**Petrova Parents’ Club Meeting**

**Dec 2, 2013**

**7pm Petrova Elementary Library**

Attendees: Zoe Smith, Bob Laba, Jenn Small, Polly Kelting, Carrie Bradley, Jamie Konkoski, Sara Shatraw Jen Yousey Marcie Dann, Andy Walkow, Kelly Hass

Treasurers Report: Bob Laba

* Holiday Raffle-$1000 below budget

Holiday Raffle:

* Sales were difficult because of late Thanksgiving. Many could not sell to family over the holiday week.
* We could do a 50/50 raffle for a shorter window during a different time frame instead of the holiday season.
* Bob will bring in the list of winners and Carrie will phone.

Holiday Tree and Wreath Sale: Fri, Dec 6, 5:30-7:30 pm

* Polly will get the hot cocoa from Zoe and the hot water tank from cafeteria.
* Polly will send an email to Principals Dann and VanWeelden to forward flyer and order form to staff.
* There has been a tree donated tree for a family. Chad will determine best way to get it to them and Polly will deliver.
* Chad will have staff set up a table between door 1 and 2 and will take care of music.
* Polly will ask Tom Bell about cutting extra trees to sell on site.

Holiday Giving: Thurs, Dec 19, during school morning

* We need more items for gifts; families could drop off gift items while picking up trees.
* Lori needs someone to coordinate wrapping paper and volunteer tables: send flyer home.
* Tables will be set up the night before, starting at 7pm in middle school library. Tables include wrapping and gift tables by recipient, i.e. adult male, boys, girls, etc.
* K classes will wrap with their 5th grade buddies

Safe Routes to School Grant: Jamie Konkoski

* This grant is for $62K for education and encouragement of safe transportation activities to schools.
* Grant is written to pull together safe routes to school team in Jan to review the original plan. Team is looking to: partner with teachers for in the classroom teaching of dos and don’ts of walking and biking safely to school. We need education, encouragement, and perhaps a contest or reward, in short student incentives to walk or ride to school
* Why does our school not have lights flashing in front of our school marking a school zone?
* Grant has funds to create video to show right and wrong ways to navigate the street on foot or bike.

Pick-up Parking Issues on Petrova Ave.

* Some parents would like to have more of a police presence during drop off and pick up times. Now that the doors are locked people are parking along Petrova Ave. and children cannot be seen in the crosswalks before attempting to cross.
* One option is to have walkers can exit out of the middle school gym; could parent volunteers that could escort kids out. This might cause confusion.
* There is grant money to have grant to blinking lights installed near the school, however there are issues of ownership.
* Franklin County has money to install a side walk on Lake Street. If there is left over money, it’s possible flashing lights could be installed near Petrova crosswalks.
* Action item is to first, send letter home to parents describing the situation. The letter must start with the acknowledgement that conditions are different However, safety of the children is most important. Jamie contacted the Police Chief who said tickets could be issued. This should be included in the letter.

Uhlien Iron Man Foundation Grant

* Money has to go towards health and wellness, or sports oriented programs.
* We are trying to find something for K-2. Sara sent requests for yoga cards for the classrooms to use.
* We could use money to do a mock winter Olympics for Petrova Winter Carnival, i.e. snow sculptures, snowshoe relay races, sledding runs.
* Polly spoke to Mr. Morgan about the jog/walk-a-thon. He was very interested in putting something together for the last week of school. Could money be used for this? Or perhaps Mr. Munn and the special education teachers have some ideas on how to best use this opportunity.
* Another idea is for money from fund to support a K-1 trip to the Wild Center.

Principal Update: none.

Other business:

* Polly participated in the book discussion held at Northern Lights School on Nov. 12. The session was very interesting and focused on how to learning is not fixed and character building. Head master from North Country school spoke and had a lot of ideas worth investigating. Some are interested in having the Head Master come and give a parent evening or conduct an in-service teacher day centered on the ideas from the book by Paul Tough, “How Children Succeed”. Perhaps the Bloomingdale Parent Group would be willing to split the $400 forum cost for Hock to discuss the book.

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting is Jan 3, 2014 at 7pm in Petrova Elementary School library.