

LEONARDO DA VINCI



PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

NEWSLETTER

January 17, 2018

Volume IV, Edition 10

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JANUARY

23- Popcorn Tuesday

FEBRUARY

6- Popcorn Tuesday

13- PTO Meeting, 6:30 in the gym

20- Popcorn Tuesday

MARCH

3- Chess Tournament

6- Popcorn Tuesday

13- Popcorn Tuesday

13- PTO Meeting, 6:30 in the gym

Apparel Sales

The next apparel sale will coincide with spring conferences. We will have limited-stock of cash and carry items available at conferences, and will have a paper order that will wrap up at the end of conferences.



Box Tops for Education

Our school PTO participates in Box Tops for Education. Clip out your box tops and place them in the PTO box in the main office. It's an easy way to get additional funds for the PTO.



Renaissance Faire

The Renaissance Faire committee is kicking off planning for this year's event. As in past years, we will have a silent auction of items donated by the community and da Vinci families. If you would like to donate items as a family or from your place of business, contact Kari Willmott at kari_willmott@hotmail.com. The event is coming up on May 18th.

CURRENT PTO OFFICERS

President- Jan O'Neil

Vice President- Katie Higgins

Treasurer- Veronica Corpus-Dax

Secretary- Amy Morrow

Check out our website! [Leonardo da Vinci Website](#)

"Like" us on Facebook! [Leonardo da Vinci Facebook Page](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply and request to be removed from the list



Chess Tournament

The WSCF (Wisconsin Scholastic Chess Federation) Chess tournament at Leonardo da Vinci School is coming up on March 3rd. Event registration starts at 8:00am and awards ceremony will occur around 3:00pm at the latest. The cost is \$12 for advanced registration (before March 1st) and \$17 for on-site registration. Registration fee will be paid at the tournament with checks payable to Leonardo da Vinci Elementary PTO. At least one adult must be present to oversee each team or individual player. For more information, contact WSCF at td@wisconsinscholasticchess.org or 262-572-5624 or our parent coordinator, Andreea Solomon at Andreea.Solomon@hotmail.com or 516-457-4123. The full flyer can be viewed on our web page.



Pi Day 5k Walk/Run

Pi Day 5k Sign Up has begun! The PTO is proud to have sponsored this event since its first year. This year's even will be held on **Saturday, March 10th at 8am**. Leonardo da Vinci students work with Mrs. Hockers, our Physical Education teacher, to organize a walk/run. This is an important leadership opportunity for our fifth grade planning team, but an ALTRUISTIC opportunity for our entire school community. In the past three years, our school community has raised over \$44,000 for Habitat for Humanity. We hope you can be part of this year's walk/run. Grab your warm gear and join us on the 10th. [Register Here](#). The planning committee has set some great goals this year: *700 runners* (75 more than last year) and *\$18,000 for Habitat for Humanity*. Let's all help them reach their goals!!

Leonardo da Vinci School PTO Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2017

Attendance-

Jan O'Neil, Katie Higgins, Veronica Corpus-Dax, Amy Morrow, Caryn Gehm, Tammy VanDyke, Allison Hockers, Greta Swanson, Mary Rupp, Wendy Bauer

Call to order- Jan O'Neil called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

President's Report- Andreea Solomon is chairing the chess tournament at Leonardo da Vinci. The date is set for 3/3. Event typically runs from 9am to 3pm. All ages and abilities are welcome. More information and details will be forthcoming.

VP Report- Nothing to report.

Treasurer Report- Current balances include \$12,816.93 in the checking account, \$18,081.76 in the savings account for a total of \$30,898.69. Upcoming approved expenditures include \$8,967.94 for the Garden of Infinite Possibilities, leaving an ending balance of \$21,930.95. Approximately \$6,500 of that money is set aside for staff holiday SCRIP redemption, leaving a total balance of around \$15,000.

Fundraising/Apparel Report- Caryn Gehm reported on the holiday SCRIP program for teachers. A total of 108 families participated this year, up from 82 families last year. \$10,407 were given by families and the PTO put in another \$153 for a total of \$10,560 to be distributed to the 40 staff members. So far, over \$4,000 have been redeemed by the staff, leaving approximately \$6,500 yet to be claimed.

Caryn Gehm reported that she has emailed Smart Cow about getting onto their schedule again for another date where a percentage of all sales will go to the school. She noted that it often takes up to 2 years to get on their schedule.

The Marcus Cinema fundraiser generated \$1,374.70 in profit this year. Jan O'Neil raised the topic of doing a second Marcus Cinema fundraiser this year. In the past, the PTO has sponsored 2 Marcus Cinema ticket sales per year. Caryn Gehm noted that the first year this was done, it was done to help support the cost of buses for the middle school for their outdoor education. Given that this is no longer a part of the curriculum, are the funds needed? Katie Higgins stated that parents have told her that the spring fundraiser is useful because many families have used the tickets they purchased in the winter, and are looking to purchase tickets to use over the summer. The group decided to sponsor a second fundraiser with the idea that funds could be directed to an event if needed. Tammy VanDyke did not identify any specific needs at this time, but stated she would keep this in mind. If there are no additional calls for the funds, they will go to the general PTO.

Jan O'Neil mentioned that Lisa Knuth had hoped to be present to discuss a possible Chipotle fundraiser in the future. She believes that it functions similar to the Smart Cow fundraiser, where on a given day, a percentage of the sales are directed toward the PTO. This will be discussed in the future when Lisa Knuth is able to be present at the meeting.

SPAC Report- SPAC representative not present. No report given.

Staff Report- Holiday SCRIP appreciated by the teachers. Katie Higgins inquired about the Festival Food card sales in support for the Pi Day Run. Allison Hockers noted that they have had some sales, but slightly less than in years past. Caryn Gehm suggested putting a picture of the card in the school newsletter.

Conferences- Meals for Staff Lisa Knuth unable to be present tonight. Katie Higgins asked Allison Hockers if there were any previous meals that had been especially liked by the teachers. Allison Hockers stated that due to food allergies and food preferences among the teachers, meals that were "build your own" dinner tended to go over well, such as soup and salad. Jan O'Neil wondered if a "granola bar" would be well received. Tammy VanDyke and Allison Hockers noted that they had been done at a staff meeting and was well liked. Katie Higgins wondered if a "salad bar" type idea might be better than pre-made salads. That is, where staff could choose what went into a salad, rather than having pre-tossed salads provided by families. Allison Hockers thought this would be appreciated by the teachers. Ideas will be passed on to Lisa Knuth who coordinates the meals for the teachers.

Student Treats Jan O'Neil provided background on this PTO budget item. Originally, the PTO provided pizza for students at lunch time. However, due to healthy lunch initiatives, this was stopped. Last year, the PTO provided \$50 to each base team to use as desired. Many classes had parties- pizza, doughnut or ice cream parties were popular. One class purchased a used Wii. However, feedback from the base team teachers was that overall, this event was difficult to administer and most teachers would support doing away with the base team gifts. This year, the PTO is considering distributing a Leonardo da Vinci school logo item to all students. PTO is getting ideas from Caryn Sparacio, apparel coordinator, about possible appropriate items that could be distributed to the student body from the PTO. Any ideas would be welcomed. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

RL Stine Event- Veronica Corpus-Dax reports that parent Alex Galt coordinates the Untitled Town Books and Author Festival in Green Bay. This year, RL Stine, the author of the Goosebumps series of books will be attending. Alex Galt mentioned that his content, presented at the Weidner theater, would likely be appropriate for 4th grade students. Veronica Corpus-Dax did not have more details about the event. Greta Swanson reported that the event will be occurring April 20th through 22nd. Katie Higgins asked Tammy VanDyke if there would be a possibility of the 4th graders taking a field trip to attend this event. Tammy VanDyke replied that Friday, April 20th is an early release day, so the school would be unable to sponsor a field trip to this event. The members present then suggested that families could attend this event on their own.

Renaissance Faire preview- Katie Higgins reported an update from Brittany Dickey, the coordinator of the Renaissance Faire. The committee will be meeting next week to kick off planning. All chair positions are filled at this time. The

committee includes: Kari Willmott as Auction and Raffle Chair, Amanda Harpt as Arts and Crafts Chair, Betsy Ferrebee as Dinner Chair, and Tiffany Bowles as Volunteer Coordinator for the event. Maggie Vonck is also on the committee. Katie Higgins notes that this is a volunteer intensive event and more volunteers will be needed for the actual event. Event date is May 18th.

Open Discussion Mary Rupp provided information about accessing SCRIP gift cards from a mobile phone. She notes that this is an instantaneous way of getting gift cards and feels that it would boost sales in an easy manner. She had a previous on-line account for SCRIP with another school and simply had to transfer the beneficiary to Leonardo da Vinci. The meeting members were unsure if the directions could be used for someone without a pre-existing on-line account. Katie Higgins does not have an account and said that she would try to set up a mobile account with these instructions. Once the exact procedure has been ironed out, the instructions will be published with the PTO newsletter, will be linked from our homepage, and can be noted on the PTO Facebook page. Mary Rupp stated that she would be available to provide support as the PTO figures this out.

Katie Higgins asked Wendy Bauer if the list of volunteers willing to help with the Renaissance Faire had been forwarded to Brittany Dickey. She noted that it had, but stated that she would send the list again.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57