

## **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT PTO MEETING MINUTES – September 24th, 2019**

### **Board Members in Attendance:**

Jeff Lita, Chris Saxton, Claire Josephson, Radha Rajiv and Jocelyn Ortega.

**Opening of Meeting-** Welcome address by Kathy Vuoncino

About the PTO: Chris Saxton and Jeff Lita

Introduction of all Board Members

- Chris Saxton and Jeff Lita, Co- Presidents
- Claire Josephson, Vice President
- Joselyn Ortega, treasurer
- Radha Rajiv, Secretary

### **Membership:**

- Membership funds goes right back to our kids and their classrooms
- Classes at 80% membership receive a \$75 gift card for classroom purchases
- Membership funds the following:
  - Art Therapy for all students in Kindergarten and up.
  - Creative Movement and/or Dance Clinics
  - Various events throughout the year including a fall festival for the younger students, dance for students in 4th grade and up, family fun day for kids in pre k through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, carnival day and Field day for all the students.
  - We also help fund community experiences and field trips throughout the school year and July.
  - We fund vocational activities, classroom supplies and special projects.

Different ways that parents can contribute to the PTO:

- **Amazon smile** You can support the PTO by naming it as your charity in Amazon smile. Then Amazon donates a small percentage of your purchases to the PTO. It doesn't cost you any additional amount.
- **Stop and Shop A+ School rewards:** We signed up to participate in this amazing program which helps raise money for our school (at no cost to you). Each time you shop in stop and shop and use your rewards card, our school makes money. All you have to do is register your card to Valley Regional Programs or sign up for a card and register if you don't have one already.
- **Box tops:** Top classrooms get a pizza party and the next two classrooms get a cupcake/ice cream party. It's a fun motivator for the kids.

We will conduct couple of seminars/workshops for parents who want to know how to join amazon smile, box tops and stop and shop program. Details about how to join these programs will also be distributed to all the kids in their backpacks and via PTO email.

### **Volunteering:**

- We have the lunch order coordinator position open. This person compiles the lunch orders and prepares the vendor and master order sheets.
- We need volunteers to help out whenever they can whether it's something for the fall festival bake sale, volunteer or chair the event. Fall festival is on Oct 30th in the morning. We are asking for parent volunteers for this and sign-up sheets are available on the table.
- Sign-up sheets are also available on the table for class parent volunteers and other events throughout the year.

### **Fundraising:**

*Casino Night* will be held in March 2020 at the Rockleigh. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we need everyone's help to make it a success.

The contact details of all the PTO members are listed and they can be contacted for any questions or fund raiser ideas.

### **Closing Address by Kathy Vuoncino:**

We started a new sensory Taekwondo program. We have received great reviews from everyone for this program. School has a new visitors procedure wherein everyone are requested to have an ID or driver's license. We will continue to have the valley prom supported by the Demarest High school students. Thanks to the Valley Foundation for fundraising

for the down payment for buying the building. The closing documents for purchasing the building will be signed on Thursday Sept 26<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to be having our own home and do more things for our kids like a new sensory room, indoor pool etc.

Next PTO meeting will be on Nov 5 at 7.00 p.m. at NVC.