



Emerson Williams PTO Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 20th 2026
6:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Sarrah Hughes	Nicole Wante	Lauren Rhines
Neela Thakur	Tabitha Zimmerman	Katrina Ross
Amie Lugo	Katherine Patnaude	Anthony Ucello
Elizabeth Keyes	Matt Laccavole	Shana Smith
Virtual link available (no participants)		

Welcome: Sarrah Hughes

- Call to order at 6:30
- Welcome to everyone and introductions of those in attendance

Treasurer Report: Katrina Ross

- Current balance reviewed up to today
- Having budget planning meeting on April 29th at 6:30pm at Panera in Wethersfield – all are welcome – Will discuss this year and looking at any changes for next year
- Currently profit of \$2,000
- There are some line items that are in the negative, but they are pre-paid line items for events coming up

Principal Report: Neela Thakur

- Thank you to Anthony Ucello for working with instrumental music teacher to coordinate with the Wolf Pack game – 37 5th and 6th grade instrumental students on Friday April 10th played at the Wolf Pack game
- This Thursday, April 23rd – Schoolwide spirit day – Heritage Day
- State testing (SBAC) is coming up – starting on Monday and goes through May 12th. This is for student’s grade 3rd – 6th. There is no time limit for this assessment.
 - On each day there is testing, they only actually do the testing for roughly 45 minutes for each session.
- Two big parent orientation nights coming up
 - 6th grade parents – Orientation at SDMS – 6:30 tomorrow
 - Incoming Kindergarten Orientation – Just parents on April 30th 6:30-7:30pm
- Last day of school – Monday, June 22nd which will be a half day of school for students
- There will be no school on Friday, June 19th
- May 8th at 7:00pm and May 9th at 2:00pm – Seussical Musical
- Field Day – Friday May 29th 12:30-2:30pm – parents are welcome
 - Rain date – Friday June 5th 12:30-2:30pm

Matt Laccavole

- Update from the BOE
- The superintendent presented his budget – 4.4% year increase. Historically this is one of the lowest presented to the board. Also low for surrounding towns.
 - The 3.7% of that increase goes toward raises for staff

- New money is going to focus on early literacy. He wants to have reading interventionist in kindergarten and para in kindergarten classes to help with early literacy.
- Calendar – There was a lot of debate about the last day of school and whether to send kids to school on June 19th
- Trying to work on having more classes where students can earn college credits in high school

Teacher Report: Absent

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- Talent Show – May 27th rehearsal, May 28th show 6pm
 - \$2 cash tickets, students are free
 - 6th grade in charge of refreshments and flower grams
 - We have an MC for the event
 - 6th grade has a traveling speaker as backup that we can borrow
 - Possibly do a rehearsal ahead of time
- Possible board member
 - First year president position is open – one person is interested but would prefer to do a co-president
- Book Fair
 - Joella volunteered to run the book fair this year
 - May 19th Tuesday will be in school only, Wednesday (May 20th) & Thursday (May 21st) at night from 3:30-7pm
 - Sign up Genius for parent volunteers will be posted soon
- Scott Driscoll presentation
 - May 21st in school for students
- Purse Bingo – CANCELLED
 - Only 8 people signed up for this session
 - All prizes have been purchased and ready to reschedule for the fall
- Parent Night Out – Postponed to Friday June 5th (originally April 10th)
 - Pitkin Community Center
 - BYOB, trivia, DJ
- Strawberry Festival – May 15th
 - Flyer went out in backpacks before break
 - Advertisements will also go on the Facebook page to get the word out
 - Looking for volunteers at dunk tank (possibly new gym teacher)
 - 3 food trucks will be there
- Anthony Ucello
 - Wolf pack – sold 135 tickets
 - Yard Goats – still need to post it. Current date is Saturday May 16th – game is at 6:10pm and tickets are \$18. It is a fireworks night!
 - Created a flyer that has a Google Form to sign up
 - Deadline is April 30th
 - Obligated for 25 tickets minimum
 - Karate – May 12th on 4 consecutive Tuesdays
 - Will be posted
 - Anthony will create a Google Form
 - WSPC Nomination for Emerson-Williams volunteer of the year
 - Sarrah Hughes – Congrats!

- WSPC is scheduled to go forward with Frog and Toad performance on May 3rd 5:30pm at Playhouse on Park – sensory performance
 - A google form will be created and tickets will be sent electronically
- Wednesday, May 6th – National Bike and Roll to School Day
 - Also, a half day of school
 - DOT is looking to create a short video with parent permission
 - Stripes and DOT Turtle mascots will be present
 - Looking to set a time and location for a walking school bus
- Creative Arts Council
 - Wanted to have a shared bank account with all elementary schools
 - Not all PTO's were on board
 - Look into doing another performance before the end of the school year

NEW BUSINESS

- In need of new rep for WSPC for next year
- In need of someone to run 6th grade committee next year
- Discussed Primary Project and Dollars for Scholars – Choosing to donate to Bubser Scholarship

ITEMS TO VOTE ON

1. Voting on 6th grade lunch for Pine Acres food - \$175
 - a. Motioned to approve - Lauren
 - b. Second by Neela
 - c. All in favor, approved
2. Bubser Scholarship - \$500
 - a. Motioned to approve - Shana
 - b. Second by Lauren
 - c. All in favor, approved
3. March Meeting minutes
 - a. Motioned to approve by Sarrah
 - b. Seconded by Lauren
 - c. All in favor, minutes approved

Meeting called to close at 7:53pm