

EES PTO Meeting Minutes
July 30, 2020 -- Zoom meeting at 7:30 pm

Attendance: Zoom meeting (Carla Christensen, Letizia Donati, Betsy McKeen, Suzanne Bediz, Francesca Segarra) Kate Glick, Christina Bruce, Eli Clara, Amy Dennesen, Jonti Rodi, Emily Stanley, Adiana, Jamie Panagoplos, Jessica Webb, Jessie Palm, Theresa Whitman, Jevon Mansfield, Kate Sundquist, Laura Eurich, Michelle Dyer, Reenie Sanderson, Jennifer Roberts

Carla Christensen called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm.

Welcome and Introductions:

Remarks from Dr. Roberts:

Dr. Roberts shared a summary of the learning model, emphasizing that this is not normal and asked for flexibility from all. While some decisions have been made by the school committee the district continues to wait for input from the state on final guidelines. EES is planning on a flexible schedule that can shift from in-person to remote and back, so the schedule will be based on a typical 8:00 am to 3:00 pm day. There has been a change in the school calendar to reflect 170 student instructional days for the 2020-21 school year. Students will start school the week of September 14th. There will be surveys coming from the district to seek parent input. EES will provide additional details to parents in August with the goal of August 15th.

Dr. Roberts is seeking canopy donations to provide outdoor learning space and is requesting the PTO do some community coordination or find a point person to organize this opportunity.

2020 - 2021 Calendar Review:

There are events that are on hold due to the current restrictions on gatherings and events. PTO meetings will be moved to Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm via Zoom links. Please check the PTO website for the meeting information.

Playground update (Jessie Palm):

There is a plan for removal in the near future.

Reopening Plans and effect on PTO events:

Events on the Calendar

- September 18, 2020 -- Happy As A Clam (most likely virtual event) is on the Calendar.
- School supplies fundraiser -- could be combined with Kindergarten Welcome.
- Fall events -- TBD
 - Hoedown
 - Messy Art
- Winter -- TBD
 - Polar Plunge
- Spring -- TBD

New Fundraising idea: EES gear sale (including masks, buffs)

The PTO is looking to support the whole Essex/EES Community, and due to the current circumstances, we would encourage teacher input about how we can help through activities.

Kindergarten Welcome Plan:

We will plan on water bottles, number of families, safe way to distribute.

Family Directory Plan:

We will continue to use Google Forms/Sheets to gather family information and share it with EES families.

New message for front page of website:

Rebranding discussion:

What will need to occur to make this possible

Advertising for open positions:

Media Coordinator: There are no candidates currently. The position requirements include some paper communication, social media management, and updating the website. This position has been left open.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was called by
seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 pm.