

MINUTES

EC Stevens/Pond Hill PTO Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2024

IN ATTENDANCE

A.O'Brien, G. Dirkson, J. Panzarella, M. Whitehouse, K. Kiely, T. Kingston, K. Daly, A. Myers, D. Monroe, L. Gerbe, D. Blasczyk, S. Zyskowski, C. Singer, L. Clark, M. Puziello

OPENING DISCUSSIONS/PRINCIPLE COMMENTS

- K. Daly motion to approve September meeting minutes, 2nd motion M. Whitehouse, D. Blasczyk
- Great news—4 teachers have joined the PTO, PTO membership has recently doubled

BUDGET/TREASURER'S REPORT

- Will review next month

LAST MONTH'S EVENTS

September

- Ice Cream Social 9/20
- Scholastic Book Fair 9/30-10/3; School was able to spend scholastic dollars to purchase books for each school
- Beaumont Fundraiser 9/15-10/31- Keep shopping for pumpkins! 20% of sales go to our PTO, and that money goes right back to our schools.

October

- **Trunk or Treat 10/18-** Thank you to all who donated candy, decorated trunks, and volunteered! Huge success! Received monetary donations through a PTO tip/donation jar at both the ice cream social and trunk or treat. K. Daly discussed the generous candy donations from parents.
- **Lyman Orchards Pie Fundraiser-** Pie pick up will be Tuesday 11/19 at Stevens. T.Kingston reported rough estimate of just under \$5,000 raised collectively between both schools. K. Daly to send out a sign-up link for pie pick up time slot. All set with volunteers to assist with pick up.
- **Spirit Wear** online store is open until 11/18! Once orders are in, anticipate delivery in the first week of December in time for the holidays. A. O'Brien suggested planning a school spirit day to coincide with spirit wear delivery for kids to be able to wear.

UPCOMING EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS:

November

- **Election Day Bake Sale** 11/5-Money raised will be used for spring dance/field day. Parents drop off baked goods on Monday, November 4th. 31 people have signed up to donate baked goods as of 10/23.
- **Gratitude for teachers and staff-** A link will be available to parents to be able to send messages of gratitude to teachers, and school staff members. These messages will be collected and dispersed to teachers with a treat the week of Thanksgiving! In addition to the form being available through parent square or FB, parents who attend the EC Stevens parent/teacher conference on 10/24 will be able to write their messages of gratitude on paper that will be collected.
- **Quinnipiac University Games-** Purchase discounted tickets (through QR code or link) for a family fun night out. 12/29- QU Ice Hockey Game, 1/25/25-QU Basketball game
- **Spring Dance-** Tentative date April 25th, awaiting confirmation from Lyman Hall. Will need committee/volunteers.
- **Spring Book Fair-**Will need someone to chair or lead this event.
- **Next PTO Meeting:** November 20th, 6:30PM

PRINCIPAL/TEACHER COMMENTS:

K. Kiely- Events so far have been wonderful, positive, and a nicely run. Appreciate being able to utilize the scholastic bucks to purchase books for the students and classroom. Interested in Nov/Jan PTO meeting dates (Discussed: Nov.20/Jan.15) to try and coordinate with the Center for Innovation and Design for Family Nights. Looking for volunteers who are interested in becoming the ECS & PH PTAC representative. The representative would attend the system wide PTAC meetings that take place every-other month and then report information (school/district wide initiatives) back to PTO meetings.K. Kiely would also like to share some highlights of her school improvement plan in either the November or December meeting.

Upcoming events at ECS: Friday 10/25 Celebrating Dwarfism Day. 11/7 Veterans Day Celebration honoring Veterans connected to students at ECS.

G. Dirkson- Trunk or treat was awesome, huge shout out to all involved. So many families were having a great time! Mrs. Dorish was able to use scholastic dollars to buy popular books in Spanish text. PTO was thanked for their contribution towards the cost for PH to be able to celebrate a school wife trip to Wild Robot! The school-wide event was about building community as well as reaching literacy goals and connecting it to the curriculum. PH just ended spirit week which was tied into anti-bullying and prevention month. Kids wore certain colors each day, and students and families donated \$1, for a total of \$850 donated to the Red Cross to directly support those impacted by hurricanes Helene and Milton. **PH upcoming events:** Holiday for giving-information coming out soon- all about generosity and selflessness. 11/12 Veterans Day Celebration, an assembly honoring veterans connected to PH students.

L. Clark –Spirit week for FL was amazing! Teachers loved it! Brought out a comradery with staff. Great way to bring everyone together. Enjoyed the movie, it was awesome! Bringing a literary component to being able to see the movie is great! Looking forward to messages of gratitude.

D. Blasczyk- Voiced appreciation for everything the PTO is doing. She likes the idea of parents being able to write messages of gratitude for staff and having those passed along to staff in the building. Feels it will bring teachers joy and remind them why they do what they do!

M. Puziello —Wanted to say thank you for the button machine that PTO purchased and that she has made buttons to acknowledge math star students.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23PM