



Emerson-Williams PTO
Meeting Minutes for
Thursday, February 07, 2019

Attendees

Anderson, Rebecca	Hernandez, Andrea	Struk, Autumn
Collette, Peggy	Root, Elisa	Szczepanski, Anna
Conashevick, Stephanie	Schwarzhaupt, Fran	Thakur, Neela
Dee, Peping	Smith, Sarah	Trevitazzo, Nathalie
		Zaparanick, Melissa

Welcome

Call to order at 7:00 p.m.

Autumn Struk

Secretary's Report

- Approval of 01/10/2019 meeting minutes motioned by Rebecca Anderson. Seconded by Stephanie Conashevick and approved.
- Sign-in attendance sheet distributed for each attendee to add their name and email address.

Fran Schwarzhaupt

Treasurer's Report

- Copies of treasurer's report provided and reviewed.
- Insurance renewal completed.
- ? Vendor night total accuracy.
- ? Strawberry Festival total from last year. Peping to follow up.

Autumn Struk

Principal's Remarks

- The third Habit of Mind the school is learning about this month is – Persisting. Parents please reinforce this message at home, teach children to keep working hard and don't give up.
- Next year, all schools will have an extra 15 minutes added to the end of the school day. EW will end at 3pm which will add more instructional time.
- Next school year, any delays will be 2 hours vs 90 minute delay.
- Superintendent will present school budget for next year on Feb 12th 7pm at town council chambers.
- Small winter break from school coming up from Feb 15th to Feb 19th.

Neela Thakur

PTO Teacher Liaison

- Book club this month is reading "You Can Do It Bert" by Ole Konnecke.
- PBIS program continues. 1st assembly occurred where a student's name was picked from the group of Tiger Tickets for each respective grade. Then, that child can pick a reward for their class. Kids loved it!

Elisa Root

New Business Reminder: no new topics mentioned at this time.

Committee Reports

- **Website** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Chrissy will be converting the website to Wordpress and plugins. If you're familiar with Word, this format should be easier for a volunteer to use and run the website.
 - Volunteer still needed so please reach out to Chrissy if you're interested.

- **Family Fun** **Autumn Struk**
 - There will be a Paint Nite for families in May, probably before Mother's Day. This is not a fundraiser. It's an event for the school put on by the PTO Family Fun Committee.

- **WSPC** **Amy Burlingame/
Colleen Mattatall**
 - Committees have been formed at each level to determine to determine how to implement the extra 15 minutes in the next school year.
 - WSPC Volunteer Award needs to be submitted by 5/15. Forms on the website and main office next week.
 - Wellness Committee is looking to implement an app called Anonymous Alert for antibullying. This would be for the high school and middle school grades. West Hartford uses this app which recently helped a child planning to harm their self.
 - WSPC wants to do town wide Screen Off Week for all elementary schools April 29th - May 5th and will be planning all events for that week. Bike/Walk to School is May 8th.
 - SRO position at middle school is still vacant. Currently working with police dept to fill this position, hopefully by spring or next fall. High school SRO will check on middle school as needed.

- **Board of Ed** **Colleen Mattatall/
Peping Dee**
 - Meeting will be this coming Tuesday so no update at this time

- **Room Parent** **Autumn Struk**
 - Gratitude Rocks are underway. Room parents please reach out to Colleen for supplies.

- **Tiger Topics** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Please email updates to tigertopics@ewpto.com by 5pm on Sunday Jan 13th.
 - Idea mentioned that kids can have shout outs in TT for next year.
 - Idea mentioned that student council members write articles in TT next year.

- **Cheer Committee** **Autumn Struk**
 - Next luncheon on Feb 13th with Angel/Devil theme. Healthy food vs bad goodies.
 - Cash donations will be accepted.

- **Cultural Night** **Elisa Root**
 - 14 participating cultures.
 - Mrs. Keel's class will be presenting items.
 - Kids will get passports and picture taken when they first arrive.
 - Set for Friday March 8th 7p-9p.
 - Volunteers needed.

- There will be students acting as tour guides.
- Thanks to Chrissy, Ms. Root, and Mrs. Pulino for organizing and all your hard work!

- **6th Grade Committee**

**Nathalie Trevitazzo/
Stephanie Conashevick**

- Tomorrow night at Talent Show, they will be selling snacks.
- Mohegan bus trip coming up. 2nd bus almost full.
- Puerta Vallarta night planned, date TBD.
- Strip-a-thon dance hosted by 6th graders on Feb 14th. \$10 for student but parents are free, not a drop off event. All proceeds will go to CCMC.
- Next 6th grade committee meeting on Feb 26th 7pm in Mr. Bubser's room.

- **Talent Show**

Stephanie Conashevick

- Over 20 acts confirmed.
- Show starts at 6pm, doors open at 530pm.
- 102 tickets presold. Ticket will also be sold at door.
- At Webb Auditorium. Art show of EW kids also to be on display.

- **Pictures**

Chrissy Pikos

- Monday April 29th. Sibling pictures allowed.

- **High-Tech, High-Touch**

Peping Dee

- Fifth grade done Jan 28th
- Third grade session on Feb 14th called "What's the Matter?"

- **Community Outreach**

Rebecca Anderson

- Idea from Chester Public Schools, where we organize collection of items for Food Bank according to grades. Each grade would be assigned to donate certain items.
- ? do more than once a year. Can list items relative to the season.
- ? involve student council.
- Food Bank cannot take medications.

- **Strawberry Festival**

Autumn Struk

- One of our largest events, generally held in June, 1st or 2nd week. Carnival like event.
- Colleen has chaired for past 3 years, cannot do again due to by laws unless there is no volunteer.
- Need a chair person or event will not occur.

- **Beautification**

- This Sunday at 8am, committee members will prime 6th grade bathrooms.
- Next Sunday they will paint gray frames on the walls.
- On Feb 24th, designs will be painted on backgrounds, inspirational themes geared to boys and girls.

Fundraisers

- **Wolf pack**

- Fliers sent out this week. Usually done by Ms. Caravella with band performance but unable to do this year.

- Game will be on Sunday March 10th.
- **Munson's Chocolates**
 - New fundraiser. Packet will be going out at the end of February and will last 2 weeks.
 - Delivery of chocolates will be before Easter.

New Business

- **Yankee Game**

Chrissy Pikos

- Opportunity arose where PTO could get tickets to Yankee game for discounted price.
- Main level tickets cost \$45 (includes Yankee hat, drink and hot dog.)
- Needed minimum of 10 families, which was reached.
- Saturday April 13th is the date of the game.

Open Forum:

Nothing mentioned

Closing Remarks

Autumn Struk

Adjourn: 8:05pm

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