

Emerson Williams PTO Meeting Minutes
Monday October 16, 2023

Attendees:

Amy Burlingame	Megan Copland	Amy Gallagher-Cuadras	May Hanlon
Andrea Hernandez	Sally Keating	James Reilly	Jennifer Reilly
Brandy Kerns	Keri Lloyd	Amy Musco	Kate Nadeau
Laura Neville	Jessica Peltier	Lauren Rhines	Elisa Root
Christen Sousa	Neela Thakur	Aja Tsombanos	Leslie Williams

Welcome: Lauren Rhines

- Call to order 6:35pm
- Welcome to everyone and introduction of board members
- Introduction of those in attendance

Shout Outs

- Thank you to all the people who are chairing a committee, they are doing a fantastic job!

Secretary Report: Jessica Peltier

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

Treasurer Report:

- Current balance \$15,376

Principal Report: Neela Thakur

- Thank you to PTO for Blue Chip Creamery Truck
- Excited for the start of the Kindness Fundraiser
- Unity Day Wednesday: wear orange

Teacher Report: Elisa Root

- Welcome to the new staff in the building!
- High school football team came and read to a few of the classes. Kids were excited about this opportunity
- Spirit wear flyers went out and can be purchased
- Winter Concert K-3 12/15/23, snow date: 12/19
- Winter Concert 4-6 1/26, snow date 1/30

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Athletics: Board
 - Soccer Game: sold 12 tickets because the last game sold out very quickly
 - Wolfpack game in February
 - UCONN Women's Basketball game
 - Possibly Yard Goats in late spring

- Beautification: Andrea & Laura
 - 2 more 4-squares were painted on black top by the recess doors.

- Board of Education: Jim Reilly & Sally Keating
 - Election is coming up in three weeks
 - BOE has gotten an updated facilities assessment
 - Increase in charges from 31 million dollars 5 years ago to 51-52 million (These include repairs to elementary schools, roofing, HVAC & electrical)
 - Hope to have a referendum by June
 - Trying to keep the lines of communication more open this time around

- SEPTO: Amy Burlingame
 - October 4, 1st meeting at 7pm
 - Meetings will be the first Wednesday of each month at Webb
 - About 55 people in attendance

- Book fair: Amy Burlingame
 - Sold \$12,945 worth of materials (roughly 1600 books sold)
 - \$3,236 profit back to PTO

- Cheer: Kate
 - Blue Chip Creamery came for staff and was a success
 - Looking for a theme for November!

- Class Pictures: Lauren
 - Last day to order pictures for free delivery is November 3
 - Everyone will get a class photo even if they did not order pictures

- Community Outreach: Leslie
 - Rice and Mashed potatoes were a huge success during open house
 - Possibly will do another food drive/toy or gift card drive November-December

- Family Fun Night/Parents Night Out: Lauren
 - January: Bingo Night
 - Movie Night
 - Want to have a few free activity to help include all families
 - Looking to help students/families who need rides also come and enjoy (Ubers?)

- Holiday Store: Lauren
 - Looking for 2 really dedicated chairs to run this.

- Kindness Fundraiser: Amy
 - Day 1: exceeded donation total!
 - Throughout the week students will look at being kind to themselves, neighbors, friends, family, community, etc.
 - Creating a community chain to hang around the school!

- Membership Drive: Lauren
 - Raised \$1,100

- Nutmeg Books: Board
 - Ordered at a cost of \$1,050 which was \$50 less than what was budgeted for!

- Parents Night Out: Lauren
 - Trivia night: Looking to rent the Firehouse on Ridge
 - Possibly a night at the Truck Bar in the Spring

- Restaurant Nights Out: Lauren
 - Survey sent out
 - Village Pizza in the Fall
 - Puerto Vallarta in March
 - The Charles Gift Card; Buy a \$25 gift card & \$5 goes back to PTO
 - Buffalo Wild Wings

- Room Parent: Lauren
 - Still need room parent for Ms. Banaver's 3rd grade class, she only has 1.

- Sixth Grade Committee: Christen
 - \$120 dues collected at the beginning of the year
 - Lyman Pie Fundraiser ends this Friday
 - 6th grade social happens every month that is tied to the curriculum
 - Budget for committee is over \$15,000

- Spirit Wear: Andrea
 - 10/16 first day of online sales!
 - Will reprint flyers that were sent home

- Sponsorship: Lauren
 - We have reached half of our goal
 - 3 sponsors!

NEW BUSINESS

- EW PTO will set up a business Venmo account (will include fee)

VOTES

1. Cheer: add second line item under cheer labeled Teacher Appreciation with and extra \$500
Motion made by Amy, seconded by Christen, all were in favor!
2. September minutes passed: Andrea motioned to approve the June PTO minutes, Neela seconded the vote. Jim Reilly abstained. Rest were all in favor of passing.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:16