

Emerson Williams PTO Meeting Minutes

Monday November 14, 2022

Attendees:

Amy Burlingame	Andrea Hernandez	Brandy Kerns	Elizabeth Keyes
Colleen Mattatall	Kate Nadeau	Faithlyn Patterson	Marvin Patterson
Jessica Peltier	Lauren Rhines	Elisa Root	Nicole Sandillo
Shana Smith	Christen Sousa	Anna Szczepanski	Neela Thakur
Anthony Uccello			

Welcome: Colleen Mattatall

- Call to order 6:35pm
- Quick introduction of those in attendance

Secretary Report: Jessica Peltier

- Thank you notes passed around from many teachers for everything the PTO has done this year.
- Sign in passed around
- Briefly discussed how everyone should look through minutes from the September meeting, as they will be approved at the end of the meeting.

Treasurer Report: Anthony Uccello

- Current balance=\$15,637.82

Principal Report: Neela Thakur

- Big thank you to Andrea for all the hard work painting the 4-square and hopscotch grids around the school. (Kids are enjoying them!)
- Thank you to Karla for helping to plan the staff meeting based on self care and bonding!
- Winter Concert will be held on December 8th during the school day (snow date the 9th)
- Spring concert for 4th, 5th, & 6th grade will be held at night

Teacher Report: Elisa Root

- Staff updates: Mrs. Marchak is filling in for Mr. Shoemaker, Mrs. Calvo (EL) will return from maternity leave after winter break
- Spirit days: 11/23 Flannel/Plaid Day, 12.7 CCMC PJ day, 12.23 Festive wear/ugly seater day

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Black Top Update: Andrea

- Andrea discussed the beautiful day for painting and was thankful for all the help from other parents.
- Many people walked by and expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the project.
- Leftover paint will be saved for possible more areas to be painted come springtime. (will see how the salt affects the paint during the winter.
- Just need to add numbers to the 4-square boards

Holiday Store Update: Nicole & Kate

- Went through some boxes last week in the basement and there were quite a few things that could be used for this year, but they still want to order/buy a few things.
- Committee will be meeting later this week.
- There is concern about getting enough volunteers from the 6th grade class
- Colleen will create a sign up genius for volunteer sign up
- Building Use form as already been requested for Thursday December 15th and for the Bookfair

School Pictures: Shana & Lauren

- Pictures should be delivered to students by the end of the week along with teacher mini pictures
- No date yet for spring pictures.

Sixth Grade Committee:

- Made \$2,800 profit for 6th grade with the Lyman's Pie fundraiser
- Mini-photo sessions raised \$1,800 in profit
- Taco Tuesday on 11/15 at Puerto Vallarta, where 20% of all sales goes to committee!

Dollars for Scholars: Colleen

It was discussed that Dollars for Scholars provides scholarships for students who reside in Wethersfield ONLY. A few years ago, a few WHS students started a nonprofit: The Primary Project which provides scholarship money for the Choice Students. The PTO gives \$375 to both scholarships each year.

- EW teachers voted to give to only the Primary Project
- In the future if people wanted to, the PTO could vote to change who the money is given to.
- We were told to write emails to Dollars for Scholars to express our opinions on the matter, if we feel strongly about who they should give the money to.

Room Parent Information:

- Could we make a standard form and have the handout ready for Open House for parents that go there to fill it out?

Items to vote on:

1. Add line item to budget in admin line: The budget was created in April and voted on in May. However, we did not factor in money for the website expenses (\$250) which is billed in July or August of each year. Colleen made a motion to add this line item into the budget, Shane seconded the motion, all were in favor. Line item added to budget.
2. October PTO minutes: Colleen made a motion to approve the October minutes, Lauren seconded the motion, all were in favor. Minutes approved.
3. Mrs. Dalke Wishlist. Christen explained that Mrs. Dalke was asking for 6 bowling pin backstrips for her bowling unit. These would help students not spend so much time running around gathering the pins after they bowled. It was discussed that Mrs. Dalke serves all the kids in the school, during COVID she did not ask to use any of her Wishlist money and passed it onto the music department. Shana made the motion to allow the PTO to pay for this expense outside of the Wishlist account, Amy B. seconded, all were in favor. 6 bowling pin backstrips passed.

FUTURE DATES & EVENTS: Lauren

1. UCONN Men's game at Gampel Pavilion on Saturday 12/10 at 12:30pm
2. Holiday Store: Thursday 12/15 at 5pm: Still need volunteers
3. Book Fair in spring will be from 2/22-3/2: money from this sale comes back in scholastic book dollars not cash.
4. Talent Show: Christen mentioned that Webb School was booked for the venue Friday 2/24
5. Parents Night Out on Friday 3/17: BYOB & food, there will be a trivia host, raffles, prizes at the Pitkin Center from 6-9pm. Only EW staff and parents \$20/person
6. Hip Hop dance program from the Creative Arts Council is coming back to the school beginning of April. 4/4 at night from 5-6:30 with Red Supreme in our gym.
7. Whittle will be set up in the gym from December 16-February 10th