

Peekskill CSD PTO Committee/Building Report Form

Submission Date: March 3, 2017 **Month & Year:** March 2017 report

Committee/Building: Woodside Elementary School

Items Requiring a Vote:

Nothing at this time.

Items Requiring Discussion:

Additional funding needed to support purchase of refreshments and celebration materials.

1. Summer Reading Celebration
2. Snow Ball
3. Literacy Night
4. Poetry Café
5. Trike-a-thon
6. Field Day

A request for the exact amounts of additional funding needed will be forthcoming for your vote.

Items for Information Only:

- **100th Day of School:**

The 100th Day of School was celebrated throughout the school on Wednesday, February 15th with a variety of activities and projects.

- **Snow Ball Dance:**

Woodside School hosted their 3rd Annual Snow Ball Dance on Friday, February 17, 2017. There were 210 Woodside students in attendance. The gymnasium was transformed into a Dance Studio equipped with a velvet rope and flashing lights. The students danced the night away to classical music, group-line music, pop songs and the contemporary hits like Bruno Mars and the Cha Cha slide.

There were 26 Woodside staff members that helped set up and/or attended the dance. There were 9 parent volunteers that supported in the cafeteria. Four free baskets were raffled off loaded with books and school supplies. There was a photo booth available for parents to capture those magical moments together with their child. The best part of the evening was doing a huge Conga line from the gym to the cafeteria, where students cooled down and partook in refreshments sponsored by the PTO.

The Snow Ball Committee would like to thank the Staff, Teachers, Parents and the PTO for supporting this fun-filled event. This was the best Snow Ball Dance to date, we look forward to dancing again next year.

- **Wild Animal Fact Poster Gallery:**

In an effort to support Parental Engagement, Woodside School held a contest for creating a Wild Animal Fact Poster in January-February 2017. Students were issued a Writing Rubric to follow. We received 201 Posters! This Home-project allowed students to be creative and work with their parent(s). Students selected their favorite animal to showcase. The animal topics ranged from Alligators to Chinchillas to Red Pandas to Zebras. Cheetahs and Lions represented 30% of the posters. They were the ultimate favorites for Woodside students. All students that submitted a Poster received a

Certificate of Excellence printed with a ribbon award based on the Writing Rubric that was issued.

Woodside hosted a Wild Animal Gallery for all to peruse and celebrate these amazing projects March 2 and March 3.

- **ART:** In the art room, students are busy drawing and painting "something beautiful for my family." Ms. Hoagland, Woodside's Art teacher, will send these beautiful artworks to a company called "Art To Remember," which will create individual packets to go home to each child's family to order items memorializing this art. This is a PTO fundraiser giving parents the opportunity to order their child's artwork on a coffee mug, T-shirt, night light, pillow, etc. while supporting the PTO. The students are having fun making beautiful art for you.
- **Black History Month** was celebrated with a number of events taking place in individual classrooms. A special assembly was held to celebrate the contributions of 3 famous African Americans: Elton Brand, Barack Obama, and Wilma Rudolph. First grade students presented their projects to their peers using posters, powerpoint, and TPR (Total Physical Response) through acting out a press conference with Barack Obama and the achievements of Wilma Rudolph.
- **Pennies for Patients:** Woodside School will be taking part in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's "Pennies for Patients" program from March 6th to March 24th. During this program, students will collect money to support The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's mission to find cures and ensure access to treatments for cancer patients. Students will learn the importance of caring for others and understand the practice of donating money to help make life better for other people. Last year we raised more than \$2,700.00 with the help and support of our students and families. We look forward to another successful year of donating to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.
- **Attendance Matters Rally:** A group of parents from Woodside school have organized and are having a monthly "Attendance Matters" Rally, joined by faculty and staff. They occur the 1st Monday of every month and the rally consists of cheering and welcoming the students as they enter the school building. The parents also made multilingual posters that speak to how important our attendance is in school. (The posters are displayed throughout the school when not being used for the rally). It is a truly joyous and fun way to start our morning and a reminder to our students how important it is for them to come to school every single day!! *Attendance Matters!*
- **Peekskill Coffee House** Student Art Show Reception - Ms. Hoagland matted up 25 pieces of artwork by Woodside students to be included in the district art show at the Coffee House. The show opened Feb. 3 and has just ended. We will have the end of year annual Peekskill District Art Show at the Westchester Community College in May. Ms. Hoagland supplies the Field Library with ongoing, rotating exhibits of Kindergarten and First Grade artwork.
- **Woodside's Family Literacy Night** was an enjoyable evening for the Woodside Community. It was held on March 2nd in conjunction with Dr. Seuss's birthday. Two sessions were held, one session for kindergarten parents and one for first grade families. Many families had the opportunity to hear a story read aloud by a teacher, stack cups with high frequency words and play a vocabulary game with multiple meaning words. The children were excited and many parents commented about how much they got out of the night. Teachers highlighted the importance of reading aloud daily as a chance to spend quality time with children while building reading skills and instilling the love of books.

- **Trip to Bear Mountain** is being planned for those first grade students who were rained out of the orchard trip back in the fall.
- **Classroom news from Mrs. Cappuccilli:** On Fridays, the students make fun foods. During February, our class read the book, *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, by Judi Barrett. Then we cooked spaghetti. We ended the lesson by creating a literacy station, called: *Spaghetti Spelling*, where the students made spelling words out of silly spaghetti noodles.
During the week of February 27th, the class celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday. On Monday, the class wore crazy socks while we read, *Fox in Socks*. On Tuesday, the kids brought their favorite book to school. The students read their books while eating popcorn, then the whole class read, *Hop On Pop*. On Wednesday, the students wore wacky clothes and read, *Wacky Wednesday*. On Thursday, the students made Dr. Seuss hats and dressed up as the Cat in the Hat. On Friday, the students came to school in their pajamas while we read, *The Sleep Book*. We also made green eggs and ham, while we read, *Green Eggs and Ham*.
- **Classroom news from Miss Smith:** During enrichment, Ms. Smith's class created snowmen by using their knowledge of symmetry. The students created snowmen by painting them with q-tips. The students added to their symmetrical snowmen paintings by including wintery background illustrations.

Submitted by: Colleen Hardiman, principal