

Meeting Minutes

Emerson-Williams Elementary School PTO

Date: September 13, 2012

Location: Emerson-Williams Upper Media Center

Meeting Called to Order By: Martin Malicki

Time: 7:10pm

Attendance: 27

Officers Reports

Call to Order / Opening Remarks

-- Martin Malicki opened the meeting @ 7:10pm

Principal's Report - Mrs. Catarius

-- great opening of school - going very smooth - new staff - Mrs Dawson has returned for Kindergarten - a few more new teachers - 440 total students - Mrs Laflesh made teacher of the year - assembly first week of school to og over theme - respect and responsibility - next week attorney noble coming in to Monday Sept 17th
Constitution day - coming Wednesday - freedom of speech - brief report in October on CMT's

Secretary's Report - Paul LaPerriere

-- Amber motioned and Andrea 2nd - with the change to the Progress Reports - Paul to remove and resubmit for final signoff

Treasurer's Report - Holley Dyjak

-- Holly explained the layout of the budget sheet - fall book fair earned over \$1700 - \$630 teacher fund was handed out (\$20 per year) - 1700 at golf tournament - budget viewable on EWPTO website

Teacher Representative - N/A

-- Ms. Fox present for teacher Representative - "Whos who and Whats what" - handout passed out at meeting explaining the program - have music twice a week and sometimes 3 to 4 times a week - 3rd grade recorders (as example) - concerts are listed on the flyer that is passed around - recommends email as form of contact - flyer will be made available on EWPTO website - if there is interest in music by a student, Ms Fox has resources that are available to teach to the younger children

Committee Reports

Address Directory - Greg Ginter

Greg said that the forms went home and we are missing 38 families at this point - waiting on room parents to be decided so they are in it - list was generated off a class list prior to school, needs to be checked over - business size card ad in the directory for \$50 - nice little fund raiser to pay for the directory and make some additional \$ - business ad by 25th - mid October

Appreciation Week - Open

- every other year event where a student picks someone to appreciate - little honoring event with certificate given to honoree

Beautification - Sharon Koziol

-- outside work outside the school - last year girl scouts did some planting and weeding - hope to have a few events done this year with some parents and children

Birthday Board - Open

Corkboard entering the cafeterias - posts the birthdays list for each month

BOE Liaison - Open

-- someone who goes to all the BoE meetings and reports to us monthly - BoE did a change to the school calendar - proposing a traditional model to the 2013 - 2014 year - Feb vacation would be a 3 day vacation - and April would be shifted to Spring vacation starting March 31st thru 1st week of april - need input from parents - email BoE - traditional kids would start the 29th of August and progressive would start a day earlier - 2 days earlier dismissal for school - 2013 and 2014 high school constructions is asking for long

summer so construction can be done at that time - when High School starts - nothing will be done but construction at high school during summer - all meeting information is on the website

By-Laws Review - Sharon Koziol

-- review existing bi-laws and change

Cheer/Teacher Appreciation -- Open

-- committee that each month does a littel something for lunch staff - we hold a full blown luncheon for the teachers - sends out cards, monetary gifts for birthdays, weddings, showers, deaths, etc. -

Community Outreach - Open

- Things we do to help the community - food drive, cleaning supplies, etc - thanksgiving we do a food drive - kids bring in a different food to make baskets, etc

Creative Arts - Open

- Working with other members of other schools - reviewing different performers and they come to all the schools
- contribute money - an example is authors and musicians - LEARN grant

Enrichment - Michele LaVoie

- completely signed up with High Tocuh/High Tech - got last years pricing - will start soon - in contact with a couple authors - Illinois professor - Poetry and sings songs - have call into him

Family Portraits - Lauren Barbara

- Sunday Sept 30th - \$25 sitting fee is going to playground - flyers home this week - can still get the deal if you cant make the 30th

Fall Pictures - Michele/Michele

- Next Thursday - tomorrow envelopes go out - Sept 20th

First Grade Lunch Helpers - Darka Jarra

- Was great - first three days - kids were up to speed by Wednesday including the K's

Grants - Open

- Needs a chair - some employers give matching grants

Kindergarten Boo-Hoo's - Open

- meant for Kindergarten kids in case they cry

Kindergarten Handprint project - Open

Under way - great bog tarp with handprint - saved till 6th grade and then they plant their hand on it in 6th grade - used then later at high school graduation

Media Center Coordination - Open

- In contact with Mrs Corsiar - 14th to come around for recruiting - schedule still being worked out - for readers

Open House

Membership for PTO - \$1372 was brought in

Playscape - Paul LaPerriere

- still working with the staff of town to make it happen next summer - Michele Lavoie asking about Flocking for ie playscape - might be a good way to raise additional \$ for the playscape

Room Parents

- looks like all are filled - will be sending out information on who will be in which class

Publicity - Open

- Contact the Century 21 to offer advertising on the Silas Deane highway is an example of finding ways to get things done

Sixth Grade - Janet/Michele

- first meeting - went well - 6th grade is a sub committee that does their own fund raiser for 6th grade specific events - traditional (yearbook), Pine acres, and various activities to progress out of Emerson to go to the Middle School - lots of fun

Welcome Back Teachers

- great luncheon for all the staff - teachers appreciated the luncheon - no money used for the PTO budget - all donated - 15 people helped

FAMILY EVENTS

Bingo - Open

- someone who organizes the event - we had the last two here at Emerson - organize raffle, etc

Dinner on the Lawn - Open

- pick a night to have families show up to eat and socialize with other families

Holiday Store - Amber Kiniry/Lauren Barbara

- children come in to purchase items for the holidays - set up the Gym to have the children come in - each item is \$2 - wrap and label gifts - surprise to the families that you children provide to you over the holidays - have helpers from 6th grade and about a total of 70 volunteers - will combine with Vendor Night - Date is November 27th from 5-8pm

Movie Night - Open

- Will be in late winter early spring - rent out the web auditorium and play a movie (recently released movie) for families - free admission - only charge is for food

Talent Show - Michelle Quadrato

- targeting April 5th - all students in school showcase their talents - acts are previewed by Mrs Catarius - fun night for parents

Apparel - Open

School emblem stuff to be sold - car magnets still for sale -- T-Shirts for field day is suggestion again

Book Fair - (9/5 - 9/7)

- successful, thanks to the volunteers - raised \$1700 - provided \$100 in books to the library - also Kindergarten and 6th grade for library in classroom

BoxTops - Amber Kiniry

- on the products that we buy at the store - do drives and contests - late spring - whole month and whichever classroom brings in would get a popcorn or popsicle party - no cost to families - go on the website and if you log into it first, we can get extra credit for them - submission over the summer - \$2.70 this year - submission \$1351.10 for last year - Emerson is ranked approximately 6th of all the schools in the area and 9th in the state - even some copier paper has them - Hammermill paper and Avery Products - send in plastic bag (bundles of 50) - if they can be trimmed, that would be great

Labels for Education - Sharon Koziol

- Campbell soups, Bic, etc - letter at home with program and list of products - not easily identifiable - it is the bar code to products - gold fish is an example - we get points, not cash - merchandise can be purchased - Facebook page and www.labelsforeducation.com - labelsforeducation.com also another avenue

Butter Braids

- late Feb for cookie dough./frozen product - really tasty stuff - budgeted to do make \$1000

Comedy Night - Open

- run in past years - arranging a comedian come in and gathering raffle items at community center

Friends/Family Restaurant night - Open

- Friendly's, Wood n Tap, Chilis - portion of proceeds are donated to PTO

Golf Tournament - Paul LaPerriere

- Brought in \$3700 - doubled our playing field - planning on next year's tournament already - have meetings scheduled with a few courses

Jog-A-Thon - Open

- April or May - donation for rounds that they go - 15-20 mins - pick a bead for every lap - kids have fun - raised a lot of money this year - looking for volunteers in spring

Mixed Bags - Janet Vasel

- raised more than what we anticipated - budgeted about \$500 and raised close to \$1000 - will be in October after wrapping paper fundraiser

Target Cards

- Currently have 33 people with cards - get Target CC or debit card linked - get 5% off the purchase and school gets benefits - go to Target.com - designate Emerson as the school -

T&S Cards

- finished with 107 users - like to double it this year - all people can join (Grandparents and cousins, relatives, etc) - hit up anyone that you know -

Scrapbooking - Open

-- coordinate an all day "crop"

Tiger Topics

Deadline is tomorrow - 2nd Friday of the month with publication on third Friday of the month - all electronic - some copies in the office - should have 10-15 copies in Office

Vendor Night - Alicia

- paired it with holiday store - will do again - any vendors that sell products to contact us and pay us for a spot in the cafeteria - first people are Emerson people first and then outside

Wrapping paper

- sent home information today - thru Sept 27th - gift boxes for gift cards, etc. Chocolates and Magazines - 40-50% profit

WSPC

- representative from all schools get together to discuss common issues amongst all schools - absenteeism came up at latest meeting - tightening it up - what is excusable and what is not - State Legislature has given what is and isn't an excused absence - how many days, etc. - if you go over the limit, it can become a problem

Yankee Candle

- Possibly do around holiday - normally around April and May - for Mothers Day -

NEW BUSINESS/OPEN FORUM

Town Wide Spelling Bee - would love to have Parents be representatives to run that - if interested, contact Martin Malicki - around 30 kids participated from EW last year

CLOSING REMARKS - Martin Malicki/John Kiniry

****Next Meeting will be on Thursday October 11th at 7:00 pm in the Upper Media Center****

****Next Golf Meeting will be immediately following the October 11th PTO meeting in the Upper Media Center****

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:28pm

Minutes Compiled By: Paul LaPerriere, Secretary