

Devon Elementary PTO
devonpto.org
Meeting Minutes—January 11, 2017 9:30 AM

Attendees: Dr. Todd Parker, Tracy Przybylowski, Amanda Wollick, Tricia Jennings, Shweta Sivaraman, Kate Miller, Carrie Cotton, Michele Airiau, Beth Breault, Jen Gallagher, Kate Etherington, Kelly Myers, Emily Bernstein, Lauren Forman, Laurie Nishimura, Cathy Rains, Raquel Murphy, Mimi Russo

- Principal's Update—Dr. Parker
 - Over 600 tickets were sold for the Villanova game where the 4th Grade Chorus performed the National Anthem.
 - The Devon Leadership Initiative was rolled out with the 4th Graders. Morning announcements now include a news segment read by students. 4th Graders help kindergarteners get on buses. Students help pick up litter, etc.
 - There is a new character trait Devon Dragon poster behind the welcome desk. Starting in February with the trait "Friendship", teachers will fill out a dragon scale for kids who exhibit that month's character trait that the child can hang on the dragon. Students will also get a certificate to reinforce the demonstration of these traits.
 - Kindergarteners are doing a fundraiser for Ryan's Case for Smiles this month. 2nd grade is preparing for Master Cheng and their China workshop rotations. 4th grade is bringing in the National Constitution Center for workshops about the Revolutionary War. 3rd graders are doing their Native American celebration on the 12th.
- President's Report—Tracy Przybylowski
 - The Easttown Police Association presented a gift of \$2,000 to the PTO to reimburse us for the money that we have paid them to police our events in the past.
 - November minutes were formally approved.
 - Thank you for approving, via email, Mrs. Lohmeyer's wrist bands for gym class.
 - Thank you to Barbara Todd for organizing CHOP Good Health Day December 15th. We raised \$412.00 and Barbra Todd matched that amount!
 - Thank you to Stephanie Cowgill and Ruth Pulliam for Chairing the Book Fair

- Thank you to Marci Popielarski for her donation of \$200 from the sales of “Story Starring Me” books at the book fair.
 - Thank you to Kate Farabaugh for Chairing the Wrapping paper sale. We made \$724.
 - Thank you to Lisa Schreiber for Chairing the teacher luncheons during Parent-Teacher Conferences.
 - Tracy reminded parents to pull forward all the way during morning drop-off and do not leave your car unattended in the line.
- Vice-President’s Report
 - If you are an event chair, and you need the list of volunteers for your event, contact Kelly Myers or Raquel Murphy.
 - We need more volunteers for the Camp Fair. Another email blast with the volunteer form will be sent out soon.
- Treasurer’s Report—Cathy Rains
 - The Mother Goose assemblies and Master Cheng assemblies were paid for last month.
 - The Fall Festival made over \$4,000.
- Communications Report
 - Please be sure to give Wendy advance notice of when you want a blast sent out. Contact Tracy a month in advance for any Dispatch updates
 - Tricia Jennings shared a concern about advertising Township organizations, such as Quick Stix, in our PTO blasts. Tracy contacted other PTO presidents and they were sending it out to their schools so she made the decision to send it out to the Devon community. The plan moving forward is to try to include that type of information in a designated section of the Dispatch.
- Cultural Arts—Carrie Cotton & Meg Taft
 - Chinese Day Celebration for 2nd grade is scheduled for January 23rd. In addition to Master Cheng, there will be additional stations set up for the students to rotate through: karate, chinese drum, calligraphy, etc. They are

looking for volunteers that have knowledge in Chinese culture that could help with the event.

- The National Constitution Center for 4th grade will be coming on January 27th. They will set up two hour-long assemblies. In between the assemblies, they have 3 50-minute workshops that the students will rotate through. We may make a \$250 donation to the Constitution Center as a thank-you. Carrie will look into whether or not they are profit or non-profit, before we commit to the donation.
- Art Goes to School is scheduled for the week of Feb 13
- Dance Circus Theatre performance is coming to Devon on the 22nd of March
- Fundraising
 - Auction Update
 - o The committee just sent out solicitation letters to past donors and new businesses. The letter acknowledged the business' many contributions to the community and focused on how our auction specifically could help their business
 - Camp Fair is on January 25th. 68 camps are registered. We are offering door prizes to attendees this year. Kate Miller will be running the hospitality room.
- Social Functions
 - The One World Cultural Arts Event is scheduled for March 10th. We have 10 countries represented at this point. The chorus group is going to sing a song called "Peace and Harmony" at the event. We are looking for volunteers that could host tables for other countries. Lisa requested an additional \$300 of money to cover the cost of security and custodian fees. Cathy motioned to approve, Kate Miller seconded.
- Issues Affairs and Programs
 - MLK service project - January 17th-20th
 - o Our MLK service project is a school-wide project benefiting the Daily Bread Food Pantry. Mr. Stever has been running this pantry for 20 years. Trader Joes and Whole Foods provided shopping bags for us to distribute to students. Students can fill up the bags with food to donate to the Pantry. The collection will take place the week of 1/16. On Friday, the 20th, the food will be collected and loaded up on a bus to take to the pantry. The Krapfs bus company donated the use of a bus. Students will write thank-you notes to the bus company and possibly to Trader Joes and Whole Foods.

- Interschool Council update - Tricia Jennings
 - o November meeting: The Council reviewed a demographic study performed throughout the district. This year, the demographer was off by only 150 students in his projection for the district. Devon remains the largest school. It is projected that we will remain steady for a few years and then grow more.
 - o December meeting: The Council conducted a Language Curriculum Examination to examine the world languages curricular scope and sequence. The Council is continuing to look at foreign language offerings for elementary schools.

- ARCH update - Tricia Jennings
 - o The Dec. 6 event with Ken Ginsburg is available to view on the T/E TV News.
 - o Technology and Kids Empowering Parents will be the next seminar on March 29th. A flyer will be distributed soon.

- T & E Care - Amanda Wollick
 - o T&E Cares clothing drive is coming up from March 15th-24th. Clothes need to be sorted by March 28th. The T&E Cares sale is March 31st and April 1st. The collection could be stored at Devon, but we need to determine the best spot to store everything. Clothes need to be sorted by size and gender and we are looking for ideas to help with that, possibly using the Girls Scouts.

- School Services—Kate Miller
 - The School Store is up and running and is doing a great business so far!
 - Spirit wear - Kate is meeting with Wayne Sporting Goods next Tuesday. Ideally, we will set up an online store. We will probably offer a higher price Under Armour sweatshirt and a lower price option as well. We need to decide if we want to make a profit or break-even. Hopefully the website will be up and running by next month.
 - Publishing center - This is the last year we will be able to use our current company for the price that we have allocated in our PTO budget. We need to re-negotiate for next year. Price may increase from \$2 to \$10 per student.