



There was a meeting of the Friends of North Syracuse Early Education, Inc. on February 15, 2018 at Main Street School.

**Attendance:** Shari Doherty, Janet Gonçalves, Trisha Harp, Jennifer Higgs, Dawn Hussein, Jessica Kurpiewski, Linda Kurpiewski, Sara MacMartin, Catherine Podolak, Danielle O'Brien, Kate Zacharek, and special guest, Cheri Rotelli . The meeting was called to order at 6:40pm.

Sara MacMartin made the motion to approve the minutes from January 18, 2018 meeting. Shari Doherty seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

**\*Treasurer's Report:** There is currently \$46,633.07 on deposit with \$5,999.59 tied up with encumbered funds and budget commitments and \$26,318.38 in dispensable funds. The expenses for the month totaled \$146.97. Income for the month totaled \$192.07. Sara MacMartin made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and prepared. Kate Zacharek seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

**\*Wish Requests:**

**Rugs:** requested by Charlie DeFazio. One rug in size 3'x30' to replace runner on the ramp and a 6'x15' for first floor as you come up from the ramp. Both carpets will help in absorbing water on messy winter days, especially mornings. This went to rubric and passed, pending finding the best prices. The money for this purchase will come out of the building needs fund.

**Panera Gift Card:** requested by Michelle Shallcross as a thank you to Amy Good for volunteering her time on June 8th to teach a high scope curriculum for professional development. This class will be a great tool for current and new teachers to instruct and educate children in the inclusive program. This will be revisited at a later meeting after talking to the PTO.

**Family Times and Summer Camp:** a wish request from Dawn Hussein to advertise in the Family Times magazine for a total of 6 months from March to August. The Family Times advertising would cost \$156.00 a month and the ad would fit 1/8 of the page for a total of \$936.00 for the 6 months. Summer Camp Fair booth would cost a total of \$300.00, for a total cost of \$1,236.00. It was suggested that perhaps advertising on social media (Facebook, Twitter) would get a wider audience and cost less. This went to a vote and was approved by all members present. If there are any other ideas on how to advertise Main Street to the community, please let Dawn know.

**Play Loft Ball Pit:** Cheri Rotelli was at the meeting to present the request for a square padded container and padded floor in a size 53'x53' from South Paw company for \$753.00. This will be used with large foam cushions and therapy balls to allow students access to proprioceptive sensory input in the Rainbow Room. Not only students receiving physical therapy benefits, but all students with teaching assistants could also

use the equipment for sensory regulation. Resistant pillow containment promotes excellent strengthening opportunities. It was put to rubric and passed with the funding from the gross motor fund.

**\*Walk-A-Thon:** The Walk-A-Thon is on Friday, March 2, 2018 and there will be 2 yoga stations set up to spread out and be roomy. At the time of the meeting, we are still waiting on gift certificates from Texas Roadhouse. If there are no Texas Roadhouse gift certificates, Jessica will be making certificates on the computer to hand out to all the children who participate in the Walk-A-Thon.

**\*Therapy Ball:** On April 12, 2018 we will hold the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Therapy Ball at Barbagallo's. The price of tickets this year will be \$20.00 for early ticket purchases and \$25.00 for tickets at the door, they go on sale March 1, 2018. Donations are starting to come in, very slowly at the time of the meeting. Still waiting for big ticket items. Donation preparation day will be Sunday, April 8th, 2018.

**\*Open Discussion:** Jennifer Higgs made a copy of all the potential places for grants that Caroline put together last year. Janet Gonçalves mentioned getting a laptop for the Friends group and keeping information from Friends in one location.

**\*School News:** Helen and Tammy will be retiring in June 2018. Registration for fall pre-k starts on March 5th, 2018.

Jennifer Higgs motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kate Zacharek seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously at 8:00 pm.

The next meeting will be held on March 15, 2018 at 6:30 pm at Main Street School.

Respectfully submitted,

Trisha Harp