

# Love of Learning Montessori School

## PTA Meeting Tuesday, October 14, 2010 Minutes

- I.** Despite the rain, we had a huge turnout, including 3 new families from the Dix Hills campus as well as new families from Centerport as well! At Love of Learning we have one PTA for both campuses, as we are one big school family! All families are encouraged to join in and participate as their time allows.
- II.** The upcoming Fall Potluck dinner on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm was discussed. This year we are using Jooners to have everyone sign up. The purpose is to have a fun Love of Learning family event, where all families can meet, eat & have fun!
- III.** Mr. Thompson explained the annual Halloween event, to be held this year on Friday October 29<sup>th</sup>. We take the time at Halloween to think about other children and their needs by having a UNICEF fundraiser:
  - a. A bus will take children and parents from the Dix Hills campus to Centerport so the whole school can celebrate together!
  - b. Tickets for the event can be purchased at the event or ahead of time. The ticket proceeds go to UNICEF.
  - c. Crafts & activities are at many tables for the children at the event. The activities generally cost one ticket.
  - d. Gently used books/toys are available at the event to be “purchased”. The toys are placed on different tables according to their value.
  - e. Cupcakes will be decorated by the children at the event. (If you can bake plain cupcakes for the event, please contact the office)
  - f. Children will go to the LOL pumpkin patch to pick and decorate a pumpkin. We encourage you to make a donation for the pumpkin to UNICEF.
  - g. Children will be coming home with UNICEF boxes and children are encouraged to trick or treat for UNICEF. If trick or treating is not on your families agenda, perhaps family/friends can be asked to contribute or some spare change around the house. The children will be counting the money at school with various activities in the subsequent weeks (Math!) and sending it to UNICEF.
- IV.** The shelves are bare at our local food pantries, so we are doing our Fall Food drive early this year. Please send in your child with non-perishable items between Oct 15<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>. Hayley Wiggins informed the group that items like toothpaste, medicines, coffee, tea, and personal products were always in need as well. Thank you for your participation.
- V.** Keri Puglisi explained that LOL used to have a wrapping paper fundraiser that raised lots of money, but it wasn't a “green” fundraiser & it didn't go along with the Montessori principles. So the school now has many smaller fundraisers that are more healthy and mindful. You are encouraged to participate in the

fundraisers you can and we thank you for all your participation! (and we are always on the lookout for other ideas, so if you have any, please let us know!)

- a. Small Hands Catalogs were sent home. They feature unique gifts, books and include child sized items for the home. Please share this resource with friends & family & be sure to have them use our school number #120471 when they order, as we will be given credit for classroom items.
- b. Anyone who frequents Stop & Shop is encouraged to sign up for their A+ School rewards. You can email your last name & 13 digit number on your stop & shop card to [keridesigns@yahoo.com](mailto:keridesigns@yahoo.com) and Keri will sign you up! Or you can go to [www.stopandshop.com/aplus](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus) and register your card. Then simply shop as you do and use your card and they will give LOL money. EASY! =)
- c. Our Grapefruit & Orange sale begins October 25<sup>th</sup>. Fresh oranges & grapefruits from a family farm in Texas are driven right to Love of Learning. They are delicious & we hope you and friends/family will give them a try. Keep them in your garage and they will stay for months! Healthy fundraising!
- d. Box Tops for Education are due soon! This is the perfect activity for all age children to get involved & cut out those box tops & bring them in. We collect them all year, but are turning them in shortly, so please get any you have collected in by Oct 27<sup>th</sup>! Thanks to Micheline Brummel, our coordinator!
- e. We did a children's artwork sale last year & are doing it again this year. Examples of nightlights, stationary, magnets, tote bags with our children's art were displayed at the PTA meeting. Your children will create a work of art in school and you can order items with that art printed on it. (copies of the art will be send home or can be viewed at school) We will be sending home additional "canvas" (paper) where your children or children of friends/family can make alternate images to order items. New items this year include coasters, aprons, over mitts & more. Lisa Cahn of Dix Hills has graciously volunteered to be our coordinator. Thanks Lisa!

- VI.** The LOL book fair will be the first week of December at both Dix Hills & Centerport campus. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jona Quinto [jonaqt@gmail.com](mailto:jonaqt@gmail.com). Our children will be able to make their own purchases during the school day. Family is encouraged to come by to shop as well.
- VII.** Our next PTA meeting will be Thursday December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30, which will be our Holiday party/book fair extravaganza! This will give us a chance to shop for books, have a quick PTA meeting & see the Montessori education video as well.
- VIII.** Our Art Auction is scheduled for Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>, so book your babysitters now! Jenine Saccente (co-coordinator with Nancy Montelli) spoke about the event. There are raffle baskets, delicious food & wine in addition to the art auction, so there is truly something for everyone! Last year was a lot of fun & we encourage all families to attend (and bring family & friends as well!)
- IX.** Mr. Thompson showed the new video on Maria Montessori on her life, her work and her legacy. The video will be shown again at the end of the next PTA meeting in December for any that missed it and would like to see it.