



Emerson-Williams PTO Meeting
Thursday, May 12th, 2016
Minutes

Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Nathalie Trevitazzo/Darka Jara

7:03 p.m.

- Distributed a sign-up sheet for the 2016-17 PTO committees and asked for chairs for the events.
- Reminder that all communications are distributed through the PTO website and the digital backpack location on the PTO site.

Officers' Reports

Principal's Remarks

Ms. Neela Thakur

- SBAC state testing this month for grades 3-6:
 - All students have completed the English Language Arts portion of the test and will complete the Math component by 5/20.
 - 3 sub-components (over 2 hours of testing) were eliminated this year.
 - Students used computerized tests and Chrome books for testing.
 - Testing will be completed by the end of May with scores available in October.
- Board of Ed and Town council meeting:
 - \$500,000-\$600,000 from the Wethersfield budget may be cut. We will know which line items will not be approved in approximately one week.
 - Not receiving security officer position.
 - Keeping Mrs. Intino position hours.
 - Grade 6 will have 3 teachers instead of 2 teachers for the current 49 students in grade 5.
- EW Parent Feedback Survey (through Survey Monkey):
 - Asked parents to complete 4 questions by Friday, May 20th. Results will be shared with the PTO at the June meeting.

Secretary's Report

James Langdo

- Approval of 4/7 meeting minutes motioned by Paula Heinzmann. Seconded by Leslie Williams and approved.
- Thank you cards to the PTO:
 - Teacher/Appreciation Week – from school nurse Mrs. Ciarcia and 1st grade teacher Mrs. Jones
 - St. Patrick's Day lunch – from the grade 5 team (Ms. Charbonneau, Alex Lucas, Mrs. Woods) and grade 3 team (Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Forrest, Mrs. Moore)

Treasurer's Report

John Williams

- LED Fundraiser – revenue
- Yankee Candle – revenue
- Paint Night – revenue
- 6th grade committee – buddy bench
- Box Tops – \$865 revenue

Committee Reports

Committees

Chairs

Board of Education

Autumn Struk

- Board of Education meeting on 4/26:
 - Spoke to board members about Strawberry Fest and invited the board to the event.
 - Playground approved by board of education.
 - Budget approved by the board and goes to town council on 4/28.
 - Approved 2017-18 school calendar.
 - Memorial Day Parade theme reflects Past Wars
 - Board want to research bus routes

Budget Committee

John Williams

- Income and expenses are both up for the year. Playscape is currently not on this budget. Goal is to accept the budget at the June meeting.

Cheer/Teacher Appreciation

Darka Jara

- Cheer/Teacher appreciation week was successful.
- Mrs. Woods and new baby to be receive PTO gift.
- Currently no retirees for 2015-16.

Future Projects

Colleen Mattatall

- K-1 Playscape Replacement:
 - Board of Education approved the playground project on 4/26.
 - Town Council made a formal referral to Planning & Zoning Commission on 5/2.
 - Next Steps:
 - Playscape replacement to be presented to Planning & Zoning Commission on 5/17.
 - Reported to Town Council for final acceptance of the donation of the playground on 6/6.
 - If Planning and Zoning needs to formally re-address any item, a second discussion will take place on 6/7.
 - If all dates above are met, sign the playground contract with Creative Recreation and order the equipment (pay for the equipment) in early June.
 - The playground company projects take 30 days to receive the order and to begin work.
 - After completion and town inspection of the work/install, we will pay the remainder of the costs.
 - After inspection of the plans, the town determined that we need to add an accessible wood fiber path making the playground up to code and ADA compliant. There is an additional cost of \$1600 to the project bringing the total cost to \$38,504.
 - Completion date: End of July (tentative).

Nominations

Leslie Williams / Karen Dicenso

- 2016-17 PTO Officer nominations (effective 7/1):
 - Secretary – James Langdo
 - Treasurer – Peping Dee
 - Co-President – Colleen Mattatall

School Pictures Shana Smith / Chrissy Pikos
• Spring school pictures have been taken. Some finished on 5/11.

Sixth Grade Beth Gilbert / Claudia Miller
• Upcoming events –
○ Pine Acres (6/1); Step-Up; Yearbook; Silas Deane Middle School visit (5/12).

Suggestion Box Shana Smith
• None

Tiger Topics* Chris Thompson
• Deadline is Friday 5/13

Wethersfield Schools Parent Council (WSPC) Darka Jara / Karen Dicenso
• Award ceremony on Wednesday 5/11. Beth Gilbert received an award.
• 86 attendees from all schools.
• Meetings occur Second Thursday of each month at noon. Meeting in June to discuss if the meeting will be the same day/time next year.

Family Events

Talent Show Darka Jara / Holly Dyjak / Nathalie Trevitazzo
• Cancelling 5/21 Talent Show this year due to only 5 acts (approximately 18 students). Ms. Thakur will try to add this event into the school day for the 5 acts or after school.

TV Turn Off Week Jamie Rogalski
• Flyer has been updated and will be sent for approval on 5/13.
• Looking for volunteers for Ron-A-Roll.
○ Monday night – Rebecca Anderson
○ Tuesday – Jamie Rogalski
○ Wednesday – None
○ Thursday – None (reminder to not bring pets to this outdoor event)
○ Friday – None
• This event should be added to Tiger Topics

Yard Goats Colleen Mattatall
• Event to be held on Sunday 6/26 1:35pm. Gates open at 12:35pm. Children invited to the player high five tunnel (need to be there by 1pm). Tickets \$10. No profit. If we sell more than 100 tickets, price will be \$9. If stadium is not ready, we can get a voucher for any game in the future.
• Flyers going out on 5/25. Tickets on sale starting 6/2.

Fundraisers

Box Tops Beth Gilbert / James Langdo
• \$583.30 paid to school on 4/15. \$248 processed this week. Total revenue of \$831.30 for 2015-16 school year.
• Another competition for an extra recess to the winning classroom, to be held in either late May or early June. Set date for competition, create flyer and receive approval.

Jog-a-thon

Darka Jara

- Jog-a-thon revenue of \$1034 and many volunteers. Would like to plan this event again for next year.

Strawberry Festival

Autumn Struk/Diana Iannucci/Colleen Mattatall

- Items completed / in progress:
 - Flyers sent out this week for cake walk and Strawberry Fest event (to purchase tickets in advance). \$10 family max (admission table is \$15 table max)
 - Wrist bands are in.
 - Signs being put up around town with Strawberry Fest theme.
 - Soliciting donations from Local grocery stores for strawberry shortcake
 - Sound Spectrum paid and staff shirts created
 - Outreach to companies for sponsors including a dunk tank sponsor
 - Fred Bushey and fire marshall contacted for electrical issues
 - Many games (with prizes and without) –
 - Its Ok To Be Silly – K-2 and 3-6 areas for silly string war
 - Giant inflatables (giant slide)
 - Raffles – classroom raffles going out 5/13
 - Signup Genius went out
 - 6th grade volunteers – free wristband for 1 hour or more of volunteer work
 - Need 4 high school volunteers
 - Rare Reminder posts
 - New Kindergarten families invite

Yankee Candle

Darka Jara

- Yankee candle is in and ready for pick-up.

New Business/Open Forum

- Teacher Wish-List (to spend a total of \$5000) – currently have a \$2086.72 balance
 - Ms. Fox - two concert risers and rails for the music department. Motioned to table purchase of 2 risers for the music department for \$3980 until June meeting. Questions: How many times a year will the risers be used? Where will they be stored? Can we purchase them from another company?
- Basement cleanout and PTO closet – both organized and inventoried (Autumn and Colleen). Provided PTO with the inventory spreadsheets.

Closing Remarks

Nathalie Trevitazzo / Darka Jara

Adjourn: 8:15 p.m.

***Tiger Topic submission is Friday, 5/13/2016. Please email your advertisements to: tigertopics@ewpto.com**