



PTO Meeting

February 4, 2014



Agenda

- PTO Mid-Year Review
- Guest Speakers: School Committee
- Break-out Session: Mid-Year Review
- Hands-on Volunteering: Literacy Labels



Major Objectives for 2013-2014

- Keep What Works
- Improve/Consolidate Communication
- Increase Volunteering and Involvement
- More Efficient Fundraising
 - Reduce number of individual fundraisers



Financial Review: Revenue

- Majority of activities brought in budgeted revenue or above
 - SYK Annual Drive
 - Monster Mash
- New revenue generating activities
 - Amazon.com
 - Holiday Fair



Financial Review: Revenue

Category	Event	Target	Actual	Variance
COMPLETED	SYK Annual Kick-off Drive	\$ 6,500	\$ 9,590	\$ 3,090
	Bacon Street Farm Fundraiser	\$ 700	\$ 990.85	\$ 290.85
	Book Fair	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,518.35	\$ 18.35
	Genevieve's	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,438.21	\$ 438.21
	Holiday Fair	\$ -	\$ 851.83	\$ 851.83
	Monster Mash	\$ 1,000	\$ 3,510.97	\$ 2,510.97
	Square One Art	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,093.81	\$ 593.81
ON-GOING	Points Programs (Box Tops, Amazon, Target)	\$ 1,200	\$ 2,867.16	\$ 667.16
	Restaurant of the Month	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,124.03	(\$ 175.97)
	Spirit Wear	\$ 150	\$ 241.61	\$ 91.61
UPCOMING	Ben & Jerry's Evening	\$ 300		
	Skating Party	\$ 150		
	Yard Sale	\$ 1,500		



NED

- Natick Extended Day (NED) was a not for profit afterschool program in Natick opened in 1984
- In 2012, NED was closed as the town ASAP program expanded to all elementary schools, including Ben-Hem
- NED was Ben-Hem community member for 22 years and was generously supported by the principal, teachers and staff
- Because of that support the NED Board voted that Ben-Hem share in the dissolution of the assets, recently approved by both the Massachusetts Attorney General and the Supreme Court
- Funds were required to be disbursed in line with NED's charter, to a non-profit with educational ties, and therefore they were released to the PTO, with Principal Kelly's discretion for use in the school (aligned with NED President and Treasurer):
 - Additional playground items
 - Playground landscaping
 - Computer lab - iPads and accessories



Financial Review: Expenses

- Expenses to date are in line with budget
 - Exceptions:
 - Kindergarten Meet & Greet: \$83.02 over budget
 - Frozen Treat Night: \$99.30 expense instead of \$150 revenue
- Majority of expenses hit in Spring
- Cultural Arts projects to spend \$12,000



Financial Review: Summary

- Revenue is already \$7,000 above budget with several revenue generating activities still to come/finish
- Expenses are projected to be at or below budget
- QUESTION: What to do with the additional revenue?



Financial Review: Suggestions

- Reduce fundraising in 2014-2015 (Genevieve's)
- Further subsidize Field Trips
- Parent speaker series
- Provide general supplies for classrooms (tissues, wipes)
- Purchase new PA system for the school
- Other ideas?



Guest Speakers

- Candidates for Natick School Committee
 - 2 positions open
- Amy Mistrot (incumbent)
- Dirk Coburn (incumbent)
- Mike Dempsey



Break-out Session

- What Worked?
- Suggestions for Change?
- How Should We Use the Excess Revenue?



2013-2014 Activities So Far

- **Get Involved**
 - Parent Outreach/Communication
 - Teacher Outreach/Assistance/Appreciation
 - Educational Enrichment Grants
 - Cultural Arts (Fireseed Art, States of Matter, Eujin Neilan, Suzy Kline, Tanglewood Marionettes)
 - School Spirit (Spirit Days, Spirit Wear)
 - Student Events (International Night)
 - Family Events (Family Picnic, Monster Mash, Scholastic Book Fair)
 - Community Events (Restaurant of the Month, Holiday Fair, Tilly & Salvy's Pumpin Fest)
- **Volunteer**
 - Morning-Drop Off
 - Committees (Cultural Arts, Seed to Harvest)
 - Event Chairs/Help
 - Teacher Time Savers
- **Support**
 - SYK Annual Drive
 - Genevieve's
 - Square One Art
 - Scholastic Book Fair
 - Community Events
 - Family Events
 - Points Programs (Amazon, Donelan's, Stop & Shop, Target Red Card)



Up-Coming Activities

- Restaurant of the Month: UNO's (Wed, Feb. 5)
- Palette's Open Paint (Wed, Feb. 5 @ 1:30)
- School-wide Ben-Hem Spirit Day (Fri, Feb. 7)
- Cultural Arts: Bubblemania (Mon, Feb. 10)
- Principal vs. Vice Principal Stop & Shop Sweep (Tentative Date: Wed, Feb. 26)
- Ben-Hem's Got Talent (Fri, Feb. 28 @ 6:30)
- Welcome Committee for Kindergarten Screenings (March)



Questions?

- Questions? New Topics? Suggestions?
- Up Next: Hands On Volunteering
 - Literacy Labeling