

Emerson Williams PTO Meeting  
October 8, 2009

**Call to Order/Opening Remarks**

Michele Lavoie and Paula Heinzmann welcomed everyone to the PTO Meeting. Michele Lavoie introduced Tristan Stanziale, a member of the Board of Ed, who will attempt to be at all the future PTO Meetings. Anyone who is interested in attending the next Council meeting, it will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October to discuss the construction of the fence that will separate the Library and Middle School.

**Principal's Remarks**

- Mrs. Catarius discussed the Responsive classroom training – which states that a child's social education is just as important as the academic education. Children will be having morning meetings going forward. All of the teachers from all of the elementary schools in Wethersfield will be going through this training.
- The new name for the anti-bullying program is Character Counts, which has 6 pillars, the first of which is Caring.
- Mrs. Catarius explained the Walking Club, which gives feet charms to children who complete 4 miles. This gives the students something to do as an alternative activity during recess.
- The children had a kickball game, and fun was had by all – the kids enjoyed themselves, and Mrs. Fox agreed.
- Mr. Malicki and Mrs. Catarius have started PENS again, and hope for 75% participation.
- The classrooms have started using the 19 laptops that were received from the grant from last year.

**Teacher Representative: Mrs. Fox**

- Mrs. Fox handed out a who's who in the music department, as well as a schedule of upcoming music events.
- Mrs. Fox asked that anyone who has questions to email her.
- Mrs. Fox also brought with her samples of the new textbook series that was just purchased – Spotlight on Music, which is phenomenal, as well as CD's with a large number of songs that the students truly enjoy.

**Secretary's Report**

Martina Cacioli made a motion to accept the Secretary's report and Martin Malicki seconded the motion. Motion accepted.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Dave Schroeder stated that we have \$19,968.69 in the account. Please keep in mind, that most of the money is earmarked for various budget items.
- There is some money that is still outstanding for magnets, and some money that will be coming in for the wrapping paper fundraiser.
- Dave has copies of the budget and can print them out for anyone who would like it.
- We budgeted \$2300 for the book fair, but only about \$1875 has come in so far.
- Mr. Griswold would like us to set up an account at Music & Arts for his scholarship fund. So far, he has 1 person who has qualified for the scholarship.
- \$3.50 per student (471 students) was paid to the Creative Arts council, for a total of \$1648.50.

- We will be staying with TD Bank, and increasing the amount of items we can deposit to 500 by keeping a \$500 minimum balance in our account. Dave Berry made a motion to accept the increase, and Martina Cacioli seconded it. Motion accepted.

### **Committee Reports**

**Community of Concern** – Michele Lavoie stated that anyone who would like to attend their monthly meetings, the next meeting is Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the library. Betty Standish is in charge of that program.

**Macy's Shop for a Cause** – Paula Heinzmann stated you would pay \$5, all profit for the PTO, and you receive a one day pass to Macy's for 10-20% off, plus a chance to win a \$500 gift card. Only for October 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Address Directory** – Andrea Ginter is still waiting for about 30 more families to respond, and once completed, directories should be distributed this month.

**Book Fair** – Andrea Ginter - thanks to all who helped. We made a little less than budgeted. We were able to provide some books to the media center and various teachers.

**Entertainment Books** – Andrea Ginter - sold about 25 so far, need to sell 100 in order to get 40% profit.

**Board of Education** – Michele Lavoie – Teacher of the Year for EW is Gez Forst.

**Teacher Appreciation** – Martina Cacioli – went quite well. One of the sinks in the teachers bathroom needs to be replaced. Martina will check with Lowe's to see if we can get a sink donated.

**Community Outreach** – Martina Cacioli – a letter has gone out for membership, and we've gotten about 30 responses so far.

**Creative Arts** – Martina Cacioli – The first is the Repertory Theater, and the next event should be some point in March.

**Grants** – we will wait until next year before applying heavily for any grants, so that we can gather more information first.

**Membership** – Michele Livingston – still rolling in, we've gotten about \$1600 so far.

**Handprint Project** – Claudia Miller – haven't started anything yet.

**Media Center Coordination** – Michelle Bosco – should be wrapped up by next week.

**Room Parents** – the list has been completed, and will go out in the address directory.

**Family Events** – Bingo – date has been changed to November 10<sup>th</sup>. There are now custodial fees that may be charged for any family events – more information to follow. If you need to reserve any of the schools for an event, please get your building and use forms in as soon as possible.

**Vendor Night** – will be held November 6<sup>th</sup>. Kat Zapor requesting anyone who wants to participate to contact her.

**Holiday Store** – scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup>. More details to follow.

**Movie Night** – to be held at Webb.

**Dinner on the Lawn** – went well – everyone had a great night.

**Comedy Night** – to be held on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Contact Michele Lavoie for tickets.

**Sixth Grade** - Robin Bourassa – Pine Acres has been reserved, pie and wreath fundraisers to follow shortly. Poinsettia fundraiser also to follow.

**Box Tops for Education** – Michelle Bosco – October 31<sup>st</sup> is the first due date. Still collecting!