

May 6, 2021

Meeting Start: 6:02 pm

April minutes were approved. Dana motioned and Aimee seconded. All approved.

In attendance: Aimee Magovern; President, Dana Pustinger; Vice President, Jennifer Catolane; Treasurer, Linda Curtiss; Secretary, Jennifer Hibbins Salzano, Meaghan Martin, Amy Maxton.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Financial Update: Our account balance is \$33,142, of that \$10,989 is in the classroom accounts, and \$3,640 is in teacher accounts, which leaves us with \$18,512. Box Top income this year is down significantly at about \$700 lower than past years. Jamie has not sent a bill yet for this year's ski program. We spent about double on staff this year compared to last year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Voting of Officers for 2021-2022: The bylaws are flexible and due to the situation this year with COVID, three of the officers are allowed to serve another year this year. However, Aimee has taken on a full time teaching job and is feeling overwhelmed with taking on the role of president for another year. We haven't had anyone showing interest in taking on the role. Aimee has spoken with Meaghan Martin in the past about her interest in president, but she hasn't had a conversation recently about the situation, as Meaghan has been very busy this year. Jenn Salzano has spoken with some parents from first grade and she will reach out to them and invite them personally to the first meeting in the fall. She will continue to reach out to new parents that she meets. A few years back Aimee went into the preschool classrooms on preschool orientation day, as well as the kindergarten, and introduced herself to the new parents and talked a little bit about what the PTA does for the school. Maybe this is something we should do again in the fall. A vote was taken for next year's officers: Aimee Magovern: President, Dana Pustinger: Vice President, Linda Curtiss: Secretary, Jenn Catolane: Treasurer. All were in favor.
- Teacher Appreciation Week, Nurse's Appreciation Day, School Lunch Hero Day, and Principal's Appreciation Day: on Monday, Karema Almeida put together breakfast bags for the staff with water, a muffin and a tangerine, as well as juice in the fridge. On Tuesday they received the s'mores baskets Megan Smigel put together. Wednesday Linda filled the freezer with ice cream treats. Thursday Megan Smigel put together soup baskets for the staff. Friday, Meaghan Martin set out the FRRSD t-shirts for the staff in the lounge and Linda left individual bags of candy for the teachers. For Principal's Appreciation day Megan put together a cooler with grilling supplies and we added a Big y gift card. For Nurses' Appreciation Day, Megan Smigel made a cute stenciled bag all about nursing along with a personalized clipboard and a shirt. For School Lunch Hero day we have bags and gifts for Kendra and Candy. Aimee asked Neesha to send out a message to parents to let them know about teacher appreciation week, as well as all the other staff members that we are acknowledging this week. Thank you to everyone who contributed in making the week successful! Meaghan Martin sent a note saying how much they appreciated all that we did for them.
- Screen Free Week update: Aimee reached out to several different people about doing an activity for screen free week, but everything got shut down due to COVID precautions. The musician Linda contacted about doing an outdoor concert was also not available because he and his family were in the process of moving. Fortunately, Isamaya from Greenagers was able to come out and do the planting activity, and the students enjoyed having some extra outdoor time after school as well as putting some plants into the raised garden beds. Jenn Salzano asked if we can send a check to Greenagers as a thank you because we appreciate them coming out and donating their time and plants both last year and this year. We voted on sending a check for \$150 to Greenagers. All were in favor.

- Ice cream Truck as a “Thank You” and for Field Day: Dana had to reschedule the ice cream truck several times, but he will finally be coming tomorrow. Dana suggested we give him a tip for being so flexible and accommodating for us. We will add \$50 to his bill for a tip. Dana will call to schedule him for field day on Monday.
- Virtual Magic Show update: Ed “Pop” does not do virtual programs. Aimee spoke with him about possibly doing short little shows during field day for each group to rotate through. However, several teachers thought it would be too difficult to add to Field Day; there is already so much going on and sometimes each group doesn’t get to every station. She also asked Ed about possibly doing an outdoor show with the whole school. He offered to do two shows for \$250, instead of the regular price of \$500-\$700, because he understands that everyone is struggling at this time. Tom said he didn’t think it was a safe idea. Ed said he will be happy to come back and do a show for us at another time. The other idea that had been suggested to us would cost \$750 for a virtual show for all nine classrooms. Everyone agreed that is a bit too much to pay for a virtual show, and it also doesn’t seem as though there is time to fit this in at this point in the year. We can keep Ed in mind for Back to School night in the fall.
- Field Day t-shirts update: Many students (about 35) have not returned their forms yet for their field day shirts. Brett at the printing company told Aimee he needs a month to do the shirts, so if we need them by June 9th we need to put our order in by May 9th. There has been a question of if volunteers can get a free t-shirt. We can certainly offer that next year. Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Maxton can look at their students’ tags and fill in a form for their missing students. Meaghan will ask Mrs. Higgins to contact her new families in case they don’t understand the field day t-shirt procedure.
- PTA Donation toward the cost of new playground equipment: Two new pieces of playground equipment were discussed at the school committee meeting; a large piece for the preschool playground and an additional attachable twirling slide for the upper grades’ playground. The school committee is in favor but asked if the PTA can donate some money to help pay for it. Aimee proposed we donate \$5,000 toward the cost. There was a question about unused money in last year’s 6th grade account, but those funds are not available any more. Jenn Catolane seconded Aimee proposal of the donation. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Jenn Salzano will let the school committee know of the decision.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Field Day- June 9th with a rain date of June 10th: Phil is working on making the events all COVID friendly. There will be lots of hand sanitizer and everything will be disinfected in between users. The only problem she has come up with is with the dunk tank and how we can safely keep that a part of field day. It seems like we will need to find one person to be in it all day rather than allowing 6th graders to rotate. However, all the teachers are vaccinated so they could technically rotate throughout the day. Mrs. Maxton and Mrs. Martin have many bottles of hand sanitizer that they will donate for use on field day. The stations will be clearly marked and in order this year so that groups can go from one station to the next without having to cross the field several times. Aimee will message Tom about having the field sprayed for ticks/mosquitos before field day. The PTA will cover the cost. Aimee will also ask about getting a porta-potty for the day as well. If he agrees Aimee will call to order one.
- 6th Grade Graduation: Each year the PTA hands out the citizenship award to a student chosen by staff member vote. Graduation is scheduled for June 8th at 6:00pm outside on the blacktop. Rain date is June 10th. The PTA also offered to help out with extra funds the 6th grade might need for the end of the year costs; graduation, gifts or field trips. Meaghan and Jenn Catolane think they will have enough in their account to cover it all.

Next meeting: June 3, 2021

Meeting adjourned: 7:10pm. Jenn Catolane motioned, Dana seconded.