grade 5 friends and family CPR/AED training on 1/31. Teachers will be receritifed.

**Committee Reports**

* McDonalds night- Dee - want to do it again. Teachers want to do it again. Don’t think there’s a space issue. Can we do it 2 night? Do HES and YES one night each? Tues/Wed are better days. Garunteed $300. Last yr we made $400. One night is consensus. If we want Ronald McDonald there they need 1 month notice. Prospecitve date February 21 or 22. Dee will contact him and see if those dates work and then send email to teacher reps and princiapls.
* Sweetheart Dance- Shannon (not present) – all good. Shannon added hair by Adcademi Di Capelli, but PTO decided no hair.
* Letter from Beth Devani, computer teacher at both schools, will not do it right now. We can look at buget ytd, and then make a donation, not grant, to computer class. Centeral office has given her materials. How do we justify giving library money, but not other teachers such as: ELL, intervientionsts, PE. Thoughts: How do we justify saying no to her but money for library is in our budget? E-board will need to look at line itmes, may be we do one time funding, not reoccurring items. Divide money to special area teachres as we service all kids.
* Approval to order planner for next yr.

**Other Business/Questions**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, 2/8 @ Highland @6:30pm.**

**End: 7:50**