

## MRMS PTO MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 20, 2023; MRMS MEDIA CENTER; 6:00-7:00pm

Zoom Link to Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85060355108?pwd=MnJ2RGtHUSsraytzdlp6MEcxQkFFQT09>

### Agenda:

1. Introductions Made (*Attendance sheet passed around*)
2. Review and approval of 05/17/23 Meeting Minutes
  - a. *Emine motioned, Allison second, all in favor*
3. Present Calendar of Events and Budget for Approval
  - a. *Approval of Budget & Calendar of Events approved, motioned by Allison, approved by all*
  - b. *Once a month to have a free event is goal*
4. Fundraisers/Events
  - a. *If interested in a committee please let Emine Cabassa (Secretary) know*
  - b. *We need staff support to make these happen, please think of things of interests and what you are able to assist with*
  - c. *Something new this year is that we need to pay for local bussing for trips. Buses are no longer available to bus for free for local destinations*
5. Establish Subcommittees:
  - a. Fundraising Committee:
    - i. *Brooklyn Mendez ([Brooklynartista@icloud.com](mailto:Brooklynartista@icloud.com))*
    - ii. *Louise Johnson ([thinkpink101@live.com](mailto:thinkpink101@live.com))*
    - iii. *Amy Wagner ([amym1979@yahoo.com](mailto:amym1979@yahoo.com))*
    - iv. *Cassie Beckwith ([c.beckwith.899@gmail.com](mailto:c.beckwith.899@gmail.com))*
  - b. Audit Committee (3 Member Minimum)
    - i. *Cutter Oliver ([cutter.w.oliver@gmail.com](mailto:cutter.w.oliver@gmail.com))*
    - ii. *Lynn Belanger ([voqelpohl82@yahoo.com](mailto:voqelpohl82@yahoo.com))*
  - c. Nominating Committee (3 Member Minimum)
    - i. *Emine Cabassa (Executive Member)*
  - d. *5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee*
    - i. *Allison Zyrilis ([azyrlis@groton.k12.ct.us](mailto:azyrlis@groton.k12.ct.us))*
    - ii. *Jacky Wilson (5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher)*
6. New Business/Co-Chairs Report
  - a. PTO table at Open House on 9/26
    - i. *We will have signup sheets*
    - ii. *Inform people of the zoom link & Babysitting as an option for our PTO Meetings*
  - b. Staff Engagement Breakfast on 9/29
    - i. *Ali, Meg, and Allison will be attending (MRMS staff room from 08:15-08:45am), taking suggestions and ideas from teachers and staff*
  - c. Mums Fundraiser
    - i. *Deadline was yesterday and mums will be delivered this Friday*

- ii. 197 mums sold at \$13 = \$20,561 total, but we only receive half of that so \$10,280
  - iii. Pick up is at 3:30pm Friday (Lynn's House) and assistance is needed:
    - 1. Lynn Belanger ([vogelpohl82@yahoo.com](mailto:vogelpohl82@yahoo.com)) Lead
    - 2. Christa Antkowiak ([cmante@yahoo.com](mailto:cmante@yahoo.com))
    - 3. Allison Zyrlis ([azyrlis@groton.k12.ct.us](mailto:azyrlis@groton.k12.ct.us))
- d. Eliana Memorial
  - i. Pre-K Student Eliana is honored by the outdoor art space created for kids who are disabled, but can still be included in outdoor activities
  - ii. Memorial pending watermark sign and plaque before memorial ceremony is held. Setting a goal date of October 14<sup>th</sup> Saturday
- e. School apparel fundraiser
  - i. Call for Volunteers/Open for Vendors
  - ii. 'Destination Athlete' is our current vendor. Orders are open for a specific duration and are sent to the school and classrooms
  - iii. Parents noted that apparel sales should be twice a year (fall/spring)
  - iv. Brooklyn Mendez is the Lead for School Apparel Fundraiser ([Brooklynartista@icloud.com](mailto:Brooklynartista@icloud.com))
- f. "Got Sneakers" fundraiser
  - i. Call for Volunteer to make donation box
  - ii. Allison has already requested and received a bag for shoe donations
  - iii. Excellent condition shoes are \$7 and decreases based on the state of the shoe down to .25cents
  - iv. If any students need any sneakers they can take them
  - v. Nicole Oliver ([nicoleanneoliver@yahoo.com](mailto:nicoleanneoliver@yahoo.com)) as lead for 'Got Sneakers' Fundraiser
- g. Call for Volunteers to provide food for October staff dinner during conferences/book fairs (Certified Staff of 60 ppl)
  - i. Options can be to do a pot luck or do our usual catering
  - ii. Louise Johnson as Lead October Staff Dinner Donation
  - iii. Amy Wagner to assist
  - iv. Christa Antkowiak – In Charge of Desserts
    - 1. Jennifer Young ([jenniferyoung710@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferyoung710@gmail.com)) to donate a plate
- h. PTO has an email: [MysticRiverMagnetSchoolPTO@gmail.com](mailto:MysticRiverMagnetSchoolPTO@gmail.com)
- i. Review fund requests (at each meeting)
  - i. \$500 and above need to be approved by PTO
  - ii. Current Expenses:
    - 1. Purchased \$79 Webcam for Zoom Meetings
    - 2. 5th Grade Tree Tails Trip for \$1,600
  - iii. Proposed Expenses:
    - 1. Jacky Wilson; 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher:
      - a. "Story Works" Workbooks:
        - i. This was approved but not purchased since the budget has been frozen. (Not sure if this would be reimbursable)

- ii. 60 Subscriptions w/ Digital ~\$557
    - iii. 40 Subscriptions, but kids would have to share
    - iv. **Motion to Approve. Second. APPROVED**
  - 2. *Joselina Reyes; School Social Worker:*
    - a. *“Let’s Talk Box”*
      - i. *This is available for students to self-advocate for themselves and reach out for help. Mail Box would be kept in the main hallway for all student to pass and submit forms whenever they wanted*
      - ii. *Asking for a Mail box for \$25 on Amazon*
      - iii. **Motion to Approve. Second. APPROVED**
  - 3. *Stephen Schneider; Music/Band Teacher:*
    - a. *Coast Guard Concerts in October. Concerts themselves are free but busing is a cost of \$300 a bus, would need 3 buses so about \$900. Geared to 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Graders*
    - b. *October 27<sup>th</sup> is the day of the Event*
    - c. **Compromise would be for PTO to pay half of the expense and ask for parents to meet us half way with donations. But if it doesn’t work out we can’t.**
- 7. Subcommittee Reports
  - a. N/A
- 8. Old Business
  - a. N/A
- 9. Principal’s Reports
  - a. *Election Day Bake sale to offset the expense for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade field trip at Tree Trails*
  - b. *Emma Wroughtner – She is Shared with Thames School. Obtains Partnership Services for local businesses and establishments like Niantic Children Museum.*
    - i. *The Niantic Children’s Museum personnel can come to the school as a speaker at a reduced charge*
    - ii. *Mystic Aquarium will be coming into the school for events*
    - iii. *Ghost Space came in and had the kids go on the trails on the property before*
- 10. Treasurer’s Report
  - a. *Review of Treasurers Report. Would like to have a goal to carry over about \$10k each yr*
  - b. *Allocating Field Trips for about \$1,000 a grade to go on at least one trip this year*
  - c. *About \$17k was the end of school balance for the 2022-2023 school year*
- 11. New Ideas, Questions, and Concerns
  - a. *Trunk or Treat for October*
    - i. *Local Businesses might be interested so that parents can walk with their children*
    - ii. *The Trunks of Treats would be along the grass and people park in the parking lot*
    - iii. *Esker Point Beach would also be a point of interest for location*
    - iv. *Amy Wagner is Lead for the Trunk or Treat October Event*
    - v. *Louise Johnson will assist*
- 12. Announcements for Newsletter:
  - a. *PTO is accepting shoe donations for “Got Sneakers” fundraiser*

- b. Save the Date – Fall Book Fair 10/23-10/27
- c. Contact [MysticRiverMagnetSchoolPTO@gmail.com](mailto:MysticRiverMagnetSchoolPTO@gmail.com) to get involved with the PTO
- d. Next PTO Meeting is October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6pm

13. Adjourn