



Emerson-Williams PTO  
Meeting Minutes for  
Thursday, June 4, 2020

**Attendees**

Anderson, Rebecca	Dee, Peping	Mattatall, Colleen	Smith, Shana
Bongiovanni, Lucy	George, Ruth	Pikos, Chrissy	Struk, Autum
Burlingame, Amy	Harlow, Courtney	Root, Elisa	Szczepanski, Anna
Caravella, Emily	Hernandez, Andrea	Schwarzhaupt, Fran	Thakur, Neela
	Iannucci, Diana		Williams, Leslie

**Welcome**

**Chrissy Pikos/Rebecca Anderson**

Call to order at 7:06pm.

- Chrissy asked for any objections to recording this meeting. No one objected.
- Rebecca thanked everyone for coming to this meeting.

**Opening up of nominations:** Courtney, from the nomination committee, has not received any nominations at this time. Floor is open for any nominations for 1<sup>st</sup> year co-president, secretary or treasurer.

**Principal's Remarks**

**Neela Thakur**

- There is a 2 prong approach to planning for school next year. Prong 1 is planning for DLP (Distance Learning Plan) part 2. Prong 2 is about getting kids and staff back to school safely.
- At this time, planning for DLP in fall has been done and there are zero plans to reopen school. But there is committee in place that plans to meet after June 16<sup>th</sup> because there are no guidelines given from the state yet. State has guidelines for summer school that are very restrictive and make it very difficult to actually open school in the fall. Mr. Emmett not optimistic at this time that he can safely send kids and staff back to school safely.
- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday are assigned days for families to retrieve personal belongings from school and drop off school items and it's a chance to say goodbye to your teachers.

**PTO Teacher Liaison**

**Elisa Root**

- It's a really hard time right now but one of the positive things is getting to see kids thru video meets and being part of our homes. Feeling very blessed!
- Distance learning wrapping up on last day of school on June 15<sup>th</sup>
- School spirit day tomorrow - Crazy hair and sock day.
- Looks like DLP "2.0" plan for next year. A lot of staff most concerned about social emotional learning for students and families. School district is providing resources to help with that to support in the fall.

**Reminder:** Nominations for 1<sup>st</sup> year co-president, secretary and treasurer are still open. Please send a message to Lucy, Courtney or one of the board members.

**Report from Chrissy:**

- **High Touch High Tech:** 3 remaining assemblies did not occur. Those dates were 3/17, 4/22, 4/23. No money was lost.
- **Boon supply:** Catalog profit was \$140, online profit \$488.38 for a total of \$628.38 for the PTO. Ton of glow in the dark stars given as sales boost that we did not end up using so that will be available for possible future PTO event.
- **Ivy the Frenchie:** This assembly was cancelled and deposit was refunded.
- **Someone Special Dance:** DJ and photo booth deposits (\$200 each) can be used for future PTO events.
- **Book Fair:** Cancelled and there was no cancellation fee.
- **Yard goats:** Deposit of \$412.50 to rollover for a game next year.
- **Empower:** Deposit of \$2000 made and a refund was requested. Still awaiting response.
- **Yankee game:** Carl Zaparanick has been in contact with families who paid to figure out the plan.
- **Casino trip:** Refunds have been distributed.
- **Gaga pit:** Kulpa family have it and Jack is in discussions with Neela and Sally regarding when it will be possible to build.
- **Cirque De Soleil:** Cancelled by XL Center. No tickets sold.
- **Parent Book Club:** "The One and Only Ivan" books at Chrissy's house and will eventually be placed into school.
- **Smencils:** Ordered and at Chrissy's house. Will placed in school.
- **Spring pictures:** Cancelled and no deposit was made. September 23<sup>rd</sup> for tentative date for fall. Possible spring date depending on what happens in fall.
- **Stop and Shop:** EWPTO chosen for month of July as sponsor school so when you go shopping at the S&S on 1380 Berlin Turnpike and/or 80 Townline Rd, buy a reusable bag and part of the proceeds will go to EWPTO.

**New Business reminder:** no one mentioned any new business topics.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Cheer Committee** **Colleen Mattatall**
  - Miss Mierzejewski got married and \$50 gift card given. She's now Mrs. Miller.
  - Plant given for Mrs. Jahne's retirement.
  - Each classroom teacher will receive a pot with planted flowers.
- **Gaga Ball Pit** **Colleen Mattatall**
  - Gaga Ball Pit delivered to the Kulpa's house at the end of March.
  - Now that social gatherings are allowed with certain restrictions, Jack is hoping to install by end of June. He is also waiting to hear from for Sally Katz for final clearance to proceed.

- **6<sup>th</sup> Grade** **Leslie Williams**
  - Big thank you to Amy Chodorowski, who made the 6<sup>th</sup> grade yearbook.
  - Cost of yearbooks was \$675.40 for printing, \$742.50 for cost of lawn signs, gift bags for kids ordered and local person making cloth face masks for kids in SDMS colors.
  - Casino trip tickets refunded. \$100 deposit refunded to Izabela.
  - Empower deposit of \$2000 requested. Company states they will do everything they can to refund within 90 days.
  - Neela to help Leslie get contact info for 2 children.
- **Kindergarten Hand Print Project** **Shana Smith**
  - Leslie mentioned after much deliberation, 6<sup>th</sup> graders will have to put their own handprints on cloth that has their Kindergarten hand print.
  - This year's Kindergarteners did not get their hand print done because it's usually done in the spring. Shana purchased cloth so will be expensed on this year's budget.
  - Once this year's kindergartners settle into first grade, Shana stated she spoke with Conley's teacher and they were confident we can get handprints done in 1<sup>st</sup> grade.
- **Creative Arts Council** **Shana Smith**
  - Creative Arts did one assembly this year - Rob Buyea. 2<sup>nd</sup> and possible 3<sup>rd</sup> assembly was cancelled for this year.
  - Council anticipating no assemblies in the fall, hopeful for spring.
  - Creative Arts normally charges \$4 per student (covers cost of 2 assemblies each year) that each PTO pays to Creative Arts for the children in their school. For this year, the Council paid for the Buyea assembly but will not bill the PTOs for this year. Plan is to bill \$4 per student for next year, which would cover this year's assembly and next year's assembly.
  - Depending on what happens next year, the Council may lower the charge to \$2.
- **WSPC/BOE** **Amy Burlingame/Colleen Mattatall**
  - Budget was passed and Mr. Emmett was very happy. All programs and staff will stay in place.
  - Extensive talk about COVID but nothing is certain.
  - YMCA will not be allowed to use school over summer.
  - Highcrest portables to be rebuilt over the summer.
  - A new Webb principle was hired.
  - Movie On the Green that town puts on in September is in limbo since hard to make plans that far ahead, at this time.
  - WSPC Award ceremony did not take place but there were still winners. Christin Sousa won for E-W and will receive her award.

Question presented to Neela regarding political elections taking place at E-W. Answer is at this time, no talk about November presidential elections taking place at E-W.

## **New Business**

- **Budget** **Rebecca Anderson**
  - Leslie, Amy, and Rebecca met last night and drafted a proposed budget which was presented this evening.
  - Amy thanked Rebecca for taking the time to find touchless fundraisers and coming up with a starting point. Colleen and Peping seconded that sentiment.
  - Leslie stated that in the May meeting, a vote was passed stating that voting can take place virtually without amending the by-laws at this time.
  - Motion made to approve budget by Colleen Mattatall and seconded by Shana Smith. Vote passed and budget approved.
- **Elections** **Chrissy Pikos**
  - Leslie Williams was nominated for 1<sup>st</sup> year co-president and she accepted nomination.
  - Peping nominated for treasurer but declined.

- Nominations closed at 8:32pm.
- Leslie voted in by membership for 1<sup>st</sup> year co-president.
- **Committee sign ups:** Rebecca stated committee sign-ups are ready to go and are now in the chat room for people to review and sign up.
- Colleen Mattatall made a motion to pass March meeting minutes and Autumn Struk seconded.

**Closing Remarks**

Thank you for calling in and participating in the conference.

**Chrissy Pikos**

**Adjourn:** 8:50pm