



Emerson-Williams PTO
Meeting Minutes for
Thursday, October 10, 2019

Attendees

Anderson, Rebecca	Dee Jr, Peping	Pikos, Chrissy	Struk, Autumn
Burlingame, Amy	Egan, Angela	Root, Elisa	Szczepanski, Anna
Centurelli, Kathy	Gilbert, Beth	Schwarzaupt, Fran	Thakur, Neela
Collete, Peggy	Harlow, Courtney	Shoham, Monika	Williams, Leslie
Conashevick, Stephanie	Hernandez, Andrea	Smith, Shana	Wodecki, Gina

Welcome

Chrissy Pikos/Rebecca Anderson

Call to order at 7:00pm

September is a busy month. Check out our E-W scarecrow on Main St. until Nov 3. Thanks to Melissa and her family for doing a great job dressing Stripes. Friendly reminder we are all volunteers, doing our best to help our school and children, and to be respectful to all. If you would like any email communication to be sent to E-W families, contact Chrissy and Rebecca, Fran for tiger adventures, and Leslie for FB.

Moment of silence to remember Emilia Duda. Michaela Thomas, former E-W student, recently passed away.

Secretary's Report

Fran Schwarzaupt

- Approval of 09/05 meeting minutes was motioned by Colleen Mattatall. Seconded by Autumn Struk and approved.
- Sign-in attendance sheet distributed for each attendee to add their name and email address.
- Thank-you cards from:
 - Deb Byrne: for rocker chairs for reading center.
 - Fifth Grade Teachers: for Rob Buyea books and chart organizers.
 - Barbara Cordone: for granting wish list request.
 - Rosalia Pulino: for granting wish list request.
 - Carissa Mierzejewski: for book donations.
 - Monik Duda and family: wind chime.
 - Maggie Gove's class wrote letters of appreciation for classroom pillows.
- A Dropbox is available for all committee files. If you are a chair, please make sure you have access to your committee's file. If you do not, please email secretary@ewpto.com to notify me that you need access.
- All committees, please email me for any fliers or info you would like me to include in Tiger Adventures.

Treasurer's Report

Amy Burlingame

- Copy of budget as of today also provided and reviewed.
- Balance sheet requested to come back and provided.
- 6th grade \$297.44 was from last year. Beautification was for decals that got billed after July 1st.

Presentation/Vote

Zachary Centurelli

- Zach read his letter requesting the EWPTO to purchase a gaga pit for the school.
- Options provided.
- Amy Burlingame motioned to vote on recommendation of option 1: gaga pit with ADA gate, cut out and optional flooring rubber mats for \$6000. Seconded by Autumn Struk. Amy made amendment to vote to use existing funds in PTO bank account. Seconded by Autumn. Vote was unanimous in favor to purchase gaga pit.

Principal's Remarks

Ms. Neela Thakur

- Sally Distoli gave presentation to BOE, which can be found on WPS website. It was a power point presentation on SBAC, which is testing that measures progress in students in areas of English language arts and math. SBAC measures students in proficiency and growth.
- STAR reports will be given at parent-teacher conferences. Results give a ranking compared to other schools.
- E-W staff developed Professional Learning Community Norms, which encourages E-W staff to have professional and deep conversations by showing mutual respect, working collaboratively with peers, exercising professional accountability, communicating openly, honestly and directly, and demonstrate empathy in a positive manner.

PTO Teacher Liaison

Ms. Elisa Root

- Saying goodbye to Mrs. Collins, who is leaving at end of this week. She is a math tutor. Mrs. Corsair will be retiring on Dec 20th and Mrs Jahne announced she will be retiring at the end of the year.
- Welcome Caryn Doten, new front desk clerk and Kathy Clark, new reading tutor.
- *We're All Wonders* book read with reading buddies in classes.
- Staff thinks it's very beneficial to do activities with cross grades/buddy class environment.
- Start with Hello week (initiative about inclusion) was lead by Ms. Woods and Miss M. on September 23-27.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held October 22-24.

New Business Reminder: Autumn has a topic to discuss and Beth to talk about Holiday Store.

Committee Reports: During this time, committees will only provide reports. Any questions or comments, please email the committee or save for open forum.

- **Book Fair**

- Monika thanked everyone their for help, especially Amy B and Colleen.
- Sally, scholastic rep, was amazing. Thanks to Ms. Root for prep and communication. First year they had a preview for teachers. Thanks to Courtney, Amy G, Christen S, Shana, Stephanie, Rebecca, Rachel.
- Raised over \$400 for 23-24 kids who couldn't afford books.
- Able to purchase books for Mr K.
- Revenue sold: \$10,690. Profit \$2,672.
- There will Spring Book Fair, April 27-29.

- **Box Tops**

- Collection will continue til next Friday, October 25th.

- **Color Run/Tiger Trot**

- Took place on Saturday Sept 28.th 209 families registered. 175 showed up.
- Scoops and Sprinkles distributed ice cream and Mr Coursey was the DJ.
- Thanks to Peping, Sarah Smith, Karen Polmatier, Melissa, Colleen and Amy B.

Autumn Struk

- **Cultural Night**

- On Oct 16th at 3:20pm, there will be a meeting with Ms Pulino.

Elisa Root

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- **Directory** **Frances Schwarzhaupt**
 - Info collated and at the printers. Hoping to have books by the end of the month.
- **Hartford Soccer Night** **Frances Schwarzhaupt**
 - 53 tickets were sold for the game. A student was randomly picked to walk out on the field with the referees.
 - Game was on October 5th.
- **HTHT** **Peping Dee, Jr**
 - A survey was conducted with the teachers. Results showed they really like the program, provider is flexible, program goes well with what they are teaching. Instructors are engaging. No interest in using a different provider.
 - Provider did a revamp so behind on providing quote. PDF of programs sent to Woods who will pick programs and then send back to provider for quote.
- **Membership** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Pens and bags distributed to teacher mailboxes. About 25 dollars away from goal.
 - Target gift card winner is Christina Carriero.
- **Picture Day** **Shana Smith**
 - Pictures were taken on September 25th. Retake day will be Nov 14.
 - Can order pics after the fact.
- **SEPTO** **Amy Burlingame**
 - First meeting sept 18th. Almost 50 people came.
 - Director and assistant director, 2 teachers from E-W, local special ed attorney were in attendance.
 - Wednesday, October 16th at 7pm will be the next meeting at the Community Center. CPAC (CT PARENT ADVICASY CENTER) will be presenting at this meeting.
- **Spiritwear** **Autumn Struk**
 - Sales completed. About 25 paper orders, don't know profit yet. Positive feedback.
- **Tiger Topics** **Chrissy Pikos**
 - Open for anyone to take over.
 - Please submit articles by Sunday.
- **WSPC** **Colleen Mattatall**
 - Election in November will be to pick BOE members.
 - Wethersfield received \$20,000 from United Way, to help ALICE families (Assest Limited, Income Constrained, Employed.) 34% of families in Wethersfield qualify for this.
 - Movie on the green and walk to school day completed
- **6th Grade** **Leslie Williams**
 - Lyman Orchards Pie fundraiser running thru October 18th. Online option but there's a fee so haven't used it, just cash.
 - Next meeting is Oct 21st
 - Vineyard Vines fundraiser on Nov 5th 5pm-7pm a Westfarms Mall. Get 10% off and they donate 10% back.
- **Holiday Store** **Beth Gilbert**
 - Thursday November 21st date picked. Probably 5-8pm.
 - Looking for ideas for paper bags donation.

Old Business

- **Big Y/Stop & Shop Fundraiser**
 - In January, Big Y in Rocky Hill will sell reusable bags and refund 50% of amount sold back to EWPTO.
 - Stop and Shop on Townline Road will donate part of proceeds from selling reusable bags every other month back to EWPTO.

New Business

- **Smencils:**

- Smencils are pencils that smell. Chrissy proposing to buy 500 smencils for \$295 and \$10 to buy paper to write notes and attach to smencils. Plan to give out to students around SBAC time in May.
- Beth Gilbert motioned to purchase smecils out of general fund for \$305. Seconded by Colleen Mattatall. Vote unanimous in favor to purchase.

Open Forum:

1. Autumn expressed concern of leaking roof in music room, which has been going on for 2 years. The rug is damp, kids can't have class in there. BOE aware but Town of Wethersfield responsible for building. They have been patching roof but problem continues. Sally Katz is contact person.

Closing Remarks

Adjourn: 8:55

Chrissy Pikos

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