

## The February PTA Meeting

The general meeting of the PS 133 Pta took place on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Handouts were distributed about fire and general safety guidelines.

The defensive driving class will take place on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Family Fun has been rescheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year square dancing will be theme. Tomorrow a new cookie fundraiser will go home with the kids.

Gail Whelan introduced the nominating committee. It is comprised of Kathy Badalamenti, Deidre Noonan and Eileen Ryan.

Ms. Stepel spoke about communicating with parents via the school website. There is a new link with school notices and announcements. It will start after the vacation. Kindergarten registration is ongoing. The auditorium upgrade is moving forward. Report cards are going home March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Young Audiences is continuing to work with the students using their musical theater program. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade show is this week. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are working on the Wizard of Oz and the 1<sup>st</sup> graders have started with storytelling.

Kevin Kelly was one of the guest speakers. He is an employee of the FDNY. He spoke about the importance of WORKING smoke detectors. It is time to move the clocks forward soon as well as change the batteries in the smoke alarms. There should be 1 on every level in your home. They should be 10 – 12 feet away from the kitchen to prevent nuisance alarms. Carbon Monoxide detectors should be 10 – 15 feet away from the boilers. It only takes 2 minutes for a fire to double in size. He reminded us of the importance to close the door behind you in a fire to prevent the spreading of it. Get out and call 911. Never go back inside. It could cost you your life. He spoke about having a home escape plan and discussing it with your children. Have a meeting place set up away from the house so that everyone can be accounted for. Many times people think family members are still inside when they are not.

Brian Wimpleberg from the NYPD spoke about crime prevention. He spoke of a high rate of cell phones and ipods being stolen from kids. He spoke about the recent incident of someone trying to lure 2 girls into their car and teach your children not to get into the car with anyone they were not expecting to pick them up. Be very wary of people who solicit you and call your home wanting personal information. The community affairs department of the local precinct will do a free audit of your home to reduce the chance of it being burglarized. Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of it.