**EES PTO MEETING MINUTES**

**April 3, 2017**

**ATTENDEES:**

Theresa Whitman, Carol Mondello, Jeff Bodmer-Turner, Jennifer Roberts, Melissa McNeilly, Suzanne Bediz, Carla Christensen, Jim Zaremba, Francesca Segarra, and Gina Hatfield

**WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:**

This meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Co-Presidents Theresa Whitman and Suzanne Bediz.

**HELLO FROM DR. ROBERTS:**

Mrs. Ventura has been welcomed as EES new recess monitor.

MCAS has begun for fifth grade, breakfast was, as usual, served on the first day of testing, and will be done for the other grades on their first day.

Placements for school year 2018/2019 has begun. The process for placement has been working well, overall. In a week’s time, letters will be sent home for parents to share anything that might pertain to decision making.

**FUNDING REQUESTS:**

Suzanne Bediz presented a funding request for a kindergarten literacy event for June 7, 2017, an early release day. The children are sent home with a bucket of books, and activities to help parents to engage in the reading process with their children. Michelle Notte is running the literacy event this year, the request is for approximately $200. Funding request passed. Will include this in next month’s budget meeting to become a line item.

Mr. Skiba, along with other fourth and fifth teachers had submitted a funding request for the new Scholastic Storyworks magazine subscription, totaling $750, this was revisited. John Skiba has confirmed that this will be a trial for his class to use this type of subscription as it is difficult to find good resources for nonfiction, short pieces. Fifth grade has replaced their Time Kids magazine and Fourth Grade will be trialing the Scholastic magazine and keep the Time Kids subscription, as well. Motion passed to ask the group to split the funding request, and revisit the requests per grade.

**STEM NIGHT UPDATE:**

Carla Christensen reported Stem Night was an overwhelming success. Students, teachers, and exhibitors were all pleased with the interest and participation. Jenna Ware noted some ideas which will improve next year’s event, volunteers should perhaps wear name tags for better identification, block off art room ramp as it diverts attention from the event, and remind parents the night is not a drop off event. The decision to change the take apart room into a build it room was successful as well. Children enjoyed the challenges.

**AUCTION UPDATE:**

Melissa McNeilly reported that 213 items are up for bid, 153 are currently bid on. Number of online bidders is on target from last year, there are 139 registered bidders at this time. Pick up party is at the Lobster Trap, starting at 6pm, Friday, April 6, 2017. Donations include Periwinkles chowder, The Village Restaurant shrimp, Blue Marlin chicken fingers. Kayak raffle will be drawn at the pick-up party.

**ENRICHMENT UPDATE:**

Deanna Pierpan is collecting information regarding what has currently been spent and what is scheduled for the end of the year.

**APPEAL/BUDGET UPDATE:**

Francesca Segarra updated there have been no new donations received. Francesca provided a quick overview of budget to date, a more detailed assessment will be conducted at planned budget meeting May 2017.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Fundraising opportunity has been offered through schoolstore.com, it was reviewed by Suzanne Bediz. It would be another program to manage. The group agreed to promote our current EES PTO fundraising opportunity through Amazon Smile, rather than add another fundraising site.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:55pm**

**Prepared by Gina Hatfield, EES PTO Secretary.**