

Middletown Village PFA Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2009

- Carol Farina welcomed all the attendees and introduced the PFA Board Members. Attendance sheet was passed around.
- Reading of the prior meeting minutes was waived. Minutes will be placed on the school website.
- Dorothy Ginda was voted in as the PFA Co Vice –President.
- Mrs. Zupancic thanked the parents and teachers involved at dismissal time. Safety is of utmost importance and things are going very well thanks to parent participation.
- Anti-Bullying district assembly took place today. Jay Banks was the presenter. Mr. Banks has been on the Nickelodeon Channel and written for Disney. On 10/15/09 he presents at Middletown North High School for parents in the district. Mrs. Zupancic will reschedule the curriculum corner for 2nd and 3rd grades to accommodate parents who wish to attend the Jay Banks presentation.
- A PFA member raised a question around bullying relative to our school policy. Mrs. Zupancic noted that two members of our child study team are also social workers. These individuals along with our school guidance counselor, Mrs. Roberts, provide support should there reports of bullying. Mrs. Zupancic also engages the parents of the child(ren) involved. If there are repeated actions involving the same child (ren), much stricter consequences are enforced, including suspension.
- Checking account balance is: \$ 11, 584.88. Our savings account has been closed.
- PFA Budget was reviewed and voted in by attendees.
- Thank you to Kerry Smith for putting together the directory – again! She is still waiting on 35 families; the deadline is Friday 10/9. We have 21 ads for 18 Village Family businesses! Expected distribution is week of 10/26/09.
- Our Village website redesign is almost ready to roll! A special thanks to Molly D’Albero. As we fine tune the website, our goal is to ensure it is an effective way to communicate to our parent community.
- Thank you to our Room Parent coordinators. They were in attendance and stressed the importance of following our phone chain procedures ‘to the letter’.

- Rosanne and Carol will be verifying chairs and co-chairs over the next week. Expect a phone call for verification.
- Every year the PFA gives our teachers a 'Welcome Back" gift. This year the PFA gave the teachers \$65 cash to use in their classrooms. This replaced the submission of a receipt for reimbursement. This was extremely well received by the teachers.
- School spirit T-shirt orders are due back on 10/26. We will have the shirts no later than 10/30. We discussed the potential for ordering the T-shirts at the end of the school year for the next year. More to come on this. Some of the school spirit orders were available for display at the meeting. The full zipped hoodie sweatshirt has been added to the sales inventory. Shorts will be discontinued.
- Alison Schragger and Shana Vacca will be taking over school spirit for 09/10. Thank you Alison and Shana.
- Gift Auction news: After the surveys were received back, the choice between the traditional Gift Auction and Casino night was about even. To assist with the decision, a presentation on Casino night was provided at the PFA meeting. This was given by an entertainment company that specializes in the Casino Night theme. Following the presentation there was a majority vote for a Traditional Gift Auction. If you wish to help in soliciting, packets can be obtained by contacting Kathleen Schweitzer or Dorothy Ginda.
- Walk-a-thon pledges are just under \$11,000.
- Halloween Bingo is around the corner! Stephanie Beck provided a brief description of Halloween Bingo for our new families. We will be reverting back to the table/chair setup but will have three separate sessions. This is to accommodate our Fire Code Rules. Max of 150 people for each session. We will talk to Wendy's about accommodating our Fund Raising for both evenings. Dates are October 29th and 30th. Thanks to Stephanie and Kim for coordinating.
- Great Race applications are flowing in. Seems 3rd grade is in the lead!
- Thanks to Kelly Parry for taking on the Box Top Program. First contest will be starting shortly – look for notes in the backbacks.

- Mr. Font attended and passed on several messages of appreciation from our teachers. They included a THANK YOU for - the new closets in our classrooms; the chair sliders; the wonderful welcome back breakfast; and the cash gift for school supplies. He noted that all the teachers were excited the beginning of this year! He also handed the PFA cards of appreciation signed by our teachers.
- PIC Update: Last meeting provided details about the new Kindergarten Program; Also noted - Mary Pat Harrington has been hired by the district to be the "It's OK to be different" Liaison; There will be Nutrition presentations at High School North this month.
- Reminder - Please use your Target Visa as monies are returned to Village with each purchase.
- Christine Landis advised the PFA of a new program offered by Capri Sun. This will be reviewed to determine if our school can benefit. Also noted was a new school program at Stop and Shop - which we will also look into.
- A parent raised a concern about some 4th and 5th graders being invited into other 4th and 5th grade classrooms for lunch. Some offered positive comments and others had some concerns with regard to children feeling "left out". With anything new there is a learning process on how it can be done better.
- Kerry Smith advised the new families of the Teacher Surveys available in the school office. Take a peek! It provides really good tips on what our teachers like/dislike. For those interested in class gifts, etc. Many parents found it most helpful.
- A parent raised a question regarding the status of the temporary Kindergarten wall. Mrs. Zupancic advised she would check with Central Officer regarding progress on approvals for the permanent wall.
- Casey Carragher, Yearbook Coordinator reminded the attendees to send all pictures of any school event on CD to the yearbook committee. She also reminded the group that the PFA has purchased cameras for 'on the spot' use for parents that may be in the building during an event.
- Important Dates:
 - Bullying Show from the PFA is scheduled for 10/9/09

- School Closed 19th
- Jay Banks at High School North 22nd
- Great Race 24th
- Halloween Bingo 29th and 30th
- School closed 11/2 – 11/6
- School Closed 11/11
- 2nd and 3rd Grade Curriculum Corner – 11/12
- PFA Meeting - 11/13
- Turkey Trot – November 17th (rain date 11/18)
- Early Dismissal 11/19 – 11/25 (for Teacher conferences)
- School Closed 11/26 and 11/27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday