

DRAFT-THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT PTO MEETING

East Haddam Elementary School PTO

Regular Meeting

October 20, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Elementary School PTO was held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 7:02p.m., in Zoom Chat Room.

In attendance were - President: Lisa Hesser, Vice President: Beth Coltart, Treasurer: Thea Jansky, Secretary: Christine Ruddy, Jessica Hatfield, Hannah Johnson, Heather Sinnott, Brittany Forino, Victoria Ebright, Amanda Padua, Mea Kline, Chelsea DeGiacomo, Cheri Brisson, S. Schwenzfeier, Andrea Webster, Erica Gilroy, Tricia

2. SECRETARY’S REPORT

- 1) Review and approval of September minutes
 - a) **Motion to accept the September 2022 Minutes passed – Chelsea DiGiacomo and Hannah Johnson**
- 2) Correspondence
 - a) Correspondences received since the October meeting were shared.

3. TREASURER’S REPORT

- 1) Reviewed PTO yearly budget status
 - a) **Motion to approve the latest updates to the PTO budget passed – Amanda Padua and Hannah Johnson**

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4. SCHOOL/TEACHER/STAFF NEWS

- PTO posted a sign up for the teachers to attend the different PTO meetings – thank you to the teachers who attended the September session. It is always great to hear from you how things are going and what you may need or ideas you may have.
- Open house in September went well, having two sessions seems to work.
- Family movie night on Oct 14th was a success – thanks to everyone for their helping making this happen and to the PTO for the baked goods.

5. BUSINESS IN PROGRESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cultural Arts:

- An all-school performance is being planned for on Oct 25th – it will be the same as what was done last year for the 2nd grade. This will be for all grades this year broken into two sessions.
- November the colonial kids will be coming to the school for 1st grade while 3rd grade will have Connecticut river museum.

- Need to engage with the preschool teachers to discuss a preschool program.

Room Parent Tea

- Was held on Oct 4th and went well – lots of food, thank you goodie bags and an opportunity for the teacher and room parent to meet.
- Thanks to everyone's help with making this a success
- If you have any feedback, please share with the room parent committee

Book Fair

- Book fair coming up in November 2nd, 3rd, and 4th – information went home with kids recently and will post a reminder on Parent Square.
- For parents who are interested, there will be a teacher wish list to consider purchasing books for their classrooms as well.
- What's different this year with book fair? There will be tax to pay.
- Signup Genius went out for volunteers to consider helping out with book fair, please considering signing up for a time slot if you are interested.
- Consider paying via e-wallet or be clear on amount that a child can spend if they have cash.

School Beautification

- Looking for help with the school beautification

Got sneakers

- Going well, several bags have been donated already and believe Karen has another bag to submit
- If you have sneakers, please reach out to Karen

Boons

- Fall fundraiser has closed. The effort raised ~\$4523 – thanks to everyone who helped us raise the funds.

Teacher conference dinner

- Thank you to the PTO for the teacher conference dinner – much appreciated for all the support and the food was great.
- Thank you to all the volunteers for their help with making this such a success. It is a great way for us to show appreciation to the teachers for all that they do for our kids.

K-Welcome

- Is planned for Oct 28th
- Sample of what the shirt will look like was displayed
- Communications on the plan for how this works have been occurring with 3rd grade teachers. Volunteers will get a message sent out to them in advance on their role.

Holiday Fair

- If interested in helping out with any part of the holiday fair, please let Erica Gilroy know. She will be setting up a separate meeting to discuss the initiative, different roles and ways they could use the help. For example, making snowflakes or other decorations from your home if you are not able to come in during the holiday fair to volunteer time.
- This initiative is not a fundraiser and the funds raised go into purchasing items for the next year's holiday fair. It is a fun way for kids to be able to shop for loved ones, teachers and friends on reasonably prices items.

6. NEW BUSINESS / OPEN FORUM

- Three PTO positions will be eligible for the upcoming 2023/2024 school year – PTO President, Treasurer and Secretary. These roles typically are two-year commitments. There will be informational sessions in either Nov or Jan to hear more about the roles, responsibilities and time required for each one. Please join the informational session, one released, if you are interested in one of the positions or feel free to reach out to one of the current board members to find out more.

9. APPRECIATIONS –

- Thank you, PTO, for the \$100 to the teachers in the beginning of the year for the classrooms, much appreciated!
- Thank you, Priscilla for the Oct appreciations you have done!
- Thank you, Kayla, and Thea for the Teacher Conference dinner!
- Thank you, Christine, Maria and Mea for the Room Parent Tea!
- Thank you, Ashley, and Priscilla, and all those that helped with the PTO table at family night. ~\$500 was raised from the event and on the following day at Shagbark where the remaining baked items were sold!
- Thank you, Erica, and Cindy for their help with book fair preparations – looking forward to another successful book fair!
- And so many more – thank you everyone!

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m. Next meeting Thursday, November 17th @ 7pm.

Christine Ratty
EHES PTO Secretary