



Emerson-Williams PTO Meeting
 Thursday, February 8th, 2018
 Minutes

Attendees

Burlingame,Amy	Gilbert,Beth	Shoham,Monika	Williams,Leslie
Conashevick,Stephanie	Iannucci,Diana	Sousa,Christen	
Dee,Peping	Langdo,James	Struk,Autumn	
Fleming,Paige	Mattatall,Colleen	Thakur,Neela	
Fuentes,Yesenia	Pikos,Chrissy	Trevitazzo,Nathalie	

Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Colleen Mattatall/Autumn Struk

7:06 p.m.

- Many upcoming events planned for the second half of the school year.
- Talent show is tomorrow (2/9) – thank you to Christina Carreiro for her planning for this event. She is also planning the EW dance in May.
- There are no volunteers to chair Jog-A-Thon and Screen Free Week. Please let Colleen and Autumn know if you are interested in chairing one of these events.
- Strawberry Fest is planned for the 1st or 2nd week in June. This year’s event will occur on weekend. Permission to use the school and school grounds on a Saturday has been granted.
- The board will clarify rules for voting and explain why we are voting before any voting occurs.
- Thank you email distributed for the contributions from various PTO members this past month.
- Keep in mind the meeting guideline reminders:
 - Talk to and about each other the way you hope your children would speak to or about you (both at the meeting and beyond). Be respectful and kind with your words always, here, and away.
 - Stay on topic. We will use a timekeeper to stay on track but remember the PTO meeting for reporting purposes of what your committee is doing. We don’t expect lengthy discussions or conversations. Please curb your discussions or comments for the end or reach out to the chairperson directly after the meeting. You will be reminded or redirected if topic gets turned or time expires.
 - Introduce yourself and briefly explain WHAT your committee does for those new at the meeting.
 - If you must criticize, you MUST offer a suggestion.

Officers' Reports

Principal's Remarks

Ms. Neela Thakur

- 6th Grade fundraiser for CCMC (EW Dance at Wethersfield High School): Thank you to the 6th grade students, Mrs. Reynolds, and Camie Mollica, for raising \$2719 as part of an UConn fundraiser for CCMC. The students surpassed their \$1000 fundraising goal. The 6th grade students will join UConn students to present the money raised during Husky Event (dance marathon).
- Mr. Emmett presents the first draft of next year's school budget on 2/13. The budget will be voted on at the 2/27 or 3/13 meeting, before going to the town council for approval. Mr. Emmett's budget will have slight increase for teacher salary and insurance cost with no new initiatives.
- 2 EW administrative positions were cut this past year (Literacy Director – for the entire school district) and STEM Director (for the entire school district).
- Many areas have district wide positions to lead the entire school district. We don't have those positions. We have a Special Education Director, Special Education Supervisor, and Technology Director (for the entire school district), Literacy Curriculum Specialist (shared between EW and Webb) and Content Area Curriculum Specialist (shared between EW and Webb).
- Neela encouraged speaking at the Town Council or Board of Education meetings.
- At the last Board of Education meeting, Mr. Emmett announced a 10-year long initiative to look into closing, renovating, or redistricting the elementary schools. A company was hired to analyze all of our school buildings.
- 3/20 and 3/22 are both half-days (parent-teacher conferences).

Secretary's Report

James Langdo

- Approval of 1/11 Meeting minutes motioned by Autumn Struk. Seconded by Stephanie Conashevick and approved.
- Sign-in attendance sheet distributed for each attendee to add their name and email address.
- A Dropbox is available for all committee files. Committee chairs should contact James for access to any of the committee folders.

Treasurer's Report

Peping Dee

- Income: \$23,192.59
 - Box Tops - \$428.70
 - UConn Hockey Game - \$280
- Expenses: \$15,126.18
 - Dollars for Scholars - \$500
 - Cleaning Mats - \$389.76
- Net income: \$8,066.41
- Total assets: \$44,493.47
- Reminder to complete the required forms and allow 1-week notice for cash box and request for reimbursement.

Committee Reports

Committees

Chairs

- Talent Show (2/9. Snow date-2/15) Christina Carreiro
 - Tickets are still available and will be sold at the door. Approximately 40 kids with 25+ acts (dancing, singing, beat boxing). EW lanyards are for sale. \$3 adults and children free.
- Someone Special Dance Christina Carreiro
 - Scheduled for 5/4. Flyers will come out shortly. Fundraiser is setup at Chipotle on 3/17 3pm-9pm. EW receives 50% of the proceeds which will go towards the dance.
- Tiger Topics Leslie Williams
 - Working with Cub reporters on article about the book club for March. Request for February articles, flyers, and save the dates. Sunday 2/11 is the deadline.
- Sixth Grade Activities Darka Jara/Janet Carbo/Paige Fleming
 - Pasta dinner raised \$950.
 - Bus trip to Mohegan Sun (adults only) on 3/16 from 6pm-midnight. \$35 (profit of \$15 per ticket). 50/50 raffle on the bus.
- Cheer/Appreciation Autumn Struk/Christine Dukes
 - Sent gift card to the family impacted by the recent house fire.
 - Valentine's Day – appreciation day for teacher and staff.
 - Easter – we will have a teacher luncheon.
- Community Outreach Nathalie Trevitazzo/Leslie Williams
 - Flyer distributed to raise money for Charles Wright family displaced by the house fire.
 - Wethersfield Food Bank is running low. EW PTO would like to do another food drive.
- Wish List Christen Sousa
 - 2017-18 Wish List Purchases (\$2099.89). Budget was \$2,000:
 - Lock Box for Medicine (\$42.95) – Mrs. Ciarcia (Nurse)
 - Wobble chairs (total of 3 – 1 per teacher for \$351.40) – Grade 5 Team
 - Wireless Keyboard (\$32.95) – Alex Lucas (Grade 5)
 - Various sensory games/tools/seats (\$831.45) – C. Mierzejewski, D. Zuber, Delasandro
 - Wobble chairs (total of 3 – 1 per teacher for \$318.86) – Grade 4 Team
 - Curtains and shades for classroom (\$157.34) – Ms. Caravella (Music)
 - Math board games (\$364.94) – Grade 2 Team
 - Outstanding Requests:
 - 12 more wobble chairs (2 for each 4th and 5th grade teacher). 12 x approximate \$60 = \$720
 - Magnetic letter trays/storage box (Brenda McLaughlin on behalf of K and 1 teams and Reading Department). \$109 per teacher (\$1199)
 - Total of \$1919 to meet outstanding requests.

- WSPC Amy Burlingame
 - Accepting nominations from EW for the annual Volunteer award and Community award. Nomination forms should be available within the next week.
- Media Center Shana Smith/Amy Burlingame
 - Signups to read to students are available. Dates will be added for the remainder of the school year.
- Dinner on the Lawn Vacant
 - Colleen reached out to Ms. Caravella. Ms. Caravella will organize the event. Arranging a date for the event. We still need a food truck.
- Strawberry Fest Vacant
 - Need a new chair for this year's event. Sub-committee signup sheets are available. Event to be held June 9th. 6/2 is the Wethersfield fireworks.

Fundraisers

- Butterbraid Fundraiser (2/12-2/26) Leslie Williams/Nathalie Trevitazzo
 - ButterBraids will be available for Easter. \$14 for each. Flyers went out and posters up. Pickup is on 3/23.
- Mixed Bags (2/26-3/9) Darka Jara
 - New representative this year. 2 catalogs of bags. If every student at EW sells one item, PTO will get 50% profit. Online sales receive a 40-45% profit.

New Business

- Vote: Magnetic Bands Autumn Struk/Christen Sousa
 - Autumn Struk motioned to spend \$1200 to purchase magnetic bands. Seconded by Beth Gilbert. Motion passed.
- Vote: Wobble Chairs Autumn Struk/Christen Sousa
 - Autumn Struk motioned to spend \$3000 for the 41 wobble chairs. Seconded by Beth Gilbert and passed.
- Preliminary Bylaws Addendum Autumn Struk
 - Proposal to add additional board members (2 or 3 positions) so that time can be distributed. We will have specific roles for the new positions.
 - Autumn would like the committee to meet soon. Natalie Trevitazzo and Leslie Williams are part of the bylaws committee.
- Yearbook Amy Gallagher-Cuadras/Autumn Struk
 - Survey for a school-wide yearbook was distributed. Facebook survey (52 Yes and 48 No). Email survey (51 No and 49 Yes). Committee has decided not to have a yearbook for this school year but will revisit the idea next year.
- Spring School Picture Day (5/10) Diana Iannucci/Chrissy Pikos
 - 5/10/18 – Spring pictures.
 - 9/27/18 – Fall pictures.

Open Forum

- Christen mentioned that monetary donations for Mrs. Dawson can still be sent in. There is also an event on 3/5.
- Neela discussed that over the December vacation, vandals spray painted the new playscape and back doors to the school. Temporary fixes were made by the staff to cover the paint. Colleen reaching out to determine if there is a permanent solution that could fix this issue.

Closing Remarks

Adjourn: 8:57 p.m.

Colleen Mattatall/Autumn Struk

Upcoming Events

02/09	Talent Show
02/14	EW Spirit Day – Heart Day
02/16	No School – Professional Development Day
02/19-02/20	No School – President’s Day & Winter Recess
03/01	Kindergarten Orientation
03/03	EW Wolfpack Game
03/08	PTO Meeting
03/16	6 th Grade Mohegan Sun Fundraiser (Adults only)
03/17	Chipotle Fundraiser (to support EW School Dance)
03/20	Half Day – Parent Teacher Conferences
03/22	Half Day – Parent Teacher Conferences
03/29	EW Spirit Day – Mismatch Day
03/30	No School – Good Friday

**Tiger Topic submissions are due by the Sunday after the PTO meeting.
Email to: tigertopics@ewpto.com**