

## **Peekskill CSD PTO Committee/Building Report Form**

Submission Date: May 2, 2016

Month & Year: May 2016

Committee/Building: Woodside Elementary School

Items Requiring a Vote: N/A

### **Items Requiring Discussion:**

- The Olympics are coming to Brazil! The Olympics are coming to Woodside, too! Our Annual Field Days will have the OLYMPIC theme. Classes will represent countries and march into the field for Opening Ceremonies at 9:30 on June 6<sup>th</sup> for Kindergarten and June 1<sup>st</sup> for First grade. Each class will wave flags and chant the country they researched. We will play engaging games from around the world! This multicultural theme encompasses our CUNY NYSIEB initiative of creating a multilingual ecology for the school. Ultimately, this Olympic Field Day is about sportsmanship and FUN! We are requesting the PTO to supply fresh water, ice and ice pops to replenish our athletes.
- The purchase of our greenhouse is moving forward. Many thanks to the PTO for their contribution! The greenhouse will be purchased directly by PCSD, so funds will need to go through the district. We request that the PTO issue a check to the district for their contribution. Thank you again for all of your support!

### **Items for Information Only:**

#### **In honor of National Poetry Month:**

Woodside Elementary School hosted the 1st Annual Multilingual Poetry Café. The Emergent Bilingual Leadership Team (EBLT) designed the event as a night that would integrate poetry with world languages as part of an initiative with CUNY NYSEIB to use bilingualism as a resource for instruction.

Woodside students were encouraged to write an original poem or select a favorite poem to recite. Thirty-eight Kindergarten and First Grade students performed their poems at the Poetry Café before an audience of administrators, teachers, staff, and more than 55 parents. Students wrote a variety of poems focused on family, friendship, favorite animals, and themselves as special people. Shel Silverstein and Dr. Seuss were favorite authors. Poems were expressed in English, Spanish, Hindi, Portuguese, and Mandarin Chinese. Several Woodside staff members joined in the festivities by reciting their own original or favorite poems. All of the participating students received Blue Ribbons for Excellence.

We thank the PTO for their support and for supplying the sweet treats and water as the poets signed autographs at the Autograph session.

- **\*\*\*DATE CHANGE\*\*\*** (As noted in last month's report)  
Spring is Here! As we hear the birds chirping we can also hear the children preparing for their Spring Concert on the following days:  
Kindergarten – May 24<sup>th</sup>  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade – May 25<sup>th</sup>  
All performances will begin at 9:30 in the Woodside Cafetorium.
- Please assist us in urging all parents of kindergarten-aged children to register in the district before May 30<sup>th</sup>. Screening of incoming kindergarten students will take place on June 3 and June 4.
- Kindergarten orientation at Woodside is scheduled for May 23 at 6:30 p.m. The PTO is welcome to share information at this event.
- The Woodside Mural is beginning to take shape! Installation should take place May 21<sup>st</sup> and plans are in progress for the mural to be part of Open Studios on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to the PTO for their assistance with this project!
- Woodside will celebrate our families with Family Fun Day on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to a great day of outdoor fun with our students and their families!
- Kindergarten Gym Enrichment has been having tremendous fun learning the differences between aerobic and anaerobic exercises. They have been improving teamwork and perfecting sportsmanship. The First Grade Gym Enrichment has been learning to play an international game from Greece called Agalmata which means Statue. This game is similar to Freeze Tag, the student that is "it" yells "Agalmata" and all the other students freeze like a statue and the "it" tries to make them laugh to break the pose. This engaging game has the students laughing as they learn! We hope to include this game during our Olympic Field Days.
- In Art Enrichment, the students are busy preparing for their puppet show by making puppets and practicing their performances.
- Music Enrichment has been focusing on using Keyboards. The Kindergarten students love learning about improvisation, different rhythms and using the resonator bells to practice simple melodies. They have been reviewing songs they sang at Music Matters Night. They are ready to showcase their talents at our next assembly.
- Library/Technology Enrichment for first graders focused on country of Mexico this month. In celebration of Cinco de Mayo, they made Mexican piñatas out of balloons and papier-mâché. They can't wait to fill it with prizes and candy and pop it open. They also made maracas by gluing paper plates together and filling them with lentil beans. Brainpop.com provided engaging games and they watched videos about Dancing with Sombreros to learn more about the cultural traditions.

Submitted by: Colleen Hardiman, Principal