

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 16, 2023 - 6:00PM AT SWEETSIR SCHOOL
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: PTO PRESIDENT: JACLYN KELLEY
MEETING MINUTES TAKEN BY: MAXINE MCGOLDRICK

MERRIMAC PTO MEMBER MEETING

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jaclyn Kelley, Tracey DeCresenzo, Katie Burke, Sara Vendshus, Dawn Ackerman, Krista Niles, Sarah Elwell, Maxine McGoldrick, Jennifer Roberts, Stephanie Vassy, Kathy Devaney

TREASURY REPORT

Financial Status Update by Tracy DeCresenzo

- **Budget review:**

- o Balance as of 9/12/22 \$25,786
- o **Money Raised:**
 - MGBTS Spirit Wear- \$135
 - Donations- \$1
 - KDO Quarterly Sales: \$9
 - Bookstore: \$837
 - School Supplies Boxes: \$148
 - 1st place spiritwear: \$14

Total Cash In- \$1,144

- o **Expenses:**

- Website Costs -\$ 88
- Merrimac Goes Back to School- \$4
- Hocus Pocus Dance- \$551
- Library Books (read a thon proceeds)- \$290
- PTO Meeting Refreshments- \$84
- 6th Grade Field Trip with Buses: \$3,904
- Plimoth Plantation In House: \$1732
- Bookstore Purchases: \$337
- 1st grade field trip (read a thon proceeds): \$300
- Insurance Renewal: \$690

Total Cash Out- \$7,980

Balance: \$ 18,950

- o **Holds/Commitments:**

- Dance Expenses (DJ Decor Food) - (\$500)
- 5th grade in house field trip- (\$250)
- Appropriations: (\$1,371)

- There is about \$12,521 available operating budget as of current date.

HOT TOPICS

- **2nd Grade Appropriation:**
 - Ms. Carbone came asking for items to go with their science curriculum. Mystery Science in the past they have asked for donations but this year they are hoping to get 3 kits approved.
 - This was approved by all members for \$1,370
- **Meadow Farms Fundraiser**
 - We have earned \$2,500-\$3,000 depending on the percentage. We sold around \$7,500.
- **Harvest Festival**
 - Sign up genius looking full for donations
 - Will send an update to make it clear where to bring donations and when they can be dropped off.
 - Working to help students that need to be sponsored for their admission get bracelets
 - Free raffle ticket for each entry
 - Confirmed Beefy Boys as the food truck
- **Holiday Helper**
 - Looking to connect to more groups.
 - Supporting the elders in town by making gift tags etc with other kids
 - A make and take event was suggested at the library
 - Applications are out for families to be helped, due back by 11/14
 - The PTO was asked to help by contributing sweatshirts for each child on the list.
 - Orders will be placed by 11/27 for a 12/8 delivery
 - There will also be the food drive to benefit holiday helper and the Santa's toy trot race
- **Parent Night Out**
 - Board and Brush is not offering events until 2024
 - Game Time in Amesbury was suggested, will be looked into by a board member
- **School Store**
 - Each child gets a link to purchase from multiple stores online
 - Free for us so it's worth a try
 - links to be sent home in flyers in the coming weeks
- **Fire Department Event for Halloween**
 - Quiet on our end but successful for the fire department
- **Spirit Wear**
 - Orders placed by 11/27 will be delivered and picked up at the December meeting by parents who want to use these as gifts.
 - Orders will open 11/6
- **Scholastic Book Fair**
 - There has been no book fair at the Sweetsir since 2019
 - Discussion about offering one during read-a-thon which is normally the last week in February - first week in March.
 - Concerns were raised about the amount of toys they sent
 - Discussed not putting toys out during the school days but offering them during the family night

- Donaghue will be putting on a book fair in May done by the reading specialist
- Do we want to offer a more traditional bookstore? It was discussed to put it on the agenda for November meeting

- **5 Dragons**

- Karate studio that can come to school for an after school program
- Working on their confidence and public speaking
- Need approval from the school
- We would charge \$25 per kid and the PTO would be able to keep the admission fee

- **Nurse's office in need of clothing**

- Nurse Lozier will put together a proposal for the amount of clothing she needs to replenish her 'stash" for kids that need it.

- **Ski Club**

- Same as last year.
- Offered 4th -6th grade
- Cash in-Cash out for the PTO

- **Parent Education nights**

- Look into having some local educators/experts in to speak to parents
- Bringing back coffee with the counselors was also discussed

- **Holiday Event**

- We will make a committee and present at the next meeting
- Adopt a teacher/staff similar to last year
- Holiday sing-a-long with Ms. Dickson

The Next PTO meeting will take place on November 13, 2023 at the Sweetsir School at 6:00PM