



Emerson-Williams PTO
Meeting Minutes for
Thursday, April 18, 2019

Attendees

Anderson, Rebecca	Hernandez, Andrea	Smith, Sara
Burlingame, Amy	Mattatall, Colleen	Struk, Autumn
Collette, Peggy	Pikos, Chrissy	Szczepanski, Anna
Conashevick, Stephanie	Root, Elisa	Thakur, Neela
Dee, Peping	Schwarzhaupt, Fran	Trevitazzo, Nathalie
Gallagher-Cuadras, Amy	Shoham, Monika	Williams, Leslie

Welcome

Call to order at 7:01 p.m.

Autumn Struk

Secretary's Report

- Approval of 03/14/2019 meeting minutes motioned by Colleen Mattatall. Seconded by Rebecca Anderson and approved.
- Sign-in attendance sheet distributed for each attendee to add their name and email address.
- Thank you card from Williams family.
- Thank you card from Mrs. Pulino for easel.

Fran Schwarzhaupt

Treasurer's Report

- Copies of treasurer's report provided and reviewed. ? regarding 6th grade totals. Autumn to review with Nathalie.

Autumn Struk

Principal's Remarks

- 5th habit of mind is *Taking Responsible Risk* which the school will start teaching on Monday and will go thru the end of year. It's about stepping a little out of your comfort zone in hopes of achieving great things.
- District wide art show starting Wednesday April 24 at Keeney Memorial Center.
- April 29th spring picture day at EW.
- Junior achievement day Friday April 26th.
- State academic testing starting on May 6 for grades 3-6 on English Language Arts and Math. Grade 5 will also be tested on Science.
- Walk/bike to school day on May 8th.

Neela Thakur

Teacher Liason

- Field Day Thursday June 13th. 1230-230 parents invited.
- Tuesday April 16 was Lion club eye screening.

Elisa Root

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

Old Business:

- **Strawberry festival:** Peping emailed Rebecca and Natalie amount which was \$3,736.06.
- **Vendor Fair:** Resolved per Rebecca
- **Corporate Records:** Currently, binder in main office has past agendas, meeting minutes. Records also available online.

Committee Reports

- **WSPC/Board of Ed** **Colleen Mattatall**
 - May 15th Volunteer Recognition Award at Webb School. Each school recognizes a parent volunteer who will be presented with an award that evening.
 - Bike/Walk to school May 8th. Crossing guards get 10 gift cards.
 - April 29-May 5 Screen free week. Monday is kick off. Tuesday scavenger hunt at library. Wednesday nature walk with great meadow conservation 4pm at Middletown Avenue.. Thursday go to nature center, open til 8pm. Friday do your own thing. Flyer will be created specific to our school.
 - Chris Healy spoke about creating cell phone usage policy. Initial proposal to be presented May 3rd and then hoping to implement in Sept. Students may have phone on body but turned off unless otherwise indicated. There will be punishments. Will apply to staff also. This policy not really needed at the elementary school level, which Neela agreed.
 - Decrease of 2.67 percent in budget due to sharing services with town (ex: custodians work for town not BOE.)
 - Town wide budget hearing where town manager presented budget took place this past Monday.
 - April 29 town council will be opening up meeting to townspeople.
 - Anonymous alert app just rolled out.
 - Train assemblies completed at all schools. Train service to begin in May now due to multiple issues. Derek Gregor, town engineer, for questions regarding train service.
 - Sue Coco, tech ed teacher, named CAS (Connecticut Association of Schools) exemplary high school teacher and will honored May 23rd.
 - The extra 15 minutes of school time will be added to the end of the day for all schools next year.
 - Next year, there will be a 2 hour delay for snow days. Question on why bumped up to 2 hours and it was stated it's due to standardizing time.
 - Neela added second phase of updating schools is a year-long brainstorming of all options and cost for school renos. We won't have an answer for a while. Schools who are top priority are Highcrest and Hanmer, probable complete demo and rebuild. CW will be gone. EW will be kicked out for one year to reno. Webb minor renos. EW last on the list. Major redistricting will happen. Natalie also states that possibility of building 2 story schools.
- **Board of Ed** **Peping Dee**
 - No meeting this month
- **Box Tops** **Fran Schwarzhaupt**
 - Around \$230 worth of box tops collected.
- **Tiger Topics** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Please email updates to tigertopics@ewpto.com by 5pm on Sunday April 25th.

- **Website** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Volunteer still needed so please reach out to Chrissy if you're interested.
 - Over summer, Chrissy will be converting to generic site.

- **By-laws** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Committee has met twice. Questions regarding audits, Chrissy doing research.

- **Cheer Committee** **Autumn Struk**
 - See dates in agenda.
 - May 6th teacher luncheon dips and apps theme. Monetary and food donations will be greatly appreciated.

- **6th Grade Committee** **Nathalie Trevitazzo/
Stephanie Conashevick**
 - Step up date on June 11th at SDMS.
 - Pine acres and Empower coming up.
 - Towel orders to be extended.
 - Lara's Labyrinth discount extended until April 29th.
 - Tuesday May 14th 5-9 is Chipotle fundraiser.
 - Dinner on the Lawn April 29th where 6th grade will have small raffle table and pizza for families to buy.

- **Pictures** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Monday April 29th. Sibling pictures allowed.
 - Forms distributed on Monday, due on April 25th.

- **Family Fun** **Autumn Struk**
 - Friday May 3rd there will be a Paint Night for families.

- **Community Outreach** **Rebecca Anderson**
 - May 13 - May 24 "Packing the Pantry."
 - Each grade involved, items to bring in will be what the kids can carry.
 - No medications allowed to be collected.
 - Collection baskets for K-2 in main office. Grades 3-6 in main hallway. Student council will make posters around school and will make sure appropriate items are in appropriate baskets.
 - More donations can be made, just reach out to Rebecca.
 - All donations will go to the Wethersfield Food Pantry.

- **Strawberry Festival** **Colleen Mattatall**
 - Major changes. Will be on Friday June 7th 5p-8p.
 - DJ, inflatables, games, dunk tank will still be there.
 - Reason for change is people from last year couldn't help this year and volunteer heavy so trying to cut back (ex: no cake walk, minimal food.) Only food this year is strawberries and whipped cream. Bring your own food for dinner.
 - School will be locked. Will have port-a-potties.
 - Much smaller scale on raffles (ex: principal for a day, American girl doll, etc)
 - Keeping tradition but on much smaller scale.
 - Volunteer slots will be 1.5 hours.
 - Nathalie volunteered to help with strawberries.

- **Beautification** **Amy Gallagher-Cuadras**
 - 6th grade bathrooms all done.

- Blocks are done in all other bathrooms.
- Friday April 26th volunteers needed for painting.

- **Afternoon of Poetry** **Anna Szczepanski**
 - During week of May 13th, invites will be sent to poetry writers. Volunteers needed to help with sending invitations.
 - On Tuesday May 28th, around 930am, volunteer needed to help organize poems, seating, etc.
 - Afternoon of Poetry will be 315pm on May 30th
- **Budget** **Autumn Struk**
 - Next year's budget will be ready for May meeting
- **Dance** **Autumn Struk**
 - Will be on May 31st.
 - DJ and photo booth booked.
 - Tickets \$5 per family. Hollywood theme this year.

Fundraisers:

- **Yard Goats** **Autumn Struk**
 - Sunday May 19th 1:05pm. Flyers sent out. James organizing.
- **Mixed Bags** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - April 15th to 26th.
 - Link in email Tiger Adventures, weekly email, not working. Fran to review.
- **Main Street Creamery** **Autumn Struk**
 - May 1st 4-7pm, during Screen Free Week. 20% of sales will go back to PTO.

New Business

- **Next Year's Board** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - 1st year co-president needed. Stephanie and Christina on nomination committee.
- **Field Day** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Mrs. Dalke approached Chrissy for help. Looking for parents to help volunteer at stations, which is new this year. Will be held on June 13th. Sign up genius made up. No shirts to buy this year.

Vote:

- **Wish List Items** **Autumn Struk**
 - Teacher requests went over budgeted amount for Wish List committee. Colleen made motion to approve spending of overage amount of \$478.96. Peping seconded the motion. Vote passed.
- **Nomination for WSPC** **Autumn**
 - Heidi and Chrissy nominated. Ms. Root also nominated but does not qualify because it's a parent volunteer award.
 - Vote in favor of Chrissy.

Open Forum: No topics raised.

Closing Remarks

Adjourn: 8:37pm

Autumn Struk