

**Gardner Road Elementary  
PTO Agenda  
November 20, 2024**

**Welcome and Introduction:** Stephanie Thomas

**Principal's Report:** Kim Malone

- Thank you parents who have come to parent teachers conferences so far.
- Keep an eye out for Friday's weather. Possible weather can impact the parent teacher conferences.
- Question about the schedule for a half day when there is a 2 hour delay.
- 2nd grade students put on a Veterans Day concert for both students and Veterans. They did a really nice job at both events.
- Quilts of Valor given to a Veteran
- Science and Discovery Center came to school
- Friday November 15th was Career Day. The district works with BOCES Career and Development Center.
- Next week's schedule includes 2 full days and a half day on Wednesday. Dismissal will begin at 11:05. Wednesday will be a theme day with students being encouraged to wear red, white, and blue.
- Staff wishes families a happy Thanksgiving.
- December 6th is Spirit Day and our Movie with Santa.
- Check the calendar for all of the upcoming December spirit days.

**Site Based:** Janice Jarvis / Kim Malone

- Last month, staff discussed and planned the activities that will be taking place on November 27th. Short videos
- Increasing social media
- Could we use the TVs in school to show events that have happened or are coming up?

**Community Engagement Committee:** Stephanie Thomas

- Met today to discuss how to reach the community with information.
- One of the team members brought a newsletter from the Elmira City School district that is sent out 2 times a year.
- Our district does not have the funds to do a mailing 2 times a year.
- Could the district possibly do an electronic version.
- Members suggested that we use some type of social media to reach the community.
- A curriculum calendar may need to be given to the public electronically.
- Families feel like they are in the dark in terms of what their students are learning. There needs to be more information shared about specific programming (RTI and services).

**Redistricting Committee:** Stephanie Thomas / Kim Malone

- Met last week.
- Not a lot of information has changed.
- The committee continues to discuss how to make it a smooth transition.
- Families will hear in December where their students will be in 2025.
- We will begin adding the new students to our upcoming events but no date has been determined.

**Treasurer's Report:** Autumn Osborne

- School Store
  - \$650 to date
- Unfundraiser
  - \$1,836 to date

**All Elementary PTO:** Stephanie Thomas / Kim Malone

- Nothing to report at this time

**Staff Requests:** Open Floor

- Sunshine fund committee has approached the PTO to help with the end of the year luncheon. They have shared that they would rather cut back on the Teacher Appreciation Week to support the of the year luncheon.
- Sarah wants \$50 for a tiny duck hunt.

**Old Business:**

**Applebee's Dine to Donate - \$183.66**

**Red Robin - \$143.24**

**Current / Upcoming:**

**Title I Parent/Family Policy review**

**Strategies to engage more families.**

**Title 1 activity is Book Bingo**

What barriers might be preventing families from participating:

- Sports
- Childcare
- Transportation
- Other family obligation

**What resources and strategies do families need to have to be more involved in their students' learning?**

- List of curriculum for families. Provide a scope and sequence for families to understand what they are working on during the year.
- Support families with RTI support by providing information about what is happening during those services. Consistent feedback and better communication should be provided from the RTI staff.
- The district does offer an RTI meeting at Open House but families don't always know that their student is receiving RTI services at the time.

**Feedback from current google surveys**

- None from this month

**Math Kangaroo Club**

- Starts November 21st
- Competition is in March

**Fall Book Fair**

- Experimented with having the book fair tied into parent teacher conferences rather than Open Home.
- Sales on parent teacher conference days has been significantly less than the days that they shop with their classes.
- Kim asked about purchasing new birthday books and PTO agreed to support her purchases through our Scholastic Dollars.

**Regal Ticket Fundraiser - starts November 27th**

- Starts November 27th
- A flyer will come home with students next week.

- Families can buy a bundle and we will receive 25% of the purchase.

#### **Gardner Road Movie and Santa Night**

- December 6th, 6pm
- Choosing a movie from Swank
- Cookies and juice boxes

#### **Harlem Wizards**

- Ticket sales are going to start December 4th
- Assemblies will take place at all 4 elementary schools.
- The special guest will be here to play basketball :)
- Check on getting Zeke
- Talked to Sam about getting it in the news letter.
- Andy will put it on the news
- Liz will add it to her board comments.
- Connecting with older staff to see about coming back.

#### **Holiday Shoppe (December 10-12)**

- Set up on 12/9 after school
- Volunteers are still needed
- Kim and the social workers are working on compiling a list of families that need support during the holidays. The PTO only purchases gift cards to locations that do not sell alcohol.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, December 18, 6:00pm

