



Emerson-Williams PTO

Meeting Minutes for

Thursday, November 11, 2021

**Attendees**

Burlingame, Amy	Carvalho, Stephanie	Hernandez, Andrea	Sczepanski, Anna
Skaparas, Laura	Smith, Shana	Sousa, Christen	Thakur, Neela
Williams, Leslie			

**Welcome**

**Leslie Williams**

Call to order at 7:00pm.

- Leslie mentioned that this is the last EWPTO meeting for 2021.
- Appreciates all that attended.
- Thank you to Lauren for her information/questions on the bylaws. The Board will discuss the email before the January 2022 meeting.

**Secretary's Report**

**Stephanie Carvalho**

- Stephanie asked for everyone to review the minutes from the 10/14/2021 meeting.
- Approval of 10/14/2021 meeting minutes motioned by Amy and Neela.
- Stephanie read notes of appreciation from First Grade Students, Fourth Grade Team, Second Grade Team, Mrs. Gove, Mrs. Kardys, Mrs. Clark, Kathy Haggarty, and a Thank you Note from Mrs. George and various teachers for the Nutmeg Books.

**Treasurer's Report**

**Laura Skaparas**

- The current PTO bank balance is \$19,813.69 as of 11/11/2021. This includes deposits from the opt out fundraiser (6<sup>th</sup> grade) \$3,490 and Lyman Orchards \$3,120.
- Payments: Wish List was \$1,299.20 and Nutmeg Books was \$624.

**Principal's Remarks & PTO Liaison**

**Neela Thakur**

- Elisa was out sick and Neela is reporting out for her.
- Congratulations to Leslie who received the Superintendents Award this past Monday. She received her award with other parents in the district. Also from E-W Community, 2 students and 1 staff member received awards at the ceremony.
- Thank you, Leslie for all you have done for the past 9 years at E-W.
- Diane Burnham, math tutor, was recognized as well as two 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Thank you to the families who participated in the food drive. There was a lot of food collected in two weeks.
- Think Pink Day raised a total of \$290.

- There are two new staff in the building. Jennifer McKinnon the new Curriculum Specialist started on 11/11/2021 and an evening custodian, Justin Green has started.
- The school is still short 1 evening custodian, 1 math tutor, 2 building subs and 2 long term subs. The job postings are on the WPS webpage. Neela noted that the applicant pool has been very dry. There will be a lot of leads in the Spring.
- Recently the students started to practice singing since pre-covid. This has begun inside and the students are spread 3 feet apart with masks on. Also, instruments are allowed to be played in the school. The school is nowhere near having a winter concert and it has not yet been allowed.
- The Read for the Record books have been received and the new schoolwide read date is 11/22/2021, but will hold off to give teachers time to plan the lesson.
- Comfy day is scheduled for 11/24/2021 and students are encouraged to wear PJs and slippers.
- Thanksgiving break is from 11/25/2021 - 11/26/2021.
- The Keane After School art program 3D or Not? for Grades 1-3 is at risk of being cancelled due to low enrollment.
- Screen and Stay around COVID and Quarantines: the intent is to have fewer students staying out for a 10 day quarantine to avoid learning loss. Any questions can be filtered to the school nurse. Once children are vaccinated and asymptomatic they will not need to quarantine. You are considered fully vaccinated two weeks post receipt of the second shot.

## **NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Address Directory**

**Leslie Williams**

- Michelle did a great job passing out flyers to advertisers and transferring emailed submissions into the template. The hope is that the directory could go out prior to December recess.

#### **Community Bag Program**

**Stephanie Carvalho**

- Available at the Stop & Shop in Rocky Hill for the month of December. EWPTO will receive \$1 per bag purchased.

#### **Scoops & Sprinkles**

**Leslie Williams**

- Battle of the Schools – made approximately \$250 in sales and E-W will get 10% and a check is expected in January.

#### **SEPTO**

**Amy Burlingame**

- The first meet was on 11/3/2021.
- There was a Q & A about special education services and it was really helpful to hear responses.
- Written responses to the questions will also be forthcoming.
- Tentative meeting for planning is on 11/17/2021.
- They are continuing to promote outside events.

#### **WSPC**

**Amy Burlingame**

- Met on 11/4/2021 and there is currently an open secretary position.
- Highcrest, Hanmer, and Charles Wright are in need of representation.
- Request from Open Choice Liaison of how to engage families into the school community.
- There will be an internet safety presentation with Scott Driscoll which is being planned.

#### **Wish List**

**Christen Sousa**

- The Wish List committee is at \$2,748.07 of the \$3,000 budget.
- Request received on 10/20/2021 for Mrs. Sanford classroom rug which was at \$425 when requested but today is \$445.02. The committee is asking the board for approximately \$200 to cover the overage of the budget.
- Motion to use \$200 to purchase the rug: 1. Christen; 2. Andrea.
- At this time the Wish List funds have been depleted.
- Member vote: 11 yay; 1 abstention (Leslie) and 0 nay.

#### **Yard Card LLC**

**Leslie Williams**

- Received a check for \$50 from their BOO lawn sign fundraiser.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Spiritwear**

**Leslie Williams**

- There is a new ornament, puzzle, mousepad, tie dye shirt/sweatshirt, beanie hat and ear warmer being offered for a limited time. Some items have limited sizes due to the global supply chain issue. The limited time items will be available through the weekend prior to Thanksgiving.

### **Open Forum:**

- Shana mentioned that the composites for the class pictures from last school year were given out and what was left over was turned over to the school to mail out.
- Shana also mentioned creating a media center volunteer reader and that it would roll out to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades.

### **Next meeting 1/6/2022**

### **Closing Remarks**

**Leslie Williams**

**Adjourn:** 8pm

### **Emergency EWPTO Meeting – Friday, 11/12/2021**

Attendees: Andrea Hernandez, Leslie Williams, Stephanie Carvalho, Shana Smith and Lauren Rhines.  
Meeting began at 7:03pm

Purpose of the meeting was to discuss a request received by Wish List after the 11/11/2021 EWPTO meeting. The request requires a vote and the Board did not want to hold off until the January 2022 meeting. A third-grade teacher is requesting an air purifier which is \$269. This teacher does not have windows in the classroom and has a student with asthma. Wish List is currently \$174 over budget.

Stephanie and Shana motion to order the air purifier. There was a unanimous vote to purchase. 4 Yays, 1 Abstention, 0 Nays.

Air purifier to be purchased.