

**Overlook PTO Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2017 @7pm**

Welcome Sandy Jones, Co-President

Principal's Report Principal, Mr. Perlman

Mr. Perlman expressed thanks to the PTO for several things. First, the fall festival, which was a huge hit. Mr. Perlman has received lots of positive feedback from staff and parents about it. Next, he expressed gratitude about the recess equipment that was purchased by the PTO. Each classroom 1-6 received 2 playground balls and the kindergarten classes got trucks and play animals and other playground toys. Lastly, he thanked the PTO for paying once again this year for the Briar Bush program at school.

Mr. Perlman announced the following:

- Overlook has two new staff members – Leah Beil (Special Education) and Jackie Terrizzi-Meyers (Librarian).
- There will be no school on Tuesday 11/7 because of Election Day.
- American Education Week is the week of 11/13. Announcements will be coming home from your child's teacher about specific timing for visiting their classroom.
- Tier times & Title 1 services started this week.
- Halloween parties will take place on 10/31. K & 1st grade parent helpers will be allowed in at 1:30 to help children in their costumes. Parents helping grades 2-6 will be allowed in at 1:45. A list of helpers should be agreed upon with each teacher so the teachers can provide a list to the office so access can be given. All volunteers for costume preparation must have their clearances.

Teacher Update Mrs. Finn

Mrs. Finn filled in as the staff representative for this meeting & echoed Mr. Perlman's thoughts on both the fall festival and the playground equipment. All the staff much appreciated both.

Treasurer's Report Karin Quinn presented an overview of the financials for the PTO at this point. Full report is attached but here are some highlights:

- 6th grade fundraising is off to a great start. Mum sales were a huge hit this year. Pretzels sales are off to a great start too and the PTO is seeing many more pre-orders this year.
- The fall festival financials were reviewed. This was not intended to be a fundraiser but the PTO did manage to essentially break even in the end.
- Yankee Candle fundraiser will start on 10/23. Please consider taking part in this fundraiser as it is a big one for the PTO.

Recap of Events

Fall Festival: This event was a HUGE success and there are lots of thanks to go around. Especially:

- ❖ EJ Lee, Colleen Venango & Heather Chong for chairing the event
- ❖ Whole Foods in Jenkintown for donating all the pumpkins
- ❖ Abington Fire Department & Emergency Services for lighting up the event.
- ❖ Bubbles the Clown
- ❖ All the parent volunteers as well as the 6th grade helpers and high school student volunteers.

The PTO sold 333 wristbands for the event!

Spirit Wear: Spirit wear was delivered on 10/19. It will be sent home on Friday 10/20. We will have another sale in the spring and welcome any feedback parents have on the vendor and the overall experience (buying process, product quality, etc). This is not really intended to be a fundraiser for the PTO but we do make a small amount of profit on it.

Upcoming Events

Yankee Candle Sale: This sale will begin October 23rd and end November 6th. Please consider participating in this event as it's a big fundraiser for the PTO.

Treats for Troops: We will once again be collecting Halloween candy to be send to the troops overseas. Each classroom will get a box to fill with candy & the classroom with the heaviest box will win some open gym time. The candy is donated to the Allergy & Asthma Associates, who will then ship it to the troops. The PTO gets money for every pound we donate.

Book Fair/Reading Night: This year's fair will take place Nov. 3- 9. Children can also shop during their normal library time when the fair is open. Since school is closed on Tuesday 11/7, students that normally have library on Tuesday will be rescheduled. Volunteers are always needed. A sign-up will be posted to the PTO FB page & in an e-blast as soon as it is ready. Reading night is Nov. 8 from 6-8, with the book fair open that evening from 5:30-6:30. Teacher read-alouds will take place at 6 pm and a show (Miss Nelson is Missing) will occur from 6:30-7:30.

Boys Night Out: This year's BNO is scheduled for November 10th. It will be open to all students enrolled at Overlook. The event this year is entitled Animals in the Dark and will be presented by Briar Bush Nature Center at Alverthorpe park. Attendees will have pizza and s'mores, learn about nocturnal animals and meet a few too! Dress warmly & bring a flashlight! Pizza will be at 6 pm. Program will start promptly at 6:30. Flyers will be sent home shortly.

Holiday Hollow: This will take place the week of November 27th. Set-up day will be 11/22. The children will have an opportunity to shop for family, friends, etc. at the store and all items are priced from \$1-\$5. Volunteers will be needed for this as well so be on the lookout for a sign up for it.

Other

Directory: The online directory is now available. Everyone should have received a Skyward message with the password. Hard copies are being printed and should be sent home shortly.

6th Grade Fundraisers:

- The next fundraiser for 6th grade is the pancake breakfast. It will be held at Applebee's on October 28th from 8-10 am. Patricia advised that people arrive by 9:30 am to make sure they get pancakes before they run out! The 6th grade students act as greeters, servers, bus-people, etc. It's a fun event for all. Come in costume & get a special treat!
- The 6th grade will also host a movie night on 12/1. It is a drop off event and the 6th graders will oversee it. It will be held in the junior high auditorium. Pizza is served at 5:30. The movie starts at 6:15 and ends at 8:15. There will be an intermission with snacks available for purchase. All students will need to be signed in and out by an adult.

Facebook and PTO Communications:

Sandy asked for feedback on the way the PTO is currently communicating with parents. Generally, it was agreed that the FB pages are working well. The PTO has committed to keeping the Facebook to include only things that directly relate to Overlook (or information that is already sent home by the school about other events in the community).

The PTO welcomes any feedback parents have on how we communicate moving forward.

Open Discussion

- There was a reminder about Giant A+ rewards. It has started so please register your card with Giant! Also, a reminder that Box Tops will be collected all year.
- It was noted that the drop off line at school in the morning has seen some improvement.
- Parents also noted that there is a "No Left Turn" sign by school that is not facing the correct direction and should be fixed. Mr. Perlman will put a work order in for this.
- A parent asked for clarification on Boys Night Out – is it mostly dads who bring the boys or will moms come too? The event is open to special adult they want to bring. In years' past, there has been a mix of moms, dads, and other adults.
- There is a Parent Council meeting on 10/25 at 7:30 pm to discuss the high school renovations, for anyone interested.
- The PTO is collecting empty 2L bottles of soda for a fundraiser for book fair. Funds raised will benefit not only our school but other charities as well. Plus, there will be a prize for the winning classroom & all students will enjoy seeing Mr. Perlman dress as a cowboy if we meet our goals! If you have any empty 2L bottles, please send them in to the library.

*****Next meeting Thursday November 30th at 7PM in Library*****