

MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 13, 2023 - 6:30PM AT SWEETSIR SCHOOL
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: PTO VICE PRESIDENT: KAITLIN PELLERIN
MEETING MINUTES TAKEN BY: JACLYN KELLEY

MERRIMAC PTO MEMBER MEETING

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jaclyn Kelley, Tracy DeCresenzo, Sara Vendshus, Krista Niles, Sarah Elwell, Babette McPhail, Maxine McGoldrick, Jennifer Roberts, Chris Manni, Julie King, Theresa Nunes,

TREASURY REPORT

Financial Status Update by Tracy DeCresenzo

- **Budget review:**

- o Balance as of 1/10/23 \$26,734

- o **Money Raised:**

- Ski Club Payment (Venmo)- \$186
- Sprinkles by Stacy (Venmo)- \$118
- Donations- \$36
- Parent's Night Out (Admissions and Auction)- \$1,754
- Polar Express Tickets- \$180
- 1st Place Spiritwear- \$50
- Spiritwear Payments- \$2,391
- King's Day Out- \$2
- Square 1 Art- \$748
- Box Tops- \$116
- Board and Brush Donation- \$247
- Bookstore-\$20
- Amazon Smiles-\$208

Total Cash In- \$6,855

- o **Expenses:**

- Website Fees- \$21
- Read-a-thon proceeds - books from Amazon- \$1,131
- Read-a-thon proceeds - books from Follett- \$3,995
- Appropriations- \$763
- Dance Candy and decorations- \$943
- Dance DJ- \$700
- Sales Tax- \$96
- Scholarship Payout- \$1,000
- Bookstore purchases- \$644
- Spirit Wear Purchase- \$2,227

Total Cash Out- \$11,520

Balance: \$ 22,069

- o **Holds/Commitments:**

- Appropriations - Speech therapists- (\$140)
- Dance admissions- \$5,000

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dance expenses- (\$500) ▪ Senior Class donation- (\$250) ▪ Appropriations - 3rd grade field trip- (\$1,500) ▪ Pizza Kits (based on prior year)- \$800 ▪ Bookstore Deposits- \$1,500 ▪ Spirit Wear outstanding payments- \$250 <p style="text-align: center;">Total Holds/Commitments- \$5,210</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remaining 2022 Read- A- Thon Proceeds- \$ 9,682.79 ● Appropriation for 3rd Grade Field Trip to Franklin Zoo, \$1460 for buses and admission. This was approved at the meeting.
<p>Misc. PTO BUSINESS:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Guest Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chris Manni and Julie King came to the meeting to give the PTO some information about override possibilities. It is unknown at this time, but it is anticipated to be 1.2 million off. There was a 14% increase in out of district placement, which the school department has budgeted 2% from previous years. Dr. B and other Superintendents wrote a letter to have the state pay the extra 12%, but are not hopeful this will change anything. The budget will be presented on March 8th. There will be a town meeting on April 24th to vote to put the override on the ballot. Parents can contact the government to show their concern for the lack of funding for Pentucket Schools. All information pertaining to the budget can be found on the Pentucket Website, or pentucketbudget.com. Anyone with questions can email Julie at julieking@prsd.org. ● Sweetheart Dance Recap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The dance brought in \$4,992.96. The expense to hold the dance was \$2,024.15. The profit estimated from the dance is \$2,875.85 ○ It was suggested to stagger the time in the future so that younger kids, and children with sensory difficulties can have time before it gets too loud and busy. Possibly just doing a ½ hour at the beginning that is sensory friendly. Having a calm down area outside of the cafe may be good to give children and families a break from the busy crowd. The lighting was a little dark, so it may be good for the PTO to purchase a spot light in the future. ● Book Store <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There was a concern brought up that the PTO does not offer free books for students who do not come with money. A first grade teacher was upset at the last bookstore because there was no free book options for students. This was discussed, and it was decided that the PTO would work to advertise it more so that students will come with money if they'd like to purchase books. There are donated books that cost \$1 for students who may have a limited income. ● Read-A-Thon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This will take place the first two weeks of April. Jackie will create a committee to begin working on ideas. The fundraiser will revolve around Poetry, since April is Poetry Month. More details to come. ● K.D.O Fundraiser- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It was discussed to see if the PTO can find a promotional video that can be sent home to parents so that they can be aware of what the K.D.O program is. ○ Flatbread night out will be 3/7/23. 10% of proceeds will come back to the PTO. K.D.O Organization will be there selling their book. A percentage of those sales also come back to the PTO.

- During the day of 3/7/23 The K.D.O Program will come to the Sweetsir School to do a craft and a reading with each grade level.
- **Bakers Rack Cookie Kits**
 - 3/20 a link will go up where people can order cookie kits. The kits are \$27 each, and \$32 for a gluten free kit. Each kit will include 12 cookies, 2 containers of sprinkles and 3 bags of icing. There will be a spring and Easter option. They will be available to order until 4/1. Jackie will pick up the kits on 4/6 and set up a distribution to take place at the Donaghue for 4/7.
- **Yearbook**
 - Sarah Elwell and Sara Vendshus would like to push to parents and teachers for photos. They will create an email address to send out, which will be used to collect photos of students. The school will verify if they are ok to use because of disclosures.
- **Little Caesars-** This is an ongoing fundraiser. It was discussed to do a little bit more advertising for Little Caesars. It may be a good idea to post it before February Vacation, as well as occasional Friday nights for the weekend.
- **Pizza Kits**
 - Pizza kits will be ready for pick up the last Friday of February Vacation.
- **Robotics**
 - 3rd grade will begin after April Vacation, and 5th grade is currently happening. Mr. Buckley is running the program. The PTO will reassess the plan for the upcoming school year and the Robotics Club funding.
- **BOKS**
 - Reebok program which is geared toward exercise. Nancy Lombart runs this program. It is usually before school at the Donaghue and kids bus over to the Sweetsir for the start of the school day. Nancy is looking to do a spring session if possible.
- **Autism Awareness Week**
 - This will take place the last week of March. The school counselors have been contacted and are working with Tracy to come up with a "Unique Week." Everyday will have a theme, and only one or two dress up days.

The Next PTO meeting will take place on April 10, 2023 at the Sweetsir School
at 6:30PM