

STRONG PTO SEPTEMBER MINUTES

**September PTO Meeting
Tuesday, September 8th 2009
Strong School Library
7pm**

- Monthly Topics:
- Principal's Report**
 - Chair's Report**
 - Secretary's Report**
 - Treasurer's Report**
 - Committee Reports**
 - Durham Fair Activities
 - Hospitality
 - Dances/Socials
 - Cultural Arts Program
 - 8th Grade Activities
 - Strong School Reads
 - Old Business**
 - New Business**

Special Events:

- General Information: **Meeting Dates:** 10/5, 11/2, 12/7, 1/4, 2/1, 3/1, 4/5, and 5/3. All meetings are held in the Strong School Library at 7:15pm, unless noted otherwise. **Web Sites:**
- <http://rsd13ct.org> (Regional District 13)
 - <http://rsd13ct.org/schools/Strong> (Strong School)

Strong PTO Contact Information			
Position	Name	Telephone	Email
Co-Chair	Denise Brennan	349-9224	dwbrennan@sbcglobal.net
Co-Chair	TBD		
Secretary	Stacey Durand	349-2518	msdurand3@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Tina Levine	349-6326	levinetm@aetna.com
Durham Fair Sweets Booth	Kelly Schock	349-8125	ksglacier@aol.com
Dances/Socials	Denise Brennan / Stacey Durand	349-9224 / 349-2518	dwbrennan@sbcglobal.net / msdurand3@yahoo.com
Cultural Arts Program	Wendy Ortega	349-5180	wlortega@usa.net
Hospitality	Deb Segreto	349-0710	dsegreto@earthlink.net
Strong Clothing	Pat DeSimone	349-2249	
Eighth Grade Party	TBD		
Eighth Grade Messages	TBD		
Strong School Reads	TBD		

Principal's Report – Scott Nicol

- Two clubs will be starting up soon. We have received a Literary Magazine stipend for a school newspaper. Mrs. Reddick, Latin, and Ms. Suchy, Intern, are going to combine the Library Magazine and School Newspaper into one club and publish 4-5 issues this year.
- The math club will be starting soon. Ms. Commins will be running it and it will be open to all students.
- Student Council will resume soon. Ms. Gugliemino and Mr. Carcaud will co-chair.
- Teachers in the district recently attended a workshop called Capture Your Kids Hearts. District 13 received a grant and Teachers and Administrators from each school attended. The workshops centered on having good relationships with others and being a good person – which ties in to the Core Ethical Values. At Strong there is one teacher on each team trained. All classes start each class with good news. Morning announcements often have challenges to the students that relate to this program.
- We are entering our 3rd year of a partnership with Naylor K-8 school in Hartford. This partnership allows kids to see that schools and communities are all different. Principles and Advisory groups work together and we are always looking to expand the scope.

Chair's Report – Denise Brennan

- Actively working on the fair and Parent's Open House which is September 17th. Fair discussions will be noted during the Committee Reports later in the meeting. We will be selling Strong Wear and having volunteer sign ups at the Open House.

Secretary's Report – Stacey Durand

- Karen Buckley will be the contact for distribution of the minutes as well as posting the agenda and minutes on the website.

Treasurer's Report – Tina Levine

- Tina went over the transaction details for school year 2008-2009.
- The year over year (2007-2008 and 2008-2009) budgets and actual were presented.
- The budget by programs was shown.
- A detail of the budget by programs, which lists all income and expense, was explained.
- The 2009/2010 proposed budget was presented. A motion to accept the budget was made by Wendy Ortega with Denise Brennan seconding the motion. All are in favor for approving the 2009/2010 budget.

Committee Reports

Durham Fair Sweets Booth – Kelly Shock

- The Sweets Booth is the biggest fundraiser for Strong School. As of now, the parking does not seem to work for us. The requirement is that four adults provide full coverage in the remote parking lots instead of the gates as it was last

year. If the need were to be at the gates we would reconsider but the decision was to not participate in the remote lots.

- We have received \$460 from students to purchase the candy for the booth. We have 353 students in the school and were asking each student to contribute \$5. A basket for collections will be put out at Open House as well as a shift signup sheet.
- A onetime cost of \$5000 is in the budget for booth upgrades. This is for structure as well as fair site upgrades to ensure our location near the Midway. This is a Durham Fair requirement. A committee will be needed after the fair to plan for the upgrades. A committee should be in place by November. A signup sheet will be posted at the Open House.

Hospitality – Deb Segreto

- No report this month.

Socials – Denise Brennan and Stacey Durand

- The first Social will be October 24th. Parent volunteers will be recruited at the Open House.

Cultural Arts Program – Wendy Ortega

- The 8th grade program will be put on by Shakesperience Productions and will occur January 12th and 13th.
- The 7th grade program will be Chariot of the Sun and will be on April 6th.
- The school will also be enjoying a performance by Destiny Africa in October. They are a Ugandan Orphanage that is coming to Connecticut to perform. Three schools: Memorial, Strong and CRHS are all receiving in-house performances. A motion was made by Lori St. Amand to give \$200 to the group when they perform in October, this was seconded by Sharon McDermott and all are in favor. Mr. Nicol will present the donation when they come to perform.

8th Grade Activities – TBD

We are in need of a chair for this committee. Signups will be posted at the Open House.

Strong School Reads – TBD

We are in need of a chair to work with Mike Klimas our Librarian on this committee. It involves the school community reading a book and having discussions with small groups.

Old Business

- No discussion this month.

New Business

- Mike Klimas attended the meeting and asked that a hard wired wireless audio system be considered for the gymnasium. The system would include four wireless headsets. The gym also acts as an auditorium for Drama Club productions, Open Houses and BOE meetings. A current quote was for the system to be installed for under \$2000. The PTO will monitor finances through the year and keep the request for consideration. Thoughts were to ask the Drama Club to help fundraise and possibly installing the system with two headsets now and then expand to four next budget year.

Teresa Opalacz made a motion to close the meeting at 8:45pm.

The next meeting will be October 5th at 7:15pm in the School Library.

Minutes submitted by Stacey Durand

September 24th 2009