

Emerson Williams PTO Meeting Minutes
Monday February 26, 2024

Attendees:

Amy Burlingame	Andrea Hernandez	Brandy Kerns	Brenda McLaughlin
Laura Neville	Jessica Peltier	Lauren & Jackson Rhines	Elisa Root
Anna Szczepanski	Neela Thakur	Anthony Uccello	Leslie Williams

Welcome: Lauren

- Call to order 6:35pm
- Welcome to everyone

Secretary Report: Jessica Peltier

- Sign in passed around
- Sent around many thank you notes from the teachers for all the things that the PTO has done
- 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

- Current balance \$23,500
- Committees Earned
 - Membership: \$1,509
 - Trivia: \$234
 - Thankful Thursday: \$87
 - Sponsorship: \$300
 - Puerto Vallarta Restaurant 6th grade committee: \$1,200

Principal Report: Neela Thakur

- BIPOC Community Fair 3/14 5-7pm
- Kindergarten registration online, need to come into school to meet with Mary or Michelle 9am-11am
- Trimester 2 ends March 7th: progress reports go out 3/13
- PTC March 19, 20, 21: ½ days
- District-wide survey will be sent out to: students in grades 4-12, staff, and parents

Teacher Report: Elisa Root

- Welcome to the new staff in the building!
- Thank you for the all the fun little treats from the PTO
- Save the date: Field Day Friday May 31 with a rain date of Monday June 3
- Summer program will still be held at EW for grades 1-8 and sponsored by the Keane Foundation

NEW Items:

- Brenda McLaughlin
 - Whole Phonics Decodable Books: buying options for Kindergarten and 1st grade
 - Kindergarten would be best to build up their library first if needed to
 - Ideal classroom sets totaling: \$11,880.02 half the number \$5,000
 - Will vote on this later in the meeting

 - Poetry Afternoon: April is Poetry Month
 - Volunteer needed for mounting poems on colorful paper
 - Volunteer needed to help out with refreshments (families will bring snacks to share)
 - Date to be determined
 - Theme this year is Kindness
 - \$100 allocated for this afternoon

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Athletics: Anthony
 - Wolfpack 2/10
 - Soccer Athletics game 5/11 @7pm
 - Karate fundraiser: Theme is Self Confidence
 - \$49/child for 8 classes right after school
 - All grades
 - 100% of donations goes to PTO

- BoE & WSPC: Amy B.
 - Community Service Awards: Need to nominate volunteer by March and vote in April
 - Kim Bobin is looking for kids for the birth to 3 program

- Book fair: Amy B
 - March 18-22 during conference week
 - After school hours: Tuesday 1:30-7, Wed & Thurs 1:30-5
 - Encouraging families to shop after school hours more so than during the day

- Budget: Lauren
 - Bylaws state that we need to meet to create the proposed budget for the next year.
 - Date TBD

- Butterbraids: Leslie
 - So far \$740 online sales
 - Over 50 Butterbraids sold

- Pick up at Leslie's house on 3/11
- Cheer/Staff Appreciation: Lauren
 - Staff appreciation week will be 5/6 - 5/10
- Cultural Night: Elisa
 - Will be held 5/3 from 6:30-8:30
 - Looking for performers and families to showcase their culture!
- Parents Night Out: Lauren
 - Trivia night: Friday March 8 at the Wethersfield Fire Dept on Ridge Rd
 - Pop Culture
 - Raffling off a Solo Stove
- Sixth Grade: Amy B
 - Yearbook is coming along
 - Meeting on Monday to discuss upcoming events
 - Mrs. George would love a copy of this years yearbook
- Strawberry Fest: Laure
 - Friday 5/31: 5pm-8pm
- Talent Show: Lauren
 - At Webb on 4/5 Friday night at 6:30
 - Also with art show
 - Rehearsal 5pm Thursday 4/4

NEW BUSINESS

- The Buddy Bench in the K-1 playground is damaged. Checking to see if it is covered under Parks & Rec
 - 6th grade committee will meet and discuss to see if they would be willing to donate a bench
- Music needs new risers too: expense of about \$3,500/each
- Maven's CCMC Toy Drive:
 - Need volunteers to make copies of the flier to give out to classrooms and collect toys.
 - Toy drive will be all of March

VOTES

1. Amy B. made the motion to not exceed \$6,000 for purchasing Whole Phonics Decodable books for Mrs. McLaughlin. Brandy seconded the motion. Request to call for a vote: 3 in favor: 7 vetoed
2. Anna made a motion to not exceed \$1,200 for purchasing Whole Phonics Decodable books for Mrs. McLaughlin. Neela seconded the motion. Request to call for a vote: 7 in favor: 3 vetoed.
3. Andrea made the motion to pass the January PTO minutes, Laura seconded, all in favor!

Meeting Adjourned: 8:47