

Exeter Elementary PTO Minutes: Wednesday, October 10, 2018

Attendance: Kathleen Kirwin, Catherine Barrows, Allison Battles, Michelle Harvel, Mariotte Linscott, Nicole Mazur, Beth Cadorette, Deanna Donnelly, Maureen Brown, Heidi Merrow, Christiani Gatto, Drew Gatto, Sheri Gushta, Jillian Burns, Suzy Finnis, Sarah Dewitt, JayTobin, Toyin Augustus , *Cyndy Smith*

Introductions: Co-presidents: Allison Battles and Jillian Burns
Secretary: Heidi Merrow

Volunteer Update: Kyme Myers will be joining Nora Garrity as a volunteer coordinator. A lovely group of community members are actively volunteering at LSS. They call themselves the lunch bunch and join children at LSS for lunch. They sit and chat with children showing them that the community they live and grow in is a supportive one.

We have **400** active parents receiving our communications for volunteer requests. We have had **7** volunteers at MSS school picture day, **5** volunteers signed up to help transport children to and from the nurses office during hearing screening and **58** volunteers donated **117 items** to the back to school luncheons.

Upcoming volunteer opportunities:

- *LSS: staffing school store
- *Charleston Wrap distribution
- *LSS/MSS Try It Tuesday
- *Get Fit in May

Motion to accept minutes: Nicole Mazzur and second *Cindy* Smith

Principal Reports: Beth Cadorette/MSS

Thank you to volunteers helping with picture day. Reading volunteers will be trained Monday, October 15, 2:15-3:00 with Karla Putney. Other events at MSS supported by the PTO include the Tiger program from Plymouth State "A Brand New Day", fire prevention week for grade 2 which includes a visit from the Exeter fire department, a walking field trip for kindergarten to the fire station, a grade 1 field trip to Coppal House Farm, and a field trip to the Audubon Center in Auburn for grade 2. Thank you!

October 26 is the annual MSS Halloween parade which walks up to LSS to visit the cornstalk characters made by grade 3 students.

October 17 is early release at 12:45 and October 11 enrichment activities start after school.

Wish List: \$3,900 to increase materials used for teaching

Diversity/\$150 per teacher

\$5,477.78 for 22 Chromebooks

\$1,000 for creating a walking path around the building

Deanna Donnelly/LSS

October 9 is the first meeting of Power Values which teaches respect, empathy, and teamwork. Other events at LSS supported by the PTO: Police athletic league PAL is working with 5th grade, girls won first place at the cross country meet in Stratham, PEA students are reading with the children at LSS, Cultural enrichment programs, Tiger, Museum of Science, Tanglewood Marionettes. Thank you! Also, thank you for the Chromebooks.

Wish list: Coaches shirts next year

MSS/Maureen Brown: Thank you for the luncheon. It was delicious. Work will be done on the teacher/staff raffle to make it a more positive experience for all. In the past, Square 1 Art had the labels on the paper. Could that be done again? How can teachers help with fund raising?

Suzy Finnis: Teachers are grateful for the startup funds.

Catherine Barrows: Thank you notes to teachers with reimbursement for startup costs were greatly appreciated.

LSS/Cyndy Smith: Teachers would like some guidance as to what should be on Square 1 Art. The luncheon was delicious. Field trips at LSS: Grade 5 Museum of Science, Grade 4 Great Bay Discovery Center. After school enrichment is underway. LSS would like some sort of a storage unit with shelves out back for the Take Apart Club. Could Seacoast Technology build it?

Suggestions for fundraising:

UNH hockey game (with a small upcharge it can become a fundraising event), family movie night, raffle theme baskets.

Get Fit in May update: Get Fit is now using Millenium Running. It will be a \$1.00 increase to participate with a discount if you sign up early. People may also be interested in sponsoring a runner or donating on behalf of a runner.

Other: Cassie Hepner is now the social media manager. We are looking for someone to do website maintenance and administrator for next year. Also we need Box Top clippers. Possibly PEA students could do this as part of a volunteer project. Toyin Augustus will look into this.

Maureen Brown motions to adjourn and second Cyndy Smith.