

# NEW HARTFORD PTO

Wednesday October 18, 2023 @ 6:30 pm

***\*Next Meeting: Wednesday November 15, 2023 @ 6:30 pm @ Antolini MPR\****

1. Meeting called to order 6:36
2. Introductions
3. Little Fox Portraits: Bailey
  - a. Local photographers
  - b. Passed out folders with their offerings
  - c. What do parents want?- a preview
  - d. They can do ID cards, safety cards
  - e. Similar order process as Gynn and Barrett
  - f. Can do Spring pics as well- let them know by January/ February
  - g. They can do the yearbook- don't think they can do this year but will check
  - h. Plenty of availability
  - i. Q and A:
    - i. Three schools cool? Yes
    - ii. Retakes? You will have the option to view before you buy so no need
    - iii. Safety cards? Yes, not to expensive
    - iv. Teachers get the digital pictures of the kids for their use? Yes
    - v. Special Occasion Photos? Yes, they have a background and chance to buy the photo right there. They will have packages and different photos. Ask for the parents to pre-pay on location.
    - vi. Contract? Year to year. But can do longer if need be.
    - vii. Have the admins get in touch with them to lock in dates for next year asap.
4. Fundraising
  - a. Spirit Wear- Steph H
    - i. Spirit wear closed on Friday.
    - ii. By end of week we should know exactly how much we sold- have them in kids hands by November
    - iii. April will go, they are closed at 4 so she can make it
  - b. Book Fair- Ann G
    - i. [Notes from meeting](#)
  - c. Butterbraids- Running from 11/6-11/21. Place order 11/27.
    1. Delivering 12/4 to Antolini- will need volunteers to distribute
    2. Have the flyers to distribute to the classes
5. Room parents:
  - a. Great communications this year

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- b. Motivated and good ideas for the year
  - c. 85% of the years room parents are corresponding and engagement is at an all time high!
6. Events
- a. Enrichment/Assemblies:
    - i. Fall: Bubble Magician- HUGE success! Nothing but positive feedback from everyone.
      - 1. Thank you letters to PTO and to the Bubble Magician- scan them into the website
    - ii. Anti-Bullying Assembly- Kelly Carroll is 100% on board- looking to set up date for 11/6 with a session for grades 3-4 and 5-6 and looking to set a time for parents as well
      - 1. Deb Marciano's brother- 500.00 per session. 3-4, 5-6, and a parent one
      - 2. Put a link on the website of the recording and then some talking points for those who cannot be there
    - iii. Special Person Dance- Raymond Farm will donate the space on a Friday night in February- Kristen K. Chair- need volunteers
      - 1. Feedback from custodians: some folks last year were drinking and needs to be addressed. Huge liability. Have to specifically say it in the literature.
      - 2. Should we figure out how to have the younger kids go first and older, weird with the big age gap.
      - 3. Have the event earlier- comment too late.
      - 4. February 2nd
  - b. Son and special someone event- Wolf Pack game or R&B?
    - i. R and B can it (laser tag, etc) but would split up the numbers- could run into issues with multi kid families
  - c. Wolfpack- probably done as a fundraiser
  - d. Parent's Night Out- Raymond Farm will provide space, PTO will need to pay \$500 for crew to assist at the farm - confirming that March is still appropriate - start working on- volunteers needed
    - i. Need raffle items
    - ii. Teacher experiences early on- starting bid
    - iii. Confirm that there's staff to serve the buffet, figure out an easier/ cheaper way to feed people
    - iv. Possible Gia's catering
7. PTO Website- Sam updated. All meetings listed, minutes posted. Agendas to be posted too
- a. Cat will help keep it updated and clean it up
8. Meeting with the School Administrators

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- a. Print outs: administrators agreed to let PTO send home print-outs, if we print, collate and provide to secretaries at each school.
  - i. Feedback from parents was that they wanted printed out copies of things so they know what is going on
- b. Universal Calendar: secretaries agreed a calendar was difficult to update, however Colleen agreed that a Google Form that we all have access to each year would be helpful.
  - i. Known Fundraisers Yearly:
    1. Cookie Dough/Pies & Butter Braids - 6th Grade
    2. Butter Braids - PTO
    3. Jump Rope for Heart - School Activity Fund- need help
- c. School Activity Fund: this is a pool of funds that will cover the costs of field trips, etc for students that aren't able to afford the cost, last minute events or special purchase items.
- d. Field Trips- Raising funds for those costs- Melissa and I explained that we want to help defray the costs and the **goal for all students is to not pay for field trips period.**
  - i. Grades K-2 do not necessarily need money as trips often cost very minimal
  - ii. 6th grade is the only grade that costs large amount, we offered to fund this year and allow families ability not to pay
    1. Let us know ahead of time
    2. 6th grade parents start now
    3. Julie can assist ahead of time
    4. Reach out to 5th grade parents in the spring to prep them
  - iii. Discussed families and their concern for not seeing where money goes that is raised
  - iv. Kelly and Amy agreed to more actively give PTO credit in their emails so parents are aware of where money goes.
- e. Schools already set up some fundraisers prior to the meeting- we will help promote and support.
- f. School Photography: sent information to secretaries from Little Fox Portraits. Secretaries asked that once we pick a new vendor we have them contact each secretary individually
- g. Yearbook- Julie Cyr oversees- 6th grade students work on the yearbook, currently use Josten - not user friendly and open to a new platform
- h. Taking advantage of texting system to spread word on events

## 9. Action Items:

- a. Collecting Raffles for parents night out
- b. Book Fair set up for next meeting
- c. Parents Night out

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- d. Wolfpack game
- e. Sign up Genius

Adjourn: 8:18PM