



**Emerson-Williams PTO  
Meeting Minutes for  
Thursday, March 12, 2020**

**Attendees**

Anderson, Rebecca	Garzon, Christian	Kulpa, Jack	Smith, Shana
Burlingame, Amy	Hernandez, Andrea	Kulpa, James	Struk, Autumn
Carreiro, Christina	Iannucci, Alfie	Pikos, Chrissy	Szczepanski, Anna
Dee, Peping	Iannucci, Diana	Root, Elisa	Thakur, Neela
		Schwarzhaupt, Fran	Williams, Leslie

**Welcome**

**Chrissy Pikos/Rebecca Anderson**

Call to order at 7:01pm.

- Chrissy asked if any objections to recording this meeting. No objections stated.
- Teachers fund distributed by Chrissy. PTO events cancelled at this time due to coronavirus virus.

**Secretary's Report**

**Fran Schwarzhaupt**

- Approval of 02/06 meeting minutes was motioned by Autumn Struk. Seconded by Leslie Williams and approved.
- Attendance taken via phone/video conference sign in.
- Thank-you cards from:
  - Grades 2 and 4 teachers and Mrs. Emmanuel for luncheon.
- 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](mailto:secretary@ewpto.com) to notify me that you need access.

**Treasurer's Report**

**Amy Burlingame**

- Total balance is \$32,098.63.
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade income is \$3628.10 another \$1645 pending.
- Munsons chocolates – one check written for products and sales checks/money from families to be deposited.
- Amazon purchases still pending.
- Miscellaneous funds is at \$8723.64.

**Principal's Remarks**

**Neela Thakur**

- Neela taking this time to check on us and our families during this unusual time. She has never seen this in her 28 years in school.
- In school, overall the 430 students are doing well. Musical students had disappointing day because performances and concerts cancelled. In particular, 3 students today very emotional because of their mom's stress/anxiety about what is being said at home about the coronavirus.
- Amy stated on NPR website had a cute video about coronavirus. She will email link to Chrissy.

## PTO Teacher Liaison

**Ms. Elisa Root**

- For this week, Circle of Friends (that Ms. Nunn has taken lead) is group put together to provide a way of getting special ed kids to get together with their peers. A lot of kids signed up 47! Hoping to get this going once school is back in session. Hammer only other school doing this.
- On Feb 28<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Jones put on a play that she wrote herself. It was very moving and impressive!
- March 2 was Read Across America Day and celebrated Dr. Seuss. A lot of guest visitors, people around town, police officers, firefighter, politicians came to EW to read to the kids.
- Semester ends tomorrow and report cards will to be sent March 20<sup>th</sup> but anticipate a delay due to school closing at this time.
- April 1<sup>st</sup> is early dismissal day. April 2<sup>nd</sup> is autism awareness day and kids encouraged to wear light blue.

**New Business reminder:** Donors Choose by Chrissy

## Committee Reports:

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

- **Gaga Ball Pit** **Colleen Mattatall/Jack Kulpa**
  - Jack is an alumni student and working on eagle scout project so he will lead the gaga ball installation. Hopes to get it done by the end of the end March. Last weekend in March will be the work date and following weekend will the rain date.
  - Question presented if we should remove ADA gate. It doesn't go all the way to ground and sits on wheels and stays locked. If we want to access gate, you will need to get a key. Should we still get this since there are not many students that could benefit? 2 other gaga pits in town do not have it. Ms. Root states the key would not be an issue. No motion made to not change the original gaga pit order. ADA gate will remain in the order
  - Jack thanked us for this opportunity. Jack stated all approvals on the scout end have been successful and they are able to move forward on this project.
- **6<sup>th</sup> Grade** **Leslie Williams**
  - WFSB reported tonight that Mohegan Sun is closing down so will try to reschedule Casino trip.
  - 55 tickets were paid in full.
  - There is concern about restaurants being able to help with fundraisers due to coronavirus so there may be no restaurant fundraisers.
- **Book Fair** **Colleen Mattatall**
  - Cancelled. Question if possible to do book fair online but not worth it.
- **Boon Supply** **Chrissy Pikos**
  - Packets sent out. Will end on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact Chrissy to get your form to her.
- **Cheer** **Colleen Mattatall**
  - Miss Hutter got married and gift given.
  - Teacher/Staff Appreciation week on hold right now.
- **Cirque Du Soleil** **Chrissy Pikos**
  - Email sent questioning if show will be cancelled. At this time, it is still on.
- **Cultural Night** **Elisa Root**
  - 14 countries represented, same amount of tables as last year.
  - About 75 kids and their families came.
  - Ms. Root looking for comments and feedback. Please email her at [eroot@wethersfield.me](mailto:eroot@wethersfield.me).
- **Family Fun** **Autumn Struk**
  - Bingo night on hold.

- **High Tech High Touch** **Peping Dee, Jr**
  - All other sessions cancelled. Waiting to hear back from provider. Amy has been paying as we went along so no refunds needed. 4-5 session left.
- **Munson's Chocolates** **Fran Schwarzhaupt**
  - Forms collected and order placed. Total of about \$1900 worth of chocolates ordered, which gave us a profit of about \$700.
  - Order due to arrive March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Chocolates will be delivered before Easter.
- **SEPTO** **Amy Burlingame**
  - Feb 19<sup>th</sup> great meeting about summer resources.
  - March was supposed to be about autism but meeting on hold.
- **WSPC/BOE**
  - Last meeting was about coronavirus preparation.
  - BOE budget passed and now will be presented to Town Council. Please email council members and let them know you want them to pass the 3.5% increase. Public hearing on April 20<sup>th</sup> at town council chambers at town hall. If you send email, include name and address.
  - WSPC Award on April 29<sup>th</sup> is still on. Christin Sousa nominated by Christine Carriero.
  - Water at Webb school tested to have high levels of copper. Fountains replaced with filter fountains. All schools tested and water levels found to be within normal limits. In E-W, water tested in Mrs. Woods class and staff lounge.
  - Autumn will be nominating SEPTO for the community award.
  - Request for other nominations for WSPC award. Rebecca Anderson nominated Shana Smith, who graciously declined. Christin Sousa announced as winner for E-W.

#### **New Business**

- **Buddy Families** **Elisa Root**
  - Idea is to buddy up new families with established E-W families.
  - Elisa, Rebecca, and Colleen spoke with Kimberly Bobbin, part of the Wethersfield Early Childhood Coalition, who has done similar work at other schools.
  - During a recent Courageous Conversations Committee meeting, Wethersfield parents from diverse backgrounds spoke about this similar thought.
  - Rebecca to reach out to Kimberly Bobbin and will cc Colleen, Autumn, Shana and Neela.
- **Donors Choose** **Chrissy Pikos**
  - Mrs. Emmanuel has \$82 left for her Donor's Choose request of books. Chrissy made motion to pay the balance of \$82. Leslie Williams seconded the motion. Vote passed.
  - Also, Ms. Kardys had \$269 Donors Choose request for supplies and Mrs. Pulino's Donor Choose request for \$287 for books. No motion made to purchase requests.

#### **Open Forum:**

Parent book orders for IVY the Frenchie will be mailed out by the school tomorrow.

Drawing for Amazon gift cards: winners are Colleen and Diana.

#### **Closing Remarks**

Thank you for calling in and participating in the conference.

**Chrissy Pikos**

**Adjourn:** 8:49pm