

PTA MINUTES – OCTOBER

The October PTA meeting in the library was well attended. Topic: Healthy Kids are Happy Kids.

PTA Membership: Please join the PTA. Cost is \$20 per family. See PTA website for on-line payment option.

This Week At Claremont: Please sign up if not on the list-serve. Thanks to Lee Walzer for the translations.

Homeroom Committee: Cindy MacIntyre discussed new policies for classroom parties for children with allergies. Items brought in for parties will be separated into 2 categories: “safe” and “unsafe” depending on allergies in the classroom. All labels should be left on the item if store bought. Birthday treats need to go to the office before the cafeteria to check for allergens. More information to be given to the homeroom parents of each classroom. Information will also be listed on the list serve.

Box Tops: Contest between classes for most box tops turned in is on-going until October 25th.

Innisbrook: Fundraiser is completed. More information to come on the funds raised.

Grocery Store Cards: Lisa Countis is looking for volunteers to run a booth at the Giant on Jefferson St. to get people to link their cards to our school. She will be there Friday, October 25th from 4:00-8:00. Please contact her at:

lcountis@gmail.com

School Photos: Make up day is November 8th.

Fall Fest: Saturday, October 19th from 1:00-4:00. Courtney Holmes is still looking for volunteers for the various activities. Please contact her at:

courtneyleeholmes@gmail.com

Fun Run: October 26th at 9:30am or 11:30am. T-shirts are coming soon. Please contact Elizabeth Mook at: mookcomm@comcast.net

Junior Great Books: 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders can participate. The groups meet during lunch and recess for a book discussion. It is optional for students.

Budget: Rich Kelly discussed the budget. It is currently balanced at \$11,175.29.

If any questions, please contact Rich at: Richkelly@aol.com

SEPTA: Caroline Butler is the liaison for Claremont School. There is an information night at Key School on Oct. 24th at 7pm. There is an information night in Spanish at Kenmore on Nov. 7th at 7pm.

CCPTA: Laura Novack is the current liaison for Claremont School. She reported that there have been very few complaints about transportation this year. There is also a new parent portal introduced this year called ParentVue. She also reported that a new student badge system may be introduced this year. More information to come about the badges.

Reflections: Nationwide creativity contest. Entries due on October 18th. Please contact Veronika Foltz at excuse92@yahoo.com if you have questions.

Principal's address: Ms. Panfil reported that Claremont has met all of the federal AMO's (annual measurement objectives) including the AYP's.

Parent Portal: Please see Monica Hahn at the front desk in the office if an address change is needed for the parent portal.

Gardening Day: was a huge success. The 3rd grade wing and educational cottages look fantastic. Thank you to Steve Duall and all that volunteered.

Coming Up:

Walk and Bike to School Day: Oct. 9th

Hispanic Heritage assembly: Oct. 18th

Read-a-thon/Spirit Day: Oct. 23rd. Come dressed as your favorite literary character.

Halloween Parade: October 31st.

Lost and Found: is now located in the library. All clothing will be donated about 1 time a month. Please label all clothes.

Parent Information Sessions: will continue to run on Tuesdays at 5:00-6:00pm and Fridays from 7:45-8:45am.

Student Safety: A reminder to please sign in at the office when entering the school. More safety drills are to come for the students to practice in case of emergencies.

Staying Connected: There are several ways to stay connected to events at the school including email on synergy, the family guide on the website, the on-line calendar, and grade level newsletters.

School Counseling: Ms. Maggie White and Ms. Sandy Small gave a presentation about the counseling services at the school. Services are provided to help students access the curriculum by removing any barriers to student learning and by focusing on academics, social-emotional support, and career development. There are 4 ways the counselors work with the students at the school: individual counseling, group counseling, classroom lessons, and consultation. They also provide career counseling through career café in which adults come in monthly to discuss their career. If any questions, please contact the counselors at:

Margaret.white@apsva.us or Sandra.small@apsva.us

Clinic: Maggie Seymour from the school clinic gave a presentation about keeping students healthy and safe. Students need to stay home 24 hours after they are fever-free. Please contact her at: MSeymour@arlingtonva.us

Food allergies: can be life threatening. Life saving medications are kept in the clinic. Staff training is on-going so that children are safe on field trips. Food labeling is necessary for school parties and birthday parties.

Lice: A new county-wide policy states that there will be no classroom-wide checks. If a child has lice at school, the guardian will be notified. Please call the school to alert the clinic if your child has gotten lice.

Hearing and Vision Screenings: all kindergarten and 3rd grade classes will receive screenings unless a kindergartener has received a check within the year at their pediatrician.

November PTA meeting: Join us on November 12th at 7:00pm. Topic is: Your Child's Education.