



Birch Meadow Elementary School PTO
General PTO Meeting Minutes
Library
Wednesday, May 16th, 2018
6:30 pm

Attendance: Julia Hendrix, Katrina Maher, Shannon Fratto, Harriet Lyons, Melissa Henri, Amy Field, Linda Kiene, Brandi Torchia and approximately 17 additional parents.

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Julia Hendrix.

Principal's Report – Julia Hendrix

- Community and Core Values Part II: Presentation of Protocol Steps for Norm Creation and Core Values.
Purpose: to negotiate a sense of norms for our work together as a PTO
- Attendees break into groups to choose key examples of Core Values. Julia will put these into norm format.

Treasurer's Report – Amy Field

- Presentation of current year budget income and expenses.
- \$950 profit from Adult Social

Musical Profit Allocation:

First \$3K earmarked for Performing Arts initiatives in the future.

Next \$3k earmarked for school technology needs (TBD by Principal Hendrix)

Any remaining surplus to be voted by General PTO community

2018 Musical Surplus (over \$6k): \$5805

Technology Requests:

Highest Priority - 10 iPads @ \$4569.45

Second Priority is mounted projector in the cafeteria - estimated cost approximately \$5k. (We need and are awaiting an official quote from the town's contractor)

Motion:

Adult Social contribution to technology requests: \$944

Musical contribution to technology requests: \$3k

GAP in purchasing iPads: \$625.45

Motion by Amy Field: Allocate remaining costs from the surplus to purchase 10 iPads. This would leave \$5,179.55 in surplus for future vote. The motion is seconded by multiple parents. Discussion of the motion includes questions related to costs of iPads and mounted projector, future enrichment programs, how school gifts and donations are accepted, and the role the school committee plays in accepting gifts/donations. Motion is put to a vote and passes. Result - 21 YES votes, 0 NO votes.

Enrichment Report – Melissa Henri

- Enrichment Committee of about 20 parents and 6 teachers
- 30 different Enrichment activities for Birch Meadow students this year
Programs carefully selected by teachers and principal to enrich our children's in-class learning on MA curriculum standards
8 field trips (at least 1 per grade level for grades 1-5)
22 in-school programs
- Budget
Total amount budgeted of \$15,000, paid from PTO direct donation and other funds
Current estimated costs of \$15,066
Event costs ranged from \$0 to \$1,300
Received grant from Reading Cultural Council for \$500 to help pay for Author Days, which cost \$1,050
Bus cost (total of \$4,225) paid by parents per trip

Election Committee Update

- Elections have been pushed back to the June 2018, PTO General Meeting. Due to the lockdown situation on Friday, May 11, 2018, not all candidate interviews were able to be conducted.
- Nominations committee will announce the candidates at the June 2018 General Meeting. Candidates will speak to why he/she is qualified for the position. At that time, there will be a vote.

Field Day

- Headed by Jill DiGregorio and Heather Lee. Description of the event, volunteers needed.
- General questions/suggestions about Field Day addressed. Request for access to more information about the day in general, the games the students will play.

Next General PTO Meeting:

Thursday, June 7, 2018 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm

Prepared by: Brandi Torchia, 05/17/2018