

Peace Dale Elementary School  
PTO Meeting  
February 11, 2010

**Attended by:** Melissa Taylor (President); Corrin Guarriello (Vice President); Kathy Marcotte (Secretary); Janet Hartman (Treasurer); Cindy Dowgiallo (Box Tops Coordinator); Pauline Lisi (Principal); Lisa Bader, Melanie Bumpus, Erin Conley, and Don Waterous.

**Meeting Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

**Welcome:** Melissa Taylor welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the Thursday meeting as rescheduled due to Wednesday's school cancellation.

**Principal, Pauline Lisi:** Mrs. Lisi was kind enough to discuss robotics park which has long been an integral part of Peace Dale as a way for teachers to showcase their curriculums. Last year, it became apparent that the animation programs necessary to make the robotics portion of the experience feasible were out of date and no longer working properly. This year, the school has upgraded its computers to Dell and now the outdated programs no longer run on our current hardware. These challenges, in conjunction with the challenges the teachers have faced with the science curriculum and increased assessments, have led the faculty to showcase their work in different ways throughout the year. In an effort to provide a robotics program to our students, we are considering putting together an after-school program which would continue this work.

Mrs. Lisi also mentioned that the School Committee did hear a Proposal regarding the viability of moving the 5<sup>th</sup> graders into Broad Rock Middle School. Further meetings will be occurring for community input on this matter.

**Mother/Son Event:** There was a great deal of discussion regarding the proposed plans for a mother/son event for our Peace Dale families. The girl's event was a huge success and the feedback has been very good. Nearly 250 attended the dance which took place in our school gymnasium.

The planning of the boy's event has been organized as a Karate Event hosted by Peace Dale School. The organizers have enlisted the help of Gabriele's Karate to provide us with a proposal to staff the large event. The written proposal was reviewed at the meeting. It appeared very organized and well thought out. The afternoon for the boys is intended to be one of workshops, challenges and fun.

It was discussed that another local Karate studio was told that we were considering holding this event after our last meeting. They contacted the PTO to express concern over the fact that they were not the ones enlisted to put on the event. Understanding that we have longstanding and wonderful relationships with a number of local businessmen, it was discussed that we certainly do appreciate the events that the concerned business participates in and would welcome their participation at future events. We also discussed that when it comes to planning events for our school community, we as a PTO have the right to consider and enlist the assistance of a variety of resources depending on our current needs. At this time, the PTO bodies voted to have the organizers of the event go forward with their original plan. The date for the event is tentatively Saturday, March 20, 2010 from 2 to 5.

**Financial Report:** Janet Hartman presented a hard copy of the current financial report for review. Janet reported that our CLASS numbers were good, movie night was somewhat disappointing, and the Ladies' Choice Dance was a wonderful success. Our total assets at this time are \$23,942.01.

**Box Tops:** Through Cindy Dowgiallo's efforts on our behalf, over 9400 box tops were submitted for January. We will see those funds in February. Keep the box tops coming.

**Cares Spelling Bee:** Betsy Palizetti has taken on the position of CARES Coordinator for Peace Dale Elementary School. The Spelling Bee will take place on February 27<sup>th</sup> at the local Elks Club and we will have a strong team which includes among others, Pauline Lisi, Martha Badesian, and Helen Pernicone. Everyone is invited to sponsor the team.

**Spring Art Project:** The Spring Art Project has gone tremendously well. The children have completed their artwork and Melissa Taylor will be sending the art to Silver Graphics for set-up. We will then receive the order forms which will be sent home with each student.

**CLASS:** The C.L.A.S.S. program was rich once again this spring. The sport classes have proven very popular with the students. A few of the classes have not generated the same interest as they have in the past and we will take a look at those for next time.

**Pasta Supper:** Jackie McCormick will be spearheading the Pasta Supper this spring. We have looked at dates and are considering April 8, 2010 to be held in conjunction with the Curriculum Showcase.

**Art Show:** Stacie Girard has organized this event in the past. We are looking at possibly holding the Art Show/ Ice Cream Social on May 6, 2010. We will revisit this at the next meeting.

**Cultural Arts Event:** The Videography Program was a success with the faculty and students.

**Thank You Notes from the Teachers:** Melissa circulated some very kind notes of thanks from the teachers.

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

**The next meeting of the PTO will be held in the Peace Dale Elementary School Library on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 7pm All are welcome and encouraged to attend.**