



SHEPAUG VALLEY SCHOOL PTO

Join us in linking parents, guardians and educators together to enhance student activities, clubs, events.

Email: info@svspto.org

Website: www.svspto.org

Facebook: [@shepaugvalleyschoolpto](https://www.facebook.com/shepaugvalleyschoolpto)

SVS PTO Meeting Minutes - Monday, November 6, 2017 - Room A4

Call to Order

The SVS PTO meeting was called to order at 6:04 on Monday, November 6, 2017 by SVS PTO Chairman Paula Conway in Room A4.

Board Members Present

Paula Conway, Michelle Frankland, Julie King, Daphne Parker.

SVS Parents/Guardians Present

Megan Hodges, Angela LeClerc, Ann Marie Sarbello, Linda Schneider, Tricia Stinson.

SVS Administrators, Board of Education Members, and Educator(s) Present

Lori Ferreira, Karen Fildes, Kim Gallo, Jenn Pote

Approval of Previous Minutes - Paula Conway

Minutes from the last meeting of the SVS PTO in the 2016/17 school year were submitted for review and approval. Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report - Michelle Frankland

Updates to the budget were presented with the following notes:

1. Yankee Candle Fundraiser generated \$2,800 in revenue. Estimated profit of \$1,031 pending confirmation of expenses from Yankee Candle.
2. 7th/8th Grade Dance generated \$315 in revenue. Estimated profit of \$155. Expenses of \$130 for water/snacks and \$30 paid to the student DJ.
3. Ending balance \$10,002.40. Balance to be adjusted when expenses from the Yankee Candle Fundraiser are submitted.
4. Budget approved by those in attendance.

SVS Principal's Report - Kim Gallo

The principal reported on four items:

1. PSAT testing was conducted in October for SVS students. Scores will arrive in mid-December.
2. The SVS Video Club secured the first placement on Fox Cable Reporter's Challenge for their reporting of the New Milford Oktoberfest.
3. CT State Governor signed the budget. SVS AGSTEM program is moving forward. O&G is working on a timeline to minimize disruption. The administration expects to break ground in Spring 2018. The previous owners of the land on which SVS is built donated the shovel used to break ground in the building of school. This shovel will be used to break ground for AGSTEM. The program is expected to launch for the 2019/2020 school year.
 - o Parents in attendance asked for clarification/direction for incoming freshman (current SVSMS 8th grade students) interested in the AGSTEM program for the 2018/2019 school year. Several have visited with the administration of the Region 14 AGSTEM program at Nonnewaug and are unclear if their student should start there and transfer back to SVS when our program is ready. Principal Gallo agreed to provide direction for these students and families.
4. Members of the administration recently participated in two professional development initiatives regarding Common Core implementation and a leadership conference in KS related the SVS's recent recognition for excellence in school counseling.

SVS Assistant Principal's Report - Lori Ferreira

The Assistant Principal reported on three initiatives:

1. Personnel Development Day will be conducted by department with each department receiving direction on key initiatives.
2. The administration is working on initiatives to promote stronger commitment to reading at the middle school level.
 - a. Julie King mentioned The Gunn Memorial Library is interested in working with SVS on a middle school reading program. Lori Ferreira to get in touch with Jessica Zaccagnini to brainstorm ideas on how to implement.
3. The curriculum team is focused on design and implementation of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) at SVS. The NGSS are K-12 science content standards developed to states to improve science education for all students.

R12 BOE Representative Report - Jenn Pote

The BOE representative requested the SVS PTO Board prepare a short presentation for an upcoming BOE meeting to share the updated mission and initiatives being undertaken by this board.

Special Guest - Karen Fildes, Region 12 Director of Technology and Communications

Participants in the meeting were introduced to Karen Fildes who explained the role of Region 12 communications is to inform, celebrate, and engage the community. A communications committee is made up of representatives from each town. Their goal is to ensure Region 12 communications are relevant to all constituents in the community, including households that do not have students enrolled in our schools and includes publications such as The Class Report, which was mailed to all households in Region 12 towns. Ms Fildes announced the following key initiatives:

1. The Region 12 website will be redesigned in the future. The following changes have been made to address short term needs:
 - a. A new "monthly checklist" with important dates has been added to the website
 - b. Parents can subscribe to district and school calendars from the website
 - c. The SVS Newsletter will be migrated to the website
2. For the 2018/19 school year, all school forms will be moved on-line
3. The communications team will increase use of Facebook and Twitter, noting Facebook delivers the strongest engagement amongst the Region 12 community.
4. Doug Clement of Boardwalk Communications has been commissioned by Region 12 to promote news about our schools and achievements by our students.

SVS PTO Agenda

1. SVS PTO Old Business - SVS PTO Board

a. SVS Shepaug Proud Parent Store - Paula Conway

Members in attendance requested the store be kept open and timing of order fulfillment be clearly communicated on the order form. Paula Conway to follow up with the vendor to establish a plan that can be executed efficiently.

b. SVS PTO Grant Process - Daphne Parker

A new Grant Approval Process was submitted for review and approval by all in attendance to support unbudgeted funding requests. The process allows for a maximum of \$10 per student up to \$250 per activity, club or event per year. Volunteers interested in becoming part of the Grant Review Committee should contact Daphne Parker via info@svspto.org. The process was approved as submitted.

c. SVS PTO Harlem Wizards Fundraiser - Paula Conway

The contract has been signed for the Harlem Wizards Fundraiser in cooperation with the Sherman PTO. The event will take place at SVS on Saturday, January 6, 2018. The Harlem Wizards will provide all marketing materials, pre-game assemblies for all schools. Fifteen volunteers will be needed on the day of the game. Ticket sales will begin at Holiday in the Depot, the SVS Holiday Bazaar, and SVS Varsity Basketball Games. Angela LeClerc volunteered to be part of the organizing committee.

2. SVS PTO New Business - SVS PTO Board

a. SVS PTO Holiday Gift Card Program - Julie King

The Holiday Gift Card program has been launched on the SVS Website and Facebook page. Orders are due by December 8th for delivery at the SVS Holiday Bazaar on December 14th. Last minute or large bulk orders can be placed by contacting info@svspto.org.

3. Other Suggestions - All

- a. A request was made to have the SVS Guidance Department present at an upcoming meeting to discuss their key initiatives.

4. Announcements - SVS PTO Board

- a. The 1940s Radio Hour will be on stage at SVS December 8, 9, 10.
- b. The Annual SVS Holiday Bazaar will be held on December 14th.
- c. Next PTO Meeting, Monday, December 4th at 6PM`

Call to Adjourn

Meeting adjourned by President, Paula Conway at 7:50.

Minutes submitted by SVS PTO Secretary, Julie King 11/21/17