

**PES PTO MEETING**  
**September 3rd 2019**  
**9:30 – Room A6**

**PES PTO Board Members:** Heather Dwyer, Colleen Bradshaw, Liz McConnon, Jill Wiebke  
PES Principal: Theresa Forish

**In Attendance:** Jamie Andrews, Vanessa Bjorkdahl, Lauren Collins, William Dave, Michele Friedeberg, Kara Gilmour, Alicia Lee, Carol Nadasen, Paul Nevadomski, Karen O'Leary, Jessica Roach, Heather Rodgers, Kara Steenburg, Michael Wilhelm, Lindsay Zawadski

**PTO Teacher Representative** (Cindy Rosa) - Teachers are currently working on ice cream help sign up for the back to school picnic. Not much else to report just yet.

**Principal's Report –**

- A lot of teachers received new carpets to kick off the new year that were funded by the PTO; thank you from all.
- Newsletters and weekly updates are now coming through Smore. This allows tracking to see how many people are actually reading the emails distributed. 440 people looked at welcome back email and 360 thus far looked at Friday update.
- 2 new shared positions at PES: Math coach (Been without one for 9 years) and we also have a social worker.

Things to look forward:

- Spirit Day - once a month. 9/25. Collect PB+J.
- STEM Day - tentative date 10/22. Will start with assembly from the science center. We'd like to invite science, technology, engineering, and Math related family members to come to school and share with the students.
- Open House - will discuss 6 day rotation. A social/emotional program out of Yale called Ruler. STAR expectations revisions. Attendance: In CT if you're out 10% or more of the school year you are considered chronically absent. Dismissal protocols. Photos - if you do NOT want your child to be photographed, you must inform Mrs. Forish in writing.

**Treasurer Report** - \$66 from Amazon Smile was the only deposit for the month of August. We purchased 3 additional rugs in August using our Teacher Grant allocation. We are holding a budget of \$28K for the playground upgrades/improvements, leaving us a balance going forward of approximately \$20K.

**Chair Report:**

- Please use PES PTO website for merchandise and follow us on Facebook (PES PTO Southbury)
- We have over 30 committees this year. A mix of fundraising and free community events throughout the year.
- Playground Project - will be discussed in more detail under committee reports
- Investment in Teacher grants, cultural enrichment, author/illustrator visits and literary event.

Notice to all Committee Chairs - Please use non-Styrofoam products.  
Need fresh volunteers of PTO Board

## Board Election

- Bylaws to election procedure. Thought process is to vote on the current candidates as the board stands and look for additions of members at large by a show of hands.
  - Heather Dwyer, President.
  - Colleen Bradshaw, Treasurer.
  - Liz McConnon, Assistant Treasurer.
  - Jill Wiebke, Secretary.
  - (not present at meeting Jaclyn Kane, Board Member)
- Member at large Volunteers Paul Nevadomski and Michele Friedeberg.
- Addition of Evi Banks not in attendance as Member at Large.
- Majority vote was demonstrated by show of hands.

## Committee Reports:

- After School Enrichment – (Michele Friedeberg). Forms are going home today. LEGO program and a circus program have been added. Vendors fill up quickly. Open to any new ideas.
- Box Tops - OPEN Committee. An app that you can download on your phone that scans your receipt and picks up all box top eligible items. Still collecting clipped ones as well.
- Eagle Sign (Evi Banks) - Sign in the cafeteria - \$10 to leave a message (Happy Birthday to your child for the day)
- Fall Fundraiser (Colleen Bradshaw) - information went home with original packet. So far \$765 through PayPal. Budgeted \$2500.
- Family Picnic (Liz McConnon) - next Tuesday 9/10 4:30-6:30. Free Family event. Ice cream, popcorn, glitter tattoos, music, games. Pizza at cost \$10 for pie.
- Merchandise (Notepads) – (Jamie Andrews) \$5 for either an absent pad or pick up note. Orders can be done online or in person.
- Playground Project – (Heather Dwyer) with help from many of you, we raised \$20,665 from our APEX Fun run last spring. Of that, we wrote a \$5000 check to the Children’s Tumor Foundation. The remaining \$15, 664 was earmarked for the PES playground to include more accessible play equipment. We researched potential pieces and consulted with staff and special education personnel before coming to the following proposal:
  - New sensory panel
  - Large playable chimes
  - 3 separate drums of various sizes
  - Stair-access spiral slide
  - Concrete ramp from asphalt onto rubber-surfacing by merry-go-round
  - Move wood border by benches to create appropriate “fall zone” for spiral slide.We are currently waiting for Central Office for approval. The total estimate for this work including labor and delivery is \$28,255 and will be paid for with APEX earnings and accumulated savings in the PTO account.
- Room Parent Coordinator (Karen O’Leary) - waiting to hear back from the teachers. Meeting will be held on September 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Spirit wear (Jill Wiebke) – information will be coming out soon on purchasing spirit wear for your child online. Hope to have some size samples available at the back to school picnic. Shirts, Shorts, sweatshirts, hats etc.
- Student Directory - available to purchase online only. Will print if interested. Takes a bit to collect information and print. Aiming early October.

- Teacher Grants - Lauren Lyons and Tamara Killian will chair.
- Volunteer Drive - form was sent home for various committees. Looking for someone to spreadsheet all. Thank you Mike Wilhelm.

### **OPEN Committees**

Volunteer Coordinator - help throughout the year

Box Tops - Kara Gilmore

Cultural Enrichment - Media Center run. Need new ideas for cultural enrichment activities. Expo end of September. Visiting artist to paint mural on wall (example).

Lost and Found - looking for someone twice a year go through picture post to send email home. - Jessica Reed Roach

Tip A Teacher - First week of February - Dinner and Entertainment, last year NYC themed. Tickets are sold, 2 different times. Looking for a co-chair to join Marisa Amara. Lauren Collins has volunteered to co-chair.

Dancing Under the Stars - March/April. We use the cafeteria K-2. Gym 3-5. DJ in both. Bake Sale. Raffles. Paul Nevadomski has volunteered to help.

Breakfast + Ballots - looking for someone to shadow Kara and Mina. Looking for help specifically for a Kindergarten parent if possible. May event.

### Questions/Comments

What is Costume Craze - we collect old costumes, costume parts etc. and hold an event where they are all available for purchase for \$5 each.

### Raffles:

Dunkin Donuts \$5 - Jamie Andrews

Lunch with Mrs. Forish - Kara Steenburgh