

PTA Meeting

9:15am, March 10, 2011

Daniels Run SACC Room

In Attendance: Assistant Principal Dan Phillips, PTA Board Members: Kelly Singleton, Jenny Gutierrez, Kristin Shriver and Carrie May, Peg Weis, Claudia Dwass, Lee Faber, Jennifer Kelly, Anne Maschino, Richelle Brown, Colleen Bilowus and Abdullah Daouk.

Old Business

PTA Survey (Jenny Gutierrez)-Survey results are posted on the school website under the parents section. Based on the results of the survey, the PTA is working towards improving communication between the PTA and Daniels Run families by translating PTA flyers into Spanish and Korean and listing the names and contact information for PTA Board members in each PTA email. Discussed how to encourage more involvement from parents within the PTA, both Mom's and Dad's, and how to increase attendance at PTA meetings. Discussed possibly having child care provided during PTA meetings or having an activity, such as an art class, specifically for children while their parent(s) attend the PTA meeting.

Crossing Guard Week-The PTA gave flowers to all of our hard working and dedicated crossing guards. Earlier in the school year, the PTA also gave \$25 Visa gift cards to all of the crossing guards in recognition of their efforts. The flowers and gift cards were very well received and all of the crossing guards were very appreciative.

Scrip-This is a fundraising program where parents would purchase gift cards and then a percentage of the gift card purchase price goes back to the PTA. The PTA has decided against doing another Sally Foster fundraiser next year, based on feedback received from the PTA Survey. The Scrip fundraiser would replace Sally Foster. The PTA is still in need of a committee and parent volunteers to oversee the Scrip fundraising program.

Brain Pop-The PTA purchased the Brain Pop software for the school at the beginning of this school year. The software has been widely used throughout the school. Parents and students can access Brain Pop 24 hours a day, even from home. The web site is www.brainpop.com, username is DRES1 and the password is dragons.

New Business

Board Nominations-The PTA is in need of nominating committee to identify parents to fill the Secretary and Treasurer position for the 2011-2012 school year. The nominating committee must consist of at least three parents. Claudia Dwass, Peg Weis and Anne Maschino graciously volunteered to serve on the nominating committee.

Parent Resource Center (PRC)-Kelly introduced Richelle Brown who is our PRC liaison, and also a Daniels Run parent. The goal of the PRC is to try to get families more involved in the school and PTA by making them feel welcome at the school. The PRC is located next to the copy room on the main level in Room A14. The PRC hopes to offer a variety of programs and resources for families, such as language programs and parenting programs. The PRC will also serve as a volunteer clearing house and will hold events such as "coffee talks" for parents. The PRC will be sending out a survey to parents, which will be translated, to determine what programs are needed or desired at Daniels Run.

Fundraising-

The PTA will be holding an all day (both lunch and dinner) fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen at Fairfax Corner on Thursday, March 24th. The PTA will receive 20% of the sales from dine in, take out, catering or curbside orders on that date. A flyer must be presented with the order so that the PTA will receive credit

for the order. The flyer will be sent home with students in the Thursday folders on March 17th. The PTA will also have the flyer available on the school web site as a document that can be downloaded and printed out at home. Extra copies of the flyer will also be available in the school foyer. Students will be given stickers to wear home on March 24th to serve as reminder about the fundraiser.

Box Tops/Labels for Education-Our Winter contest was the most successful contest ever! Students collected 7,419 Box Tops which equals \$741.90 and 8,303 Labels for Education points. The PTA will be receiving another 2,000 Labels for Education points for participation in the Veteran's Day letter writing project and ongoing magazine drive for Walter Reed, the SCA canned food drive and winter coat drive and the Jump Rope for Heart/Hoops for Heart event.

Juice Pouch Recycling-The PTA has submitted over 15,000 juice pouches and earned over \$300.00 since we started recycling them in the Spring of 2009. Just in the past 6 weeks, we have recycled over 2,000 juice pouches.

Cell Phone/Printer Cartridge Recycling-The PTA has sent in at least 50-55 cell phones within the past 6 weeks. The PTA will receive \$2 for each cell phone sent in for recycling by June 1st. The phones can be damaged or broken. Any unwanted cell phones are accepted for recycling. We continue to receive large numbers of printer cartridges for recycling. Several local businesses are donating their used printer cartridges to the PTA.

No Frills-As of today, the PTA has earned \$2,707.

Spring Fling (Friday, May 13th)-This will be a fundraiser for the PTA with a DJ/dancing and food for sale on-site. Currently we are looking at offering food from Red, Hot and Blue and Carvel ice cream for sale. The PTA will receive 20% of food sales that evening. The event will open at 6pm for those families wishing to have dinner or ice cream before the dance starts at 6:30pm. Food will also be for sale throughout the evening. The PTA will be selling drinks separately. Katy Malesky and Laura Wilson are chairing this event. They are looking into holding a raffle with prizes donated by local businesses.

Book Fair-Volunteers are needed and the PTA will be sending out an email request for volunteers. Thank you to Kristin Shriver for all of her hard work over the years to make our Book Fairs so successful and well run. The Book Fair will be open on International Night, Friday, April 1st.

International Night (Friday, April 1st)-There will be a DJ/dancing and volunteers are needed to man booths, help with decorating and serve as hall monitors during the event. Thank you to Peg Weis for chairing International Night for the past several years. It is always a fun, family event and we appreciate all of Peg's hard work to make this an evening to remember for Daniels Run families.

Spirit Wear-Three bids are needed and the PTA is trying to purchase spirit items from local businesses. The spirit wear purchase is a big investment, approximately \$5,000 initially. It took the PTA several years to sell all of the spirit wear purchased three years ago, so it requires a large amount of money up front, and then the return on the purchase can take several years. A parent asked about purchasing individual spirit wear items, meaning ordering spirit wear as an order is received, but it is cost prohibitive.

Membership-We currently have 323 PTA members. Directories are still available and are \$5.00 each.

FLEX (Foreign Language Experience Program)-FLEX is a Fairfax County sponsored language/cultural program that was offered at Daniels Run in the past. Chinese and Spanish were offered at Daniels Run. The classes normally take place before school. Next year, the PTA will need a new parent volunteer for the FLEX program. A PTA email will be sent out asking for a volunteer.

The SCA requested new basketball nets for the basketball court on the playground. The school already has the nets. The issue is that new metal rims are needed for the hoops, which will have to be purchased and installed through the County. Discussed looking into whether the County will pay for the purchase and installation, or if we can possibly use Box Tops funds.

Chess Club-Claudia Dwass is looking into finding an instructor and hopes to have the Chess Club in place by the next school year.

Original Artwork-We have two volunteers willing to run the program this year. Orders will be taken in the Spring. The funds earned through the Original Artwork program go back to the Art Department.

The PTA will be donating \$25 to the Malsam family for a plaque to be placed with a tree, that will be planted within the City, in memory of Greg Malsam, a former Daniels Run student, who passed away last August.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.