

Meeting Minutes

Emerson-Williams Elementary School PTO

Date: January 15 , 2015

Location: EW Media Center

Meeting Called to Order by: Nathalie Trevitazzo **Time:** 7:00pm

Officers' Reports

Principal's Report – Ms. Thakur

The front door project was supposed to happen over the summer and then it was supposed to happen over the December vacation, neither of which happened; it will now be happening this coming Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday so the front door will be off limits on Tuesday and Wednesday; Ms. Thakur met with Fred Bushy and Phil Dignato regarding a temporary fire emergency plan; hopefully we will have a new entryway by Thursday

The school has received the last batch of new technology, including ipads and chromebooks; the chromebooks did not come with headphones so Ms. Thakur is suggesting that parents in grades 3-6 may want to send in cheap headphones from home in a baggie for their child

Secretary's Report – Michelle Bosco

The November minutes were submitted for approval; Martin motion to accept; second motion made by Shana; the November minutes were approved

Teacher Representatives – 4th Grade/Mrs. Kardys & Mrs. Cookson

They have enough ipads and chromebooks for the entire 4th grade class; they are using Lexia, which has all types of things to help kids become better readers; also using Extra Math to do fact practice every day. The teachers are using google docs and can see what the kids are doing in real time. They feel lucky to have the amount of technology that they do.

Mrs. Cookson and Mrs. Reynolds are running Math Olympiad this year; next week is the third contest of the year; the BOE used to fund this but it was cut out of the budget. Info can be found at moes.org.

Both teachers have volunteered to sit in the dunk tank.

Committee Reports

Cheer/Teacher Appreciation – Darka Jara

December went well; the next one is on January 28th and Karen is taking care of that; Mrs. Shea was given a gift card for her wedding; a gift card was given to Ms. Richards as well

Community Outreach – Sharon Koziol

She is doing a drive for the food bank which runs through next Friday; they are most in need of personal hygiene items; boxes are out in front; she'll be doing another one in June

Media Center Coordination – Shana Smith

Readers are overbooked in January so there may be less parents coming in to read towards the end of the year

Sixth Grade – Karen Dicenso

They are meeting next week; shirts have been given out to the kids

WSPC – Sharon Koziol

Next meeting is tomorrow; at the last meeting they discussed what programs are being offered, such as foreign languages, etc.; they also discussed working with the Early Childhood Collaborative because there are women in town who are not getting prenatal care, which turns into bigger problems; they discussed reaching out to these people because it turns into issues for the school

Family Events

Holiday Store – Karen Dicenso

Made a great profit of \$2100; sold 1950 items with about 300 left over; they have already done a lot of shopping for next year; proposing \$2200 budget to get more items for next year; they want to keep the sponsorship for the bags

Fundraisers

Box Tops – Sharon Koziol

They are up to about \$1000 right now; the teachers have asked if the laundry baskets can be replaced

Coupon Books

A couple of coupon books were passed around; discussed selling them at the Holiday Store; need a chairperson

Labels for Education – Sharon Koziol

She needs Pepperidge Farms and Campbell's soup labels; planning to do more contest, etc

Mixed Bags – Leslie Williams

Fundraiser runs from February 21 through March 7; does not conflict with other fundraisers; orders will be in by Mother's Day; there will be a kitchen catalog too

Rock Cats Game – Nathalie Trevitazzo

Nathalie was wondering if we want to have another fundraiser in May? The Rock Cats have 3 dates available in May at this time

Suggestion Box

A bunch of positive emails were received regarding improved communication. Someone mentioned that they felt it wasn't okay for the staff to be able to dress up for Halloween if the kindergarteners could not also do so.

Strawberry Fest

Need a chairperson!

Talent Show – Gisela Perez

Tentative date of April 18th, which is a Saturday night

Vendor Night – Nathalie Trevitazzo

Met budget and was successful

Butter Braids

Starts in 1-1/2 weeks; Janet offered to do it and Karen offered to help

Yankee Candle – Darka Jara

Darka will be running it in mid-March

New Business/Open Forum

The jog-a-thon will take place after school this year

The Principal's breakfast went well

Martin stated that there is a 3.9% increase requested by the BOE; the meeting will take place on January 28th at 5pm at the Town Hall in the Town Manager's conference room; the new gym floor is number one on the list

The spring pictures will be done by LifeTouch on either March 17 or 18; EW made \$1128 from the Fall pictures

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

Minutes compiled by Michelle Bosco, PTO Secretary

