

Emerson Williams PTO Meeting Minutes

**Monday February 13, 2023**

Attendees:

Rachael Alderige	Amy Burlingame	Amy G-Cuadras	Andrea Hernandez
Elizabeth Keyes	Johnna Kulpa	Colleen Mattatall	Kate Nadeau
Karla Pelarinos	Jessica Peltier	James Reilly	Lauren Rhines
Elisa Root	Christen Sousa	Neela Thakur	Anthony Uccello
Leslie Williams			

Welcome: Colleen Mattatall

- Call to order 6:30pm
- Introductions

Secretary Report: Jessica Peltier

- Sign in passed around
- Briefly discussed how everyone should look through minutes from the January meeting, as they will be approved at the end of the meeting.

Treasurer Report: Anthony Uccello

- Current balance=\$20,821.54
- Holiday Store made \$2,632
- Powder Ridge Tubing made \$158
- Puerto Vallarta made \$1,450
- Next school year the budget will need to be increased because the price of Quickbooks is going up \$5 which brings the total to \$60
- Anthony has a cash box for the concession stand
- Leslie mentioned that all Butterbraid money will be ready by March 17th.

Principal Report: Neela Thakur

- Ms. Thakur spoke about the Superintendent's awards given: Andrea Hernandez, Kathleen Maffuid, Nick Novak, & McKayla Grecco
- On 1/19 the whole school participated in the Jumpstart to Read program and read Nigel and the Moon. Then each grade level completed activities based on the book
- Week of January 23rd starts the Great Kindness Challenge. Students will work on specific acts of kindness during this week and extend them beyond through the end of the year.
- Thursday January 26, will be the staff Popcorn Party put on by the Cheer Committee
- No school Friday February 17 thru Tuesday 21st.
- Kindergarten registration is happening now!

Teacher Report: Ms. Root

- Early dismissal on 3/1
- Circle of Friends Club will meet 2/16 & 3/16

- February 27th the student council will be bringing around the school store to each classroom
- February 8th: Inside Out Spirit Day
- February 9th Trimester ends
- Conferences will be held at the end of March.
- May 3rd is the spring concert for 4th, 5th, & 6th graders

**BOARD of EDUCATION UPDATE:** Jim Reilly

- Budget workshop will be held on 2/25
- The referendum did not pass so now a new enrollment study is needed.
- Next referendum will hopefully take place in the spring of 2024
- Charles Wright improvement would cost \$40 million but would not be approved by the state for reimbursement. BOE should follow up and see why C.W. is not getting the full reimbursement allowed
- The state usually reimburses 56% of the cost for renovations and 46% of the cost for new builds.
- People were curious as to how buildings have been maintained
- Request for Proposals: BOE might need to go with another company other than Colliers.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**Bookfair:** Amy B.

- Two family nights for sales
- Students will shop on 2 separate days
- Flyers went out today
- Volunteers needed
- Tax is now added to the price of the books.

**Butter Braid and Cookie Dough Fundraiser:** Jessica on behalf of Leslie Williams

- Butter braid and cookie dough fundraiser (both online and paper orders) begins Monday 2/27/2023 and ends Monday 03/13/2023.
- Profit varies based on the number of items sold. Though if sales are similar to last year, we should profit around \$1500.
- Online orders can be paid via credit card; though there's likely a credit card company fee. Paper orders are payable via cash or check payable to EWPTO.
- Order pick up date is Monday 03/27/2023 approximately 5:15–7:15PM at Leslie's house - 2 Sunrise Terrace. Items arrive frozen and MUST be picked 3/27, so mark your calendar.
- The order form will be available for review in the next week or two and when approved will be placed in the digital backpack and Facebook as we get closer to 2/27.

**Cheer:** Karla P.

- March will be a tea party
- April will be a gardening themed idea
- May: teacher appreciation week
- Trail-mix bar will be coming up too

**6th Grade:** Amy G-C

- Talent show & Dance concession stand will be cash only

- Step up day will be 6/12 at SDMS: Hopefully the 5th grade parents can help out with this.
- Lengthy discussion was had about how to pay for items.
- Money should be easier to access for committee members as they are spending thousands of dollars on various things throughout the year
- Cash advances would help to alleviate this issue
- Lauren and Anthony are going to meet and have a discussion about amendments to the Bylaws and will get back to everyone.

#### **Tubing:**

- Great day out on the slopes for families and kids thanks to Cate Craig for planning!
- All 40 tickets were sold

#### **Wolf Pack: Anthony**

- Deadline for ticket purchases will be Friday February 17th.
- Game is the next day against the Providence Bruins
- As of now 24 tickets have been sold

#### **WSPC: Colleen**

- Town Council Budget meeting will be on April 17th
- Graduation will be on June 9th or 16th
- South Methodist preschool will be closing.

#### **NEW ITEMS:**

##### **Art Show:**

- Mrs. Richard would love help in setting up the art show.
- Art work needs to be mounted and there are about 440 students.
- May 17th is the set up day
- May 19th is the actual art show from 4:30-6:30
- She is looking for any and all parent volunteers for: mounting art, setting up of work, interactive stations during the art show, and clean up.

**SDMS Parent Action Committee:** If any parents of middle school students are interested, there are three open board positions in the fall. VP, treasurer and secretary. Please contact Ellie Palombizio

##### **Items to vote on:**

1. January PTO minutes: Colleen made a motion to approve the January minutes, Neela seconded the motion, all were in favor. Minutes approved.

#### **Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm**

#### **FUTURE DATES & EVENTS:** Lauren

1. Book Fair in spring will be from 2/27-3/3: money from this sale comes back in scholastic book dollars not cash.
2. Talent Show: Christen mentioned that Webb School was booked for the venue Friday 2/24
3. Butterbraid & Cookie Dough sales 2/27-3/13
4. 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

5. 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.