

PTO Executive Board Meeting  
Friday, January 12, 2018  
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**Presidents' Report (Debra Stephans: MES and Melanie Paxinopoulos: FMS)**

- Approved minutes from 11/29 meeting
- Memorial and Fieldstone Schools should send reminders to parents about Hot Food Session II ordering deadline of 1/19 and there are new items on the food menu
- International Day on 1/19 will include music in the food court from Bach to Rock
- Book Fair Tea Night with grandparents will take place on 1/25
- Sip 'N Shop with MEF is tentative
- Art Show will take place on 4/26
- Continue to upload photos and blast 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents about purchasing 2017-2018 Yearbook
- Carolyn Roche and Michelle Hallenbeck are Co-Chairs for Trivia Night on 4/21

**VP Report on Class Parents (Cindy Merlino: MES and Tara Hill: FMS)**

- Fieldstone has a Co-Chair for Fieldstone Fridays and parents will pay a one-time fee for all 3 events
- School Toolbox orders will take place during the second week of March
- We will ask class parents to send a reminder email to parents about 4<sup>th</sup> grade picnic meeting on 1/24, submitting 4<sup>th</sup> grade baby photos by 2/28, and uploading photos from holiday celebrations in the classroom

**Treasurer's Report (Annette Vozzolo)**

- Results of December fundraisers (Carousel Cakes raised \$1,332 and Holiday Boutique raised \$3,730)
- Submitted a deposit of \$875 for Trivia Night
- PTO Sponsored Assemblies (Fieldstone: The Hispanic Flamenco Ballet - \$1,575 and "Screenagers" viewing - \$250; Memorial: Lenape Lifeways [4<sup>th</sup> grade] - \$500 and The Course to Digital Consciousness [3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades] - \$1,300)
- \$25,000 of annual PTO funds go toward curriculum enhancements
- Please support the remaining fundraisers for the next 3 months

**Corresponding Secretary (Mrs. Burkel)**

- Excited for International Day on 1/19 and Book Fair during the week of 1/22
- Will ask for teacher volunteers for Winter Carnival on 2/7

**Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Darren Petersen**

- Montvale Board of Education meeting took place on 1/8 and swore in 3 BOE members - Mrs. Debra McGauley-Eichhorn, Mr. John Carvelli and Mrs. Rachel Baskin. They will serve 3-year terms.

- Mr. Rossig will continue to serve as President of the Board and Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn as Vice President
- The staff had a Professional Day on 1/15
- Fort Lee School District will do a site visit at Fieldstone to shift their middle school grade levels from 7-8 to 5-8
- Lisa Dent, Mr. Pellegrino and Mrs. Ripston will present the 2018 Montvale Summer Institute and Montvale Recreation Summer Program to the Board of Education on 1/22. The biggest change is that the camp hours are being extended from 9:30-12:30 to 9:30-2:30.
- The Innovation Team will be visiting two schools in Westchester (Scarsdale P.S. and Rippowam Cisca School) on January 30 to learn about flexible learning
- On 2/6 our district will sponsor a presentation for a book called *Excellent Sheep*, and it is about how to better address student pressures as parents and educators
- On 2/7 & 2/8 Fieldstone MS welcomed 27 students and 2 teachers from Baoji, China. The exchange allowed students to learn about one another's cultures, traditions, families, friends and school life.

#### **Principal of FMS, Ms. McCormack**

- Thank you to volunteers for distributing treats before the holiday celebrations
- Staff are ordering their school supplies for the 2018-2019 school year
- Funding "Screenagers" in December
- Advisory month is about kindness and presented interview with Mrs. Myhre to grades 6-8 and talked about choices
- Will promote critical thinking and best instructional practices to staff at Professional Development Day on 1/15
- Expressive Arts Cycle will introduce new classes in its third cycle on 1/26
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders are working on their International Day presentations
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade transition to high school took place on 1/9
- Musical production with high school students at 1/24 presentation on music and different opportunities will be available
- Staffing changes are taking place

#### **Principal of MES, Mr. Collier**

- Teachers are engaging students with innovative teaching
- Member Talks are a regional effort with high school math coach
- Kindergarten registration started after the new year and deadline will be 2/2
- The Course to Digital Consciousness (grades 3-4) will take place on 1/5
- Thank you to the PTO for its fundraising efforts
- Teachers are working hard for International Day on 1/19
- Park Ridge Rotary Club will distribute paper dictionaries to Fieldstone MS students on 2/26
- Memorial ES will celebrate 100 days of school on 2/13
- Mr. Freeman will organize Jump Rope for Heart Event (grades 1-4) on 2/16 for 60-90 minutes on behalf of the American Heart Association

**Assistant Principal of MES, Mr. Pellegrino**

- Montvale Child Care Program has new procedures such as digital doorbell and Remind app (i.e. what to do if there is a loss of power)
- Montvale Summer Institute is an academic program for enrichment and reinforcement, it will be revamped for middle school students, and a survey will go to Fieldstone parents to get their input
- Character Education Program continues to invest in students' characters and January is tolerance month

**Assistant Principal of FMS, Mr. Scherer**

- Career Day occurs every two years for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades with a variety of professional presentations at the end of May or the middle of June
- Parent Committee will gather presenters and organize a luncheon
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are interested in a talent show

**MEF, Judith Laquidara (Treasurer)**

- Sharp Electronics on Paragon Drive will host a combined PTO and MEF meeting in their atrium in spring or fall 2018
- MEF Walkathon will take place at Memorial ES in May
- Next MEF meeting will be held at Fieldstone on 2/8 at 7:00 PM
- 5 grants coming up for Make Our Space, United Nations, Kindergarten technology initiative, character education, and scholarship grants

**Meeting adjourned.**