

**May 5, 2017
PTO Meeting Notes**

Board Members Present: Kelly Mahoney, Caitlin Koehler, Alexis O'Mara, Abby King, Lisa Labriola, Beth Fiore, Nicole Barletta, Wendy Zapach

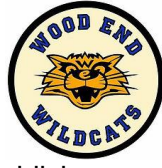
8:30-8:40am: Arrival, mingling

8:40-9:00am: Joanne King, Principal's Update

- New enrichment programs were a big success and offered much needed opportunities for the children to get outside to learn:
 - Kestrel Education program for K & 1 classes (exploring the Town Forest that abuts the school)
 - Ipswich Wildlife Sanctuary field trip for 2nd grade
- 5th grade end of year planning is in progress
- MCAS testing going well – nearing completion
- Book Fair and Ice Cream Social were once again a big success. TBD on revenue.
- Music department is looking to purchase new instruments – possibly a few xylophones. Ms. Steiger will provide her selections/requests to PTO for funding.
- Discussed the need to laminate the Core Value signs throughout the building so that they can remain in good condition; several signs need to be replaced.
- Yard clean-up (with Koehler and Barletta families) and the painting of the foursquare and hopscotch has been a welcome change/addition to the school.

9:00-9:10am: Budget

- Contribution towards Nature's Classroom (new location for previous overnight trip to Camp Bournedale):
 - Nothing needed from PTO. Costs for the new 5th grade overnight camp are significantly lower from years past. \$80 per student cost.
 - Additional changes include:
 - location, camp organizers (Camp Cody – Lake Ossipee – Freedom, NH)
 - alignment to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
 - all 5 elementary schools will be attending during the same day/night
 - 1 chaperone per 12 students, plus additional school staff
- Outdoor Classroom (benches):
 - DPW came out to review the lay-out. The forms should be poured the week of 5/15, pending rain.
 - Landscaping will be re-done.
 - Hoping to have this phase completed by mid-June.
- Lesley University Summer Literacy Institute, July 10-13:
 - \$800 per teacher
 - Ideally will have 3-4 teachers throughout the grade levels; each elementary school is sending a small team of teachers
 - This offers professional development opportunity for the participating teachers as well as their colleagues, who will be coached during the year



- This course will help to establish common goals and build common language to implement core instructional practices that accelerate each student's literacy development.
- NYC Teacher's College, Readers Workshop Coaching Institute (Mrs. DiNapoli):
 - This opportunity will align nicely with the Lesley University course and the school's focus moving forward with readers' workshop, and a more balanced approach to literacy for all students
 - Seeking \$1300 for room & board from the PTO

9:10-9:20am: Upcoming Events

- Staff appreciation week:
 - Spring Garden theme, week of 5/22-5/26.
 - Beth will provide Joanne with a newsletter blurb (complete)
- Young Author's Day, June 9th:
 - Natalie Balas coordinating
 - Structured for K-2 students
 - Grades 3-5 will continue with "museum style" to share
 - Help is needed with the day of and publishing
- School supply kits:
 - Teachers are working on their supply lists for next school year
 - Will do a backpack mailing
 - 10% of profits will be given to WE
 - Will ensure the communication makes it clear that if you purchase a school kit you do not need to purchase additional school supplies – the kit is "one-stop shopping".
- Field Day, June 13th

9:20-9:30am: General PTO Updates

- Open board positions for 2017-2018 school year
- Open committee chairs
- Final PTO meeting of the year is June 8th at 7:00 p.m.

9:30am: Questions/Wrap-up