

PTA News

Nov/Dec 2007

November PTA Meeting Recap

The last PTA meeting was held on November 19. Herb Johnson was elected vice president of EBMS, Thanks to Tina Robustelli for her assistance as acting vice president since September.

Christmas in Iraq

High School Vice President JoAnn Herald and middle school Principal Jerry Husted explained that the two schools would be collecting candy and soccer equipment to send to our soldiers in Iraq, which, in turn, the soldiers would distribute to the Iraqi youth. The program was brought to the school and PTA's attention by two siblings in our school. For more information please call Tom Marshall at the High School at 373-4106.

Vice presidents' building reports:

At WES the annual Halloween Social was a huge success. The \$940 profit was divided among the three classes' accounts at WES.

At both AES and WES, the fall parent teacher conferences were well attended.

At WHS, staff and students participated in Red Ribbon week.

Charlotte Award

Sue Campbell, Language Arts Department chair stated that the Charlotte Award program has been going smoothly. The same selection of books is being read to students all across New York State and the students will vote on their favorite. The votes will be tallied statewide with the winning author receiving the Charlotte Award. The PTA donated \$1000 to help fund the purchase of the classroom book sets.

Internet information

Our School Resource Officer Deputy George Strid gave a presentation on Internet safety. The sixth grade will again participate in a 5 hour simulation course, *Missing*, a free program from Web Wise Kids. This year, the eighth grade will also participate in a one hour session. Deputy Strid discussed examples of Webutuck Internet bullying and inappropriate on-line chatting and recommended that parents stay aware of their children's on-line activities. He also suggested parents check out the website www.webwisekids.com.

Treasurer's Report

- ❑ Profit on the Yankee Fundraiser of about \$7800.00. Thanks to all for your support!
- ❑ \$600 to Ventriloquist Mark Wade at AES
- ❑ \$445 for the Hampstead Stage Company for a concert at WES.

The next PTA meeting will be Monday January 14 at 6:15 at Webutuck High School. Math and Science Night scheduled for March 19 will be on the agenda.

News from the schools

AES

From Sharon Vesely, AES VP

Both the Grandparent Luncheon and the Holiday Shop at AES were HUGE successes!

Many thanks to Dawn Marie Klinger, Trica D'Alessandro, Laura Calabrese, Patty Hayes, Herb Johnson, Erica Mahaffery, and AES staff and teachers for all of the energy and work to make the luncheon run smoothly.

Thanks to Dominique Eboli, Herb Johnson, Karen Storms, Erica Mahaffery, Patty Hayes and Laura Calabrese for helping with the Holiday Shop.

WES

From Sue Lopane, WES VP

I would like to thank all the volunteers for the WES Grandparents Luncheon:

Carrie Whitehead, Vicky Jasmin, Trini and Ella Stevens, Dotty Fisher, and Tara Morey. And thanks to all the parents who sent in great desserts for the day.

I would like to thank the volunteers for the Holiday Shop at WES: Trini and Ella Stevens, Carrie Whitehead, Dotty Fisher, and Herb Johnson.

****A special thank you to Cathy Christofel, Barbara Finelli, and Christine Biscoglio for copying and distributing the PTA news and other PTA communications.****

EBMS

From Herb Johnson, EBMS VP

To those of you I have not met, my name is Herbert Johnson (Herbie to most). I wanted to touch base with everyone and say hello. I have five children in the district: one in 9th, one in 8th, one in 3rd and 2 in kindergarten. Most people have seen me at various school functions.

I am looking forward to doing the best job I can for the district and the students. I will try to be as available as possible and am looking forward to helping our district and the students that attend. Any help or suggestions would be welcomed. I can be contacted at kirbyj64@yahoo.com or 845-373-6056

A holiday ice cream social was held on Dec 21 at EBMS and a breakfast was provided for the entire EBMS staff on Friday Dec 3 as a thank you from the PTA.

WHS

JoAnn Herald, WHS VP

Mark your calendars: the next blood drive at the high school will be on April 4.

A holiday breakfast for the high school students was held on Dec 21.

The mural dedication was well attended and interesting on November 15. The mural depicts the life of a Mohican family during different

seasons with historic accuracy. A full interpretation can be found on the school website. Next time you're in the high school stop by and view the Webutuck Mural by the high school gym!

Board of Education

At the Dec.3 Board of Education meeting the K-5 BET (Building for Excellence Team) presented its academic goals for the present school year. Please refer to the school website, www.webutuckschools.org, for previous and this year's goals.

Discussion of a spring overnight high school Broadway trip to New York City continued. Approximately 20 students would attend musical and dramatic workshops, take backstage tours and attend Broadway shows. Music teacher Ms. Schultz is coordinating the trip, and board action is scheduled for January

The PTA wishes you and your family a healthy and happy New Year!!

Elementary School Update – December 2007

Our elementary buildings have been bustling with activity this month with a host of activities. Thanks to the support of our PTA, AES and WES Elementary Schools each hosted a Holiday Shop. The students were very eager to peruse the merchandise and find the perfect gifts for family and friends. In addition, our PTA sponsored a stage production of "Treasure Island" for the students at WES. The children enjoyed the performance and spent some time asking questions of the two actors about their craft.

Both AES and WES celebrated the culmination of many weeks of dance rehearsals with Dance Performance Programs for parents and friends. Students in both buildings worked very hard to become acquainted with various dance steps and had a wonderful time showcasing their newly acquired skills during the culminating performances.

At MES, the pre-K students have also been busy with many activities including reading, writing, and learning songs. Additionally, the students have been making many wintry crafts and making holiday cookies. Unfortunately, due to the unexpected snow day in November, the Thanksgiving Snack had to be cancelled. The students are gearing up for a new celebration with their classmates and parents on December 19th. Fingers crossed for no snow that day!!!

Please note that our Elementary Web Sites have been updated and will have a calendar posted monthly with events pertinent to the Elementary Schools. In addition, the district calendar can also be viewed from the web page to give a more encompassing look at events happening throughout the district.

I wish everyone well as we move into the Winter Recess. Please enjoy some quality time as a family over the vacation week and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

Sincerely, **Joel E. Freer, Elementary Principal**



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