

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 / 7:00PM / GNR Library

1. ROLL CALL

Jane Davis & Tina Lands. Presidents

Tara Cesaro, VP of Events

Abbi Clissold, Corresponding Secretary

Abi Rivenburgh, Webmaster

Crystal Gresh & Susan Doty, VPs of Fundraising

Beth Nagle, Treasurer

Jenni Rispoli, Recording Secretary

Jackee Flores, Translator

2. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Mrs. Samantha Felicetta, Principal

Mrs. Felicetta discussed we doing the 4th grade hallway this summer. The Lighting, ceiling tiles and new lockers will be done. The following summer she's planning for 5th grade and the back of the building. Also there have been flooding issues in the bathroom and warm water at times in the water fountains. They have been putting water bottles around the school so the children don't have to use the water fountains and she's hoping the plumbing will be fixed soon. There are 4 3rd grade classrooms where the Cubby's need to be redone. And she's hoping that eventually the gym will be redone as well.

The school's wish list includes a three-tier system for the stage curtains, a sound system, picnic tables outside and a baseball diamond. Field trips are coming up and she thanked the PTO for our contribution. Third grade is going to poricy park, 4th grade to Kelsey theater and fifth-grade to iPlay.

The second grade Step Up ceremony will be May 27th. And there will be six days of njsla testing in May.

A parent post a question related to better preparing 5th grade students for middle school homework and testing Etc. Mrs. F responded that the teachers will be observing krepes for a half day you got a better idea of how to prepare 5th graders. But that she believes that kids in the elementary level need playtime and homework should not be increased. Noted that research shows that children need a self-contained program until developmentally appropriate around the sixth grade age.

Another parent posed a question about are responsible cell phone use. Mrs. F reported that phones need to be off in a way during the school day otherwise they are taken away and given back to the parent at the end of the day. A parent suggested that mrs. F send home a tip for parents sheet regarding cell phone use.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT - Mrs. Beth Nagle

Treasure reported that we are in the same place as in the fall financially due to fundraising. We have put a bike rack on Stockton Street using PTO money.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A: Penguin Patch Holiday Store - 12.9.19-12.13.19

Overall the great success. Some theft issues. PTO will be shopping for holiday store at next year instead of using penguin patch.

B: 5th Grade Winter Wonderland Dance - 01.10.19

Issue regarding volunteer parents videoing and photo in children and posting online. Mrs. F to address volunteer cell phone use in future School events.

- **C: D.A.R.E. Graduation** 02.11.20 (Volunteers Needed for Remaining 5th Grade Events)
- D: Yankee Candle
- **E: Panera Bread EON** 01.04.20 & 02.06.20
- F: Bowling Night 01.24.20
- **G: T.GI. Fridays EON 11.22.19**
- H: Shop With Scrip

6. NEW BUSINESS

A: Upcoming Events

- 1. Cookies & Canvas (02.28.20) *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*
- 2. Ice Cream Bingo (3.20.20) *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*
- 3. Spike's Agility Sprint (04.01.2020 01.02.2020) *volunteers needed*
- 4. End of Year Carnival (06.11.2020) *VOLUNTEERS/COMMITTEE NEEDED*

B: Current Fundraisers - PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE CHECKS OUT TO GNR PTO

1. Yankee Candle

C: Upcoming Fundraisers

- 1. Eat Out Nights (Keep your eyes peeled for dates!) Suggestions included drive thru restaurants and city streets.
- 2. All for Books (04.13.29 04.16.20) *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*

During this week money is raised for books for the library. This year we are sending home baggies for children to donate change instead of collecting it at lunch.

- 3. Scholastic BOGO Book Fair (04.20.20 04.23.20) *VOLUNTEERS/COMMITTEE NEEDED*
- 4. Rummage Sale (May 2020) *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*

Drop off date will be May 15th and the sale will be on May 16th

- 5. Art to Remember
- 6. Spring picture day will be April 15th

D: Ongoing Fundraisers

- 1. Eat Out Nights (Monthly)
- 2. Empties for Cash
- 3. McCaffrey's Receipts
- 4. Box Tops
- 5. Amazon Smile
- 6. Mabel's Labels
- 7. Corporate Gift Matching

E: Board Nominations & Openings

We are looking to fill several board positions next year! If you are interested in more information, sign up today! We will be voting & swearing officers in at our next meeting on 5/20/20.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Volunteer Opportunities:

- a. We are ALWAYS in need of volunteers to help run our events! We can't do it without you! Don't see something that fits with your schedule? Email us with questions @ gnrpto@gmail.com. Visit us at www.GNRPTO.org and don't forget to follow us on Facebook & Twitter.
- b. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the social media, 5th grade committee, bulletin board and trophy case.

2. Next PTO Meeting: Wednesday, 5/20/20 @ 7pm in Library

- 3. GNR PTO is now on REMIND! If you'd like updates about upcoming meetings, events, fundraisers, spirit days, etc. sent directly to your phone, please sign up at www.remind.com or through the Remind APP with your child's appropriate Class Code(s) listed below:
 - a. Pre-K @ D78BFK
 - b. 3rd @ 4FAD337
 - c. 4th @ KAE794
 - d. 5th @ GNRPT

8. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

A second grade parent coming to the school next year asked about the Spanish-speaking population being more included. PTO president reported their translator is needed for next year. This parent volunteer to be translator and also discuss the possibility of a liaison position to make events more inclusive for Spanish speaking population.

Ms. Bekefi suggested a possible fundraiser called macaroni and music where parents bring a different pasta dishes and the children sing karaoke songs.

9. ADJOURNMENT

See you at Cookies & Canvas! Happy Valentine's Day! ♥