

Barnstable United Elementary School - November 4 Meeting Minutes

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept by Jenn Mullin; seconded by Jenn Brann, unanimous approval

Principal's Report: given by Mary Sullivan

- Symphony Field Trip 11/13
- DESE visit 11/13 - walk throughs in each school in the district
- Wishes all a Happy Thanksgiving and thanks all the parents for attending

Teachers' Reports given by:

4th Grade Representative: Michael O'Toole - students are at day 46 of school. Reading focuses on informational and expository genres at this time. Informational genre looks at encyclopedias and primary sources of information. After this they are moving on to Poetry. Math focus at this time is on multiplication, double digit factoring, then will move onto division next. **Asks parents to practice math facts with kids* The writing focus is on opinion pieces, kids are given a prompt to compare information they have read. Working on mechanics; spelling, paragraphs, sentence structure, and punctuation. In Social Studies kids are decoding maps, working on the NE region of the US looking at geography, economics, and capitals. In Science the kids are working on weather; the water cycle & Climate then moving onto rocks & minerals and earthquakes & volcanoes. Students will have the Immigrant Experience come in for a presentation.

5th Grade Representatives: Leisa Marks - Math: students have finished division of whole numbers (long division, reasonable answers, and estimation) and are starting on decimals (adding and subtracting) understanding place value to the thousandths place, comparison, rounding & estimation. After Thanksgiving they will begin multiplying decimals. All students have a login to ThinkCentral where they may access animated models to reteach any lesson. Science - finishing the solar system unit (moon phases/cycle, seasons, rotation of the earth, distance of stars. Next they will study states & properties of matter (a very hands on unit) - some will engineer containers for an egg drop or make gingerbread houses. ELA - working with historical fiction right now looking at points of view and summarizing. Social Studies - finishing viking exploration.

Treasurer's Report: given by Tanya Duff & Kelly Mooney. Motion to accept by Jenn Brann, seconded by Mary Sullivan, unanimous approval.

Old Business:

- Meadow Farms: Update, Jenn Brann - delay in delivery due to problem orders. Shipping within next two weeks.
- Staff Room Delights: Update by Jenn Mullin - sign up genius is posted, email will go out as well as info on BUES PTA website & FB page
- Fall Costume Party: Update by Jenn Brann - over 400 people in attendance, received a lot of positive feedback.
- Walk-A-Thon: Success on the exercise and healthy eating front. Raised \$10,856 with a profit of \$6671.85 (after t-shirt expenses & prize purchases) Great parent participation during the walk; most classes had more than 1 parent participant. Looking forward, start seeking donations by May or June for a Fall Walk-a-Thon. Remind parents to put any photos in drop box for the yearbook.
- Evening Event: Len Cabral - November 18 from 6:30-7:30 in the cafeteria. Presentation at night will differ from his presentation to 5th graders during the day.
- Box Tops: Update by Jenn Brann - \$1300 worth of box tops submitted in October (included the last spring box top collection)

New Business:

- Year Book Committee: Seeking Chairperson and volunteers
Volunteers: Shauna Maki, Dawn Peterson, Laurie Crowley, Anke Rudy. Jenn Brann will schedule a meeting with the Lifetouch Rep to train folks on the online yearbook program.
- Winter Book Fair: Seeking Volunteers to staff the week of 12/8-12/12
Question about an evening event - do we want one? Resounding Yes, Adding the the Tuesday night "Milk & Cookies" with the Principal and will adjust the sign up genius to round up more volunteers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next Meeting will be on **December 2, 2013** at **5:30** pm in the cafeteria