



Eisenhower Middle School PTO Minutes

November 16, 2011

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The meeting opened officially with the Flag Salute at 9:33 AM. There were 19 members in attendance.

Executive Board Reports

1st VP - Ming Chow Plotnick

- **Directory/Membership** - you still can join the EMS PTO. Additional directories are \$3.
- **Thank You** - to all volunteers that helped with the events in October and to Lynn Markarian for providing Hospitality this AM.

2nd VPs - Christina Gori (Francesca Ferrara was not able to attend)

- **Market Day**- all orders have been delivered.
- **Spirit Wear**- all orders have been delivered.
- **Ladies Night Out**- the date is set for Tuesday, 12/6 at the Brick House. The cost is \$50 per person. There is still time to register.
- **Donations for Baskets** - please consider donating a basket to Ladies Night Out.
- **Sign Up** - a sign up sheet was passed around for members to help with wrapping the baskets, selling tickets and other LNO tasks.

3rd VP - Jennifer Calendrillo

- **Special Presentation "Advisory Groups at EMS"** - Mr. Raimo and a sixth grade student had an informal Q & A time about the Advisory Groups. The student spoke about how being in an Advisory Group made her feel connected to the school, helped her to feel more comfortable and helped her to get to know students in other grades. Two hand outs were available: "Advisory at Eisenhower Middle School" and "Learning Your Way Survey". All the students took the survey as part of their Advisory Group session. Mrs. Dobson and Mrs. McLean spoke about how Advisory is about making connections and not counseling. There are lesson plans, however, these groups are in place to discuss important topics that may come up also. Advisory Groups are a great tool that will help the school be responsive to the students needs. The more the school gives students the chance to connect, the

- better learners they will become. Please encourage your student to get involved in their Advisory Groups.
- **Busy Time** - with the Turkey Trot, the Turkey Bowl and the turkeys that are being dropped off this week.
 - **Food Drive** - ends this Friday.
 - **Afterschool Clubs** - have all started.
 - **Terra Nova Testing** - this week for 8th. They will be in the Spring for the 6th and 7th graders

Secretary - Becky Harris

- **October 2011 Minutes**- presented and approved by membership vote.

Treasurer - Lisa Brefach

- **October 2011 Financial Statement**- presented and approved by membership vote.

Co Coordinator's Report - Lynn Markarian

- **Co Coordinator Needed**- EMS PTO Ex. Bd. needs to fill one more seat for the Co Coordinator position to work with Lynn.
- **Friday Volunteers** - are needed at the shop.
- **Consignment Accounts** - can still be opened.

President's Report - Katy Mutterer

- **3R's Day**- amazing day! Thank you to all the volunteers, especially Maria Mudrick and Tricia Nussenbaum.
- **Gym and Spirit Wear** - thank you Janice Vocca.
- **Market Day** - thank you Andrea Collins.
- **Teen Canteens** - these action packed nights are an awesome time for students to get together and just have fun! Thank you to Krisi Behrens, Kim Yandoli, Sylvia Brandes, Judy Panayos, Joanne Crain and Angela Evangelista for their work in coordinating these nights for our students.
- **Important Dates**- 11/21 Min. Day, 11/22 School Closed, 11/23 Min. Day, 12/6 Ladies Night Out and 12/14 December PTO Meeting.

Principal's Report

Stephen Raimo

- **3R's Day** - thank you PTO for providing this amazing day for all the students. The staff will try to work the themes of this day into their classrooms. Many speakers were captured on video and will hopefully be available on the website in the future.
- **EMS Trailers** - they have been removed! A new community garden will go in where the trailers were. The garden will be "green" and sustainable. The students will have the opportunity to be involved in this exciting project. Produce grown in the garden will be given to those in need.
- **Standardized Testing Meeting** - rescheduled for Tuesday, 11/29 at 2:00 pm.
- **Staff** - Christine Fuller will be reassigned as a Literacy Coach for the district. Her replacement is pending the BOE's approval.
- **Art Kiln** - an architect will be meeting with Rich Kuder to work on getting the kiln up and running.
- **Grading Portal** - a discussion was had on the access to a grading portal for parents. This may become available to EMS parents in the near future.

Committee Reports

3Rs - Tricia Nussenbaum

A special "Thank You!" was given to the 3R's Committee: Stephanie Racioppi, Christine Key, Elizabeth DeGregario, Elizabeth Brand, Sue Schwab, Ann Marie Voglino, Lisa Skondras and Michelle Kowal; Teachers: Mr. Olejarz and Ms. Sarfity; Staff: Mr. Raimo, Mr. Shean, Mr. Iasiello, Mr. Wisniuski and the office staff.

New Business

No new business.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca A. Harris
EMS PTO Secretary

**Next PTO Meeting:
December 14th @ 9:15 AM**