



Emerson-Williams PTO
Virtual Meeting Minutes for
Thursday, February 18, 2021

Attendees

Anderson, Rebecca	Carvalho, Stephanie	Dee, Peping	Root, Elisa
Szczepanski, Anna	Smith, Shana	Williams, Leslie	

Welcome

Rebecca Anderson/Leslie Williams

Call to order at 7:03pm.

- Rebecca welcomed everyone to the PTO meeting.
- Rebecca reported that the Treasurer position remained open.
- Leslie indicated that the PTO documents were posted in the chat feature for everyone’s review.

Secretary’s Report

Stephanie Carvalho

- Stephanie asked for everyone to review the minutes from 01/07/2021 meeting and Ms. Root mentioned a correction under the comment about the students. They should be noted as students from CCSU
- Approval of 01/07/2021 meeting minutes motioned by Elisa and Anna.

Treasurer’s Report

Rebecca Anderson

- The current PTO bank balance is \$15,263.23.
- There has not been a lot of activity recently.
- Received the money from Spirit Wear and Nutmeg Books.
- There has been spending on the staff and teachers to show them support from the PTO.

Principal’s Remarks

Elisa Root on behalf of Neela Thakur

- Neela was unavailable for this month's meeting due to a conflict with a budget workshop set up by Mr. Emmett. Ms. Root was provided notes and she provided an update on Ms. Thakur's behalf.
- Students K-3 have been eating lunch in the cafeteria.
- Not all parents have been following the dismissal protocol.
- 77.8% of K-3 students are in person 4 days a week. The staff is happy to have the kids in school. It has been a strange adjustment to the number of kids in school especially around handwashing and the bathroom routines.
- The teachers will be getting vaccinated soon.
- Read Across America is running from 3/1/2021 through 3/5/2021. There will be spirit days where students can dress up for the daily themes. Mrs. Doten is asking for more pictures and videos for the morning announcements on Synchronous Wednesdays.
- State testing did not occur last year. This year the testing will occur for assessment purposes and in May there will be testing for the remote students which will be conducted remotely.

PTO Liaison

Elisa Root

- Ms. Root offered thanks on behalf of the staff for the surprise on Professional Development day. She noted that the staff always feel the love of the PTO.
- There are new faces in the school. There is a math tutor, Nicole Kradas who is a recent CCSU graduate. Mrs. Aglaia-Tsipouras who is the new lunch aide.
- The trimester ends on March 11, 2021 and on March 19, 2021, progress reports will be sent out.
- Kim Guzzo of the Open Choice Program surveyed parents in the Open Choice Program about what they would like to feel more connected to the school. She learned that the parents would like more structured opportunity in and out of school for socialization. She also noted that the parents would feel as though the children belong if they received spiritwear such as a hat/t-shirt with the school logo.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- Reminder that the floor remains open for the position of Treasurer for the remainder of the 2021 school year.
- Budget committee is being arranged and needs to be filled with individuals not currently sitting on the board. Leslie and Rebecca have been the acting co-treasurers. The first meeting will be in late March or early April. The hope that no later than by June that the budget can be voted on but the goal should be May.
- Nomination Committee needs to be made up on individuals who are not currently on the board. The committee needs to be in place by May so that they can join the June meeting.

Committee Reports:

Butter braids/Otis Spunkmeyer Cookies

Rebecca Anderson

- So far sold 70 items. Total profit was \$442.40 and the goal was \$2000.
- Earn \$5 per butter braid and \$4 per cookie dough

Munson's Chocolates

Leslie Williams

- Online ordering, however there is information pending on payments from Neela as the provider does not accept online payments.
- Hope to have the chocolate sales start online and utilize PayPal or having a check or cash sent to Leslie's home.
- All payments need to be in to complete ordering by March 4, 2021 to guarantee payment.

Open Forum:

- Leslie mentioned to Ms. Root concerns that she has faced with reading tutor time during lunch on Synchronous Wednesdays.
- Anna mentioned that May is Poetry month and wanted if there will be a virtual poetry day. There was discussion about maybe taking videos of the kids reading their poems. Leslie questioned about maybe collecting the videos early so they could be used on the announcements on Synchronous Wednesdays. Anna will email Neela, Mrs. Doten and Ms. McLaughlin.

Next meeting 03/11/2021.

Closing Remarks

Rebecca Anderson

- Rebecca thanked everyone for participating in the meeting.
- Motion to adjourn by Anna and Stephanie.

Adjourn: 7:41pm