



PTO Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2018

Cafeteria

Members Attended: Alicia Burke, Amanda Mills, James Hurley, Sarah Fry, Idalyn Spina, Nick Spina, Michelle Conrad, Greg Feltham, June Craig, Chere Deveau, Peggy Fry and Michelle James.

Regrets: Shannon Sutherland, Angela Pratley.

Agenda

1. Review minutes from last meeting
2. Principal's report
3. Treasurer's report
4. Fundraising
 - 1) Feedback Form
 - 2) Winter/Spring Dance
 - 3) End of Year Bash
5. Round table / New Business
6. Next Meeting

1. Review Minutes from Last Meeting

- a) Accepted as written.

2. Principal's Report

- a) Our literacy and math support teachers for P-4 has been a positive experience for staff and students.
- b) Students are having success with the 1 on 1 format in small groups.
- c) We have a Schools Plus liaison that covers all schools in Eastern Passage. She offers a support network for families that need help with things the school can't provide.
- d) Currently, Tallahassee has received funding for 8 yoga sessions for the grade 4's to help with teaching mindfulness.

3. Treasurer's Report

- a) We currently have \$11,280 and \$5433 for the playground committee.
- b) The red carpet ticket and raffle basket money from the Christmas concerts went into our account as a lump sum. The money should have been separated as the red carpet ticket money goes to the PTO and the raffle basket money goes to the music program.
- c) **ACTION:** Alicia will contact Judy in the office to amend this.
- d) Anti-bully t-shirts: Students have not received their anti-bully t-shirts for the last two years. The school is responsible for ordering the t-shirts while PTO covers the cost. It is unclear at this time if the money for the t-shirts has been taken out of our account the last two years.
- e) **ACTION:** Alicia will contact office to find out if this money has been taken out of our account.
- f) **ACTION:** Mr. Hurley to have primary and grade 1 teachers submit sizes for their classes so those shirts can be ordered with the incoming primary's shirts in June.
- g) The incoming primary students will be sized at primary orientation in May. This will ensure each student will have a t-shirt for anti-bully day in September.

4. PTO Grant Wish Requests

- a) Mrs. Jennifer Bruce – Primary
 - i. She is looking for number sense charts from Scholar's Choice (\$32.99) and 2 sets of "Hear Myself" sound phones (\$90.00) for a total of \$127.91.
 - ii. All approved.
- b) Mrs. Maureen MacMullin – Music
 - i. She is looking for an alto xylophone (\$422.00) and a soprano xylophone (\$347.00) for a total of \$901.00. This will be a cost shared purchase with the school. PTO will be covering 50% of the cost.
 - ii. 8 approved, 2 against. Approved.

5. Fundraising

a) Feedback Form

- i. Feedback forms were passed around to get the committee's perspective on how our fundraising efforts have gone so far this year.

b) Spring Dance

- i. Since we have had quite a few fundraisers and asks of parents in the fall, we have decided to opt for a dance midway through the term.
- ii. The gym has been booked for Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 6:30-8:00pm. The DJ has also been booked.
- iii. Members are asked to think of ideas for a theme/decorating as well as canteen items for our next meeting.
- iv. The success of selling pizza has been hit or miss over the years.

c) End of Year Bash

- i. The committee has decided to keep the last event of the year as a give back to families and not make it a fundraiser.
- ii. Members are asked to think of new ideas for next meeting (bouncy castles, games, BBQ outside, etc.).
- iii. Nick Spina had spoke about a successful event held at a closing school in Ontario. It was a give back to families to say goodbye to the school. M&M's held a BBQ. There was no admission and it was open to everyone. He reiterated that the End of Year Bash should be used to celebrate the successes over the school year.
- iv. **ACTION: Alicia to put in a request to book the gym end of May/early June.**

6. Round Table / New Business

a) Peggy Fry

- i. Parent Peggy Fry was looking for more information on the school policy on bullying. She felt that there was a lot of talk about bullying and it was taking away the focus of building and promoting positive friendships. Mr. Hurley stated that they school focuses on positive interactions when children are in conflict. He stated they talk about positive relationships, what does a good friend look like and different ways students can

interact in a positive manner. He reiterated that some students need additional support in learning how to interact appropriately. Mr. Hurley invited Peggy Fry to meet with the school to further discuss her concerns.

b) Greg Feltham

- i. Parent Greg Feltham had a meeting at the end of January with Halifax Parks. We have been approved for funding for a primary playground.
- ii. We have received a grant from our councilor and are waiting for the provincial matching grant to be approved.
- iii. This will be going out to tender in a few weeks with the anticipation of having it completed prior to the start of the school year in September. The old playground will be demolished and a new structure built.
- iv. Greg also raised concerns regarding the flag for indoor days not being used during inclement weather. He stated a few parents have expressed concerns regarding the confusion this creates. Mr. Hurley stated this has not been utilized this year as the pole is broken. Staff are supposed to be out at the Kiss N Go redirecting students. He stated staff should be on duty at 8:15am.

7. Next Meeting

- a) Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 6:30pm in the cafeteria.

Important Upcoming Dates

Spring Dance – April 21, 2018 from 6:30 – 8:00pm in the school gym.