

PTO Meeting Monday, November 21, 2022  
7:00pm  
NPES Library and via Zoom

**Attendees:**

Erica Swift, Jen Foss, Joanna Binette, Karin Ballantine, Andrea Mikkola, Nicole Skutul, Kate Stevens, Jenna Rushton, Jessica Conn, Meghan Snee, Rosemary Kiley, Laura Driscoll, Allison Luango, Missy Tupa, Jane O'Hara

Zoom: Allison Joubert, Kate

**Meeting Agenda:**

- 1) President's Report
  - a. This is our PTO, all of us and we want to hear from you about what events
  - b. Internet and phones seem to be back and in working order.
- 2) Principal's Report
  - a. School Committee meeting approved our School Improvement Plan. We will share it on website and with the PTO. Goals are focusing on social/emotional learning, particularly coming out of COVID, celebrating community, academics. This is the first time we have had a reading specialist full-time, which is a huge asset and will focus a lot on that. The sensory room has been a huge asset with the swings and flexible seating. We have a meeting with administration every week and there are students who are on our radar. The room has a mental health professional and paraprofessional to help the kids regulate their emotions. Data is showing that it is minimizing the amount of time kids spend outside of the classroom.
  - b. Turkey trot is on Thursday morning. Opening ceremony, many parent volunteers, 20 mins of music and dancing, and then the trot.
  - c. Ambassadors will talk about the food pantry.
  - d. Next month we will do a theme of holidays around the world. Trying to get speakers from different religions and what they celebrate in December. Nice way for the kids to learn about different cultures. Looking for recommendations for speakers.
- 3) Report from Secretary:
  - a. Report from Mrs. Charpentier
  - b. Huge financial report for the annual report
  - c. Making sure minutes are on our website and folks can access them
  - d. Committees
  - e. Vice President's report and event planning: Halloween even will be more traditional boo bash/monster mash, book fair in November, 6th grade is forming fundraising/planning committee, recess committee and building a shed for recess equipment, changing bylaws: adding a line item for field day and teacher appreciation.
  - f. Votes from last time: Last year the special education teachers were added to the teacher requests. 1) The Psychologists/counselors also asked to be added to the budget for teacher's request for \$100 each. 2) Reading specialist would also like

to be added for \$100. 3) EL teacher for \$50 as she is part-time. 4) Add an additional scholarship opportunity for graduating seniors.

- g. Approve meeting minutes from September
- 4) Update from Joanna (co-treasurer):
  - a. Expenses
    - i. 3rd and 4th grade field trip: 3rd grade to Plimoth Pautuxet museum; 4th grade brought the whaling museum to the school.
    - ii. Expenses for Boo Bash.
  - b. Fundraisers
    - i. Proceeds from Boo Bash.
- 5) VP Report (they are in charge of committee chairs)
  - a. Need Chairs for:
    - i. Recess Committee
    - ii. 5th Grade Fundraising
    - iii. Easy Money
    - iv. Pizza Bingo may be end of January; try not to conflict with 6th grade survivor night
    - v. Would love to see enrichment ideas if you have them.
  - b. **Ongoing Events/Fundraising**
    - i. Box tops
    - ii. Bay State Textiles
    - iii. Amazon Smile
    - iv. Script fundraiser
- 6) Ongoing Business
  - a. Jen did some research on games/activities to be set up for recess. Total for everything on the page, including the shed is \$1500. Not a huge ask for something that could benefit the kids. Need balls and ropes for tetherball. Need to talk with the gym teacher, teachers, and the kids about what they want to do and make some decisions. Jen Foss willing to chair this, please reach out to her directly if you're interested. Ambassadors can do a survey about recess equipment.
    - i. May want to cover the cost of equipment and not the shed just yet.
    - ii. Maybe we think about doing the temporary shed and equipment now and then going through the process of a fixed structure. May be able to use Community Preservation funds (CPC).
    - iii. Boy Scout went to the school committee about a gaga field and the approval process was quick.
    - iv. Nicole made a motion to allocate \$1600 for equipment and shed, seconded by Kate. All in favor.
  - b. Follow up on the ice cream account - no way to create an account that we pay for. Trying to work this out with billing. Reach back out.
  - c. Changes to PTO documents for additional scholarship and teacher allocations-
    - i. In September voted on adding an additional scholarship for graduating seniors, 2 \$500 scholarships.
    - ii. Added special education into the line items.
    - iii. Have to change the bylaws and the standing rules to accommodate these changes.
    - iv. Also change wording of fundraiser to major fundraiser rather than fall.

- v. Pembrokeopoly is no longer a source of revenue.
- vi. Change wording for grade grants.
- vii. Last page - agreed to add teacher appreciation and field day as line items.
- viii. Motion to accept amendments to standing rules (Kate), Second (Jessica), All in favor and voted to accept amendments.

7) New Business

- a. Sixth Grade Ambassadors- food bank
  - i. Jessica and Jackie O'Hara and Alexis Levy came to discuss the purpose of the ambassadors and upcoming events. They provided an update on the amount of food each grade has collected for the firehouse food pantry, over 1,300 items! On Wednesday they will be transporting the items to the food bank and wanted to thank the PTO for providing the bus. This was provided through the enrichment funds.
- b. OT funding request
  - i. Wondering if the PTO would be willing to sponsor bouncy bands for the 3rd and 4th grade - 119 students, \$160 for 10. They go on the bottom of your chair, burn energy. Last longer than you would think (up to 5 years). Roughly \$2000 for the bands and shipping. We can start with 3rd and 4th and go around and take a poll to see what we want for each classroom. This is the biggest need right now. All approved.
- c. Teacher Wishlist Monthly Drawing- looking at amount of \$ we have because we have not been able to do field trips. Maybe having teachers put together wishlists. Maybe a monthly drawing?
  - i. Teachers would like rugs, chairs, books, etc. Vacuums for grades.
  - ii. There was a concern brought up as to whether we can carry a balance. We can carry a balance as long as we are not profiting. We are fundraising for next year.
  - iii. May want to look at scholastic catalog we can use scholastic dollars towards items for teachers (e.g. chairs, rugs, etc.)
  - iv. Jen will send out an email to teachers about what the request process is.
- d. Upcoming Events
  - i. Polar Express
  - ii. Celtics Game - March 4, not a fundraiser for us. Tried to get tickets on the lower end to be more accessible.
  - iii. Whoo's Reading - many parents/caregivers are happy that we have an event that's not athletic driven. Try to give away prizes, celebrate successes. February 27 - March 10. Asking for \$100 to register. They take 6% of proceeds.
  - iv. Pizza Bingo - working on a date.
  - v. Adult Social - no chair yet - maybe think about iGolf?
  - vi. Talent show/lip sync - no chair yet

8) Vote on the following:

- a. Motion to give \$420 for ambassadors for t-shirts. T-shirts are approved.
- b. Motion to allocate \$100 for registration and \$200 for kindles for whoo's reading approved.

Meeting adjourned 8:12pm