



Bridging the gap between home and school

01/06/2015

Business Meeting

Attendees:

April Noble, Andrea Armlin, Linnea Clary, Rachael Conte, Erin Dickson, Peter Dutton, Allie Geller, Debbie Moores, Jen Ring, Julie Sprague, Christy Witham

Meeting Notes:

1. Snack Cart / Nutrition

- **Erin is setting up a meeting with small team and Whitney on 1/21 in the AM.** She will email an invite out to the team.

2. Treasurers Report

- **Funding Requests**

1. Reading AtoZ online – Klein (\$100) . Approved

- a. Followup with 1st grade teachers as some are unaware of RazKids. This has come up in the past – believed to be related to when the teacher signs up. They renew annually and this causes some classes to have access in the fall / some in the spring. **Julie to email.**

- Audiometer approved for \$1300 was found for \$994 – ordered

3. Fundraising

- \$5528 raised at the Craft Fair!
- **Order Thank You notes (blank with Thank You Tree on front) – Julie**
- Debrief on Craft Fair:

Bake Sale	A lot of bake sale items leftover – donated to town hall.
	People seemed hesitant to buy items they could not see due to wrapping. <i>Suggest wrapping in clear plastic and label well.</i>
	Gluten free was well labeled. <i>Nut free should also be noted – some people do not know the school is nut free therefor all the bake sale items are nut free.</i>
	Items with candies (i.e. candy canes and M&Ms) sold fast. <i>Increase these items</i>

	<i>in 2015.</i>
	Muffins / Breads did NOT sell well. <i>Suggest either discontinuing or placing in hot food line.</i>
Hot Food	Time and donation consuming. Led this year by Sarah Patch. Cooking, selling and cleanup was done primarily by Sarah. Not sustainable going forward. <i>Suggest to allow a community group to sell hot food in the future.</i> This would eliminate the need for donations, time and cleanup by the VPG and allow the VPG to focus on the overarching setup, vendors, L'il Shoppers Corner, Bake Sale and Raffle. This will be a better use of the VPG resources and still support the same community building experience and fund raising. <i>Offer to another parent group – CRES for first refusal and then open it up to other known nonprofits from there for 2015.</i>
Communication (Bake Sale and Volunteers)	Eliminating the hot food donations will help cleanup the Signup Genius.
	<i>Handouts to go home for 2015 for better communication</i>
	<i>*Parents of York Kids FB page communication. Use this page and refer people to the Craft Fair FB page.</i>
	<i>At the start of school presentations Linnea to teamup with Erin and communicate the Craft Fair and need for volunteers.</i>
L'il Shoppers Corner	Tough cleanup – many items to box up for donations.
	Suggestion – <i>open up the area to ALL for the final hour</i> – allow adults to come through and 'fill a bag' for \$1. This will cleanup the area and cut down the need for cleanup volunteers.
	<i>No wrapping paper is needed for 2015!</i>
Craft Vendors	Great feedback from the vendors – steady flow of people through the fair.
	Kids tables – idea to do shifts in 2015 to allow more kids to participate. Concern that this may be disruptive if kids are packing up / setting up during the fair. Kids area / smaller tables accommodated the kids well.

*NOTE: "Parent of York Kids" is currently a closed group. Need to shutdown current page and create a "private" group. ***Linnea to confirm with FB that this cannot be changed from closed to private. If not she will communicate shutdown of the current page, and startup the new FB page as "private".***

- Meadow Farms
 - Successful year - earnings up from 2014. Difficulty with the sales representative in 2014. **Linnea to give additional feedback to the representative.**
 - Internet orders earn more money for the school. Communicate this in 2015.
 - Good service in terms of items missing from orders etc., where followup was immediate.

- Box Tops
 - \$565!! Feature in Village Voice. Money used to fund Green Team.

4. Green Team

- Need composting bags. Approved
- Kudos to Debbie Moores for her continued support of composting with the kids at lunch!
- How do we work composting and the Green House into the curriculum?
 - WM goes into schools for assemblies - look into this program
 - Kittery / S. Berwick – look to these schools for additional insight / ideas. Peter has reached out – he will followup.
 - Prepare an assembly ourselves with games / activities. Peter has ideas.
- No longer collecting
 - batteries as they are NOT recycled any longer.
 - juice bags due to having to collect/store bags with residue which attract pests.
- Look into Labels for Education – **Julie / Linnea to setup**

NEXT MEETING: February 3rd.