

## MINUTES

### EC Stevens/Pond Hill PTO Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2024, 6:30pm

#### IN ATTENDANCE

A.O'Brien, G. Dirkson, C. Thorp, K. Toman, J. Panzarella, M. Whitehouse, K. Kiely, T. Kingston, A. Myers, K. Clark, D. Monroe, C. Singer, M. Somuk, M. Puziello, N. Castelli, M. Fogg

#### OPENING DISCUSSIONS/PRINCIPLE COMMENTS

- K. Daly motion to approve October meeting minutes, 2nd motion M. Whitehouse, D. Blasczyk
- Great news—4 teachers have joined the PTO, PTO membership has recently doubled
- J. Panzarella spoke about PTAC and asked any parents/teachers who are interested to let us know and attend.

#### BUDGET/TREASURER'S REPORT

- Lucky to receive donations from Microsoft on behalf of a PTO Board member. Donation is made based upon the hours that they volunteered. Want to ask if anyone else has this kind of program with their employer. Travelers?
- *Income* Book fair \$3870
- *Income* Lyman Pies \$5065
- *Income* PTO Memberships \$199
- *Expense* Pond Hill buses for Movie field trip \$855
- *Expense* candy for trunk or treat \$198
- *Expense* Teacher allotment \$1429
- Balance as of 10/31 is \$21,186

#### LAST MONTH'S EVENTS

##### November

- **Lyman Orchards Pie Fundraiser-** Pie pick up was Tuesday 11/19 at Stevens. Next Fundraiser is Zuppardi's pizza beginning in January 2025
- **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.
- **Election Day Bake Sale** 11/5; big success. Sold out of baked goods by lunch time.
- **Gratitude for teachers and staff-** A link was sent 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!
- **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

- **Next PTO Meeting:** Wednesday, December 18th, 6:30PM

Other business:

Field Day Committees are being formed and hope to have a planning meeting in early January 2025.

M. Puziellio came on to ask for info about teacher reimbursement. J. Panzarella said there is a Google form she will send to M. Puziello and she can forward to any other teachers who may want it.

M. Whitehouse asked about teacher gratitude gifts for the week of Thanksgiving. Donuts, baked goods, and apple cider will be set up in staff lounges for both schools. Notes of gratitude for teachers and staff will be included.

### **PRINCIPAL/TEACHER COMMENTS:**

**K. Kiely-**Halloween parade was a great way to show off costumes and connect with families. It was great weather and turnout was great. Veteran's Day assembly had 23 Veterans. Students gave a red carnation to Veterans and sang a song prepared by Mrs. Lamson. World Kindness Day with positive affirmations and students and staff built a kindness chain to be displayed in the lobby and other areas. American Education Week is currently taking place and parents have been in and out of the classrooms in partnership.

**G. Dirkson-** Veteran's Day celebration was a huge success. Kids sang a song prepared by Mrs. Lamson and it was a moving ceremony and a great way to honor our Veterans. Brand new boilers have been installed and a Tools for Schools tour of the building was just completed and a report will come out. District is going through all of the schools and checking air quality to make sure it's a safe environment. Holiday for Giving is currently in progress. Looking for 3000 items to be brought to school. If goal is reached, Mr. Dirkson will be taped to the wall. Lunch and Learning is Friday, November 22. Each class has about an hour to eat and spend time in child's classroom for a class based activity. Parents are encouraged to bring in goods for Holiday for Giving. Race for Learning was last week and it was a great turnout and a great way for the students to show the adults how they are learning and how the grades are focusing on reading and math. Celebrity readers were the Mayor of Wallingford and radio personality Brian Smith. Over 100 students registered to attend and there were at least 200 people in the building.

**C. Thorp** and **K. Toman** joined the meeting and just wanted to say thank you to the PTO for all that they do.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:05PM**