

PTO Executive Board Meeting
Friday, September 28, 2018
www.montvalepto.com

Presidents' Report (Melanie Paxinopoulos and Judith Thomas)

- Approved minutes from 6/8 meeting
- Thank you to all the volunteers who organized the teacher breakfast
- Hot Food Fridays needs more volunteers for one Friday per month from 11:00am to 1:15pm
- Packets will be distributed for Yankee Candle fundraiser
- Yearbook Committee has been established with parent photographers per grade and 4th grade baby pictures are due on or before 10/31
- Each ticket holder at the 12/15 Jets football game will receive a Jets winter scarf and will enter into the raffle to win an on field experience
- PTO fundraisers have raised money to cover expenses for items such as air conditioning, assemblies, and character education T-shirts
- PTO requests volunteers for Hot Food Fridays at Memorial, Holiday Boutique in December needs a new chairperson, and Fieldstone Fridays needs volunteers and chaperones
- You must be a PTO member to receive email blasts
- Grade 4 Tile Art and Student Art Show will be held in April

VP Reports (Tara Hill and Kristen Zoelle)

- Thank you to all the class parents and class coordinators for volunteering
- Fieldstone's Class Coordinators collected Class Directory Forms and \$15 for class parties plus an optional \$5 for PTO/MEF donation at Back to School Night
- Need to change the 1/11 Fieldstone Friday date to avoid conflict with MEF Harlem Wizards fundraiser
- Due date for Memorial School's Class Directory Form and class money is 10/12 and the date to send directory to parents is 10/19
- Drop off PTO/MEF donations to the PTO mailbox at Memorial School by 10/19
- Reminder to all Memorial Class Parents that you cannot serve food at class parties

Treasurer's Report (Jessica Panagiotou)

- Fieldstone's Back to School Night Bake Sale raised \$860, the Ice Cream Social at Memorial School raised about \$3,000 (still have to account for expenses), and Memorial's Back to School Night Bake Sale raised \$1,200

Recording Secretary Report (Teresa Barry)

- Minutes from this meeting will be posted on the PTO website under "Documents-Meeting Minutes." The website is a great resource for flyers, forms and calendar events.

Corresponding Secretary (Ms. Burkel)

- Thank you for the new air conditioning and teachers have noticed an increase in productivity because students are more comfortable.
- Ice Cream Social was a great time and thank you for the Dunkin Donuts gift cards for all volunteers.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Darren Petersen

- Great Back to School Nights at both schools in September
- Awesome turnout at first PTO meeting
- Sixth year as Superintendent
- Over the summer the following changes took place: paving at Memorial School, installed new floors, added new access points for wifi, added new furniture and air conditioning, installed a new electrical panel, worked on curriculum enhancements, held FMS boot camp, held Safety Town for incoming Kindergarten students, held Montvale Recreation Summer Camp, installed a new student information system, installed a new platform for Frontline Education, and conducted staff training.
- The goal is growth this year
- What do you want your staff to fill your bucket with? When we say or do things to increase positive emotions in our community we fill other people's buckets and our own. That is why it is important for kids to see their parents volunteer.
- Building good relationships with staff and students will make a great school year
- Exciting plans include Memorial MAC (Montvale Always Cares), math curriculum enhancements, students from Pascack Hills High School Tomorrow Teachers have a new learning environment where they have the opportunity to encourage students to take risk in the classroom

Principal of Fieldstone, Mrs. McCormack

- Positive launch for 9/13 Back to School Night and 8th grade volunteers did a great job of selling baked goods and guiding parents to classrooms
- Innovative Designs for Education (IDE) is an ongoing initiative with job vetting coaching and teachers' risk-taking
- John Halligan met with 7th and 8th grade students to discuss bullying and cyber bullying, and Mr. Halligan met with over 25 parents on 9/26 to discuss Internet dangers of social media. More information is available at www.ryanpatrickhalligan.org
- 3 R's Day will be on 5/17 and there will be a walkathon on 10/31 during physical education class to raise money for this amazing event
- 8th grade assembly in early October will be with Neal Bascomb, author of *The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World's Most Notorious Nazi*. Senior Citizens Book Club will attend Mr. Bascomb's presentation with the 8th graders.
- FMS Book Fair will take place during the week of 10/15
- Fall sports and Co-Curricular Clubs such as the Healthy Harvesters and Robotics have already started

Principal of Memorial, Mr. Collier

- Had a successful bake sale and great Back to School Night on 9/27
- 80% of classrooms have air conditioning
- Great community effort at the Ice Cream Social
- Thank you to administrators and teachers for learning how to improve safety and security measures in May at Memorial to limit front door access. Moved 6 clear plastic weather proof bins organized by grade level with secure latches outside of the front of the building so parents can drop off lunches and other items without entering the building. Visitors to school must be by appointment.
- PTO has provided a list of library aides and helpers to the front office. If your name is not on the list then you must wait outside. Students cannot open the door.
- Coming up is Professional Day on 10/8 when staff will learn about Orton-Gillingham's Approach to multisensory techniques for readers workshop
- Fire Prevention Week will begin on 10/9
- Picture Day will take place on 10/10 and 10/11
- It's important that parents must update their phone numbers and email addresses in the Realtime Student Database System for emergency announcements
- Let's have a great school year and please reach out to administrators

Assistant Principal of Memorial, Mr. Pellegrino

- MEF grant helps support the Character Education Committee which helps students learn and reflect on citizenship, respect, empathy and strength.
- PTO provides T-shirts and curriculum for the program

MEF Treasurer, Judith Laquidara

- MEF provides money for teacher and administrative grants for technology, scholastic enrichment, and art
- MEF gave \$42,000 to the district for character education and \$20,000 to FMS Book Clubs
- Adjusted meetings to 3 meetings per year, and the next meeting will be on 11/1 at 7:00pm at Fieldstone IMC
- Fundraisers have included Montvale magnets (please see the Wednesday Folder) and Harlem Wizards will take place on 1/11
- There will be no Casino Night this year
- MEF currently has 4 members on the board
- We need to improve our membership

Meeting Adjourned.