

**Goodwin PTO Meeting Minutes**  
**May 5, 2015**  
**Goodwin Music Room 6:30–7:30**

**Present:** Alexia Smith, Tracy Rittenhouse, Mary Dudas, Ellen Tulman, Barbara Mellone, Susan Muirhead, Noaris Burgos, Veronica Barcelona de Mendoza, Jen Scanlon-Passmore, Kristin Hempel, Melanie Ellis, Meghan Silliman, Kathleen Peirsman, Christine Jeffers, Jearl Clark

**Recorder:** Alexia Smith

1. Call to order: 6:35
2. Officer's Reports
  - a. President's Report
    - i. Voting tonight for town referendum. Kristin will check on status of babysitting meeting for Town Meeting (12 May 2015).
    - ii. Received request to purchase lapel pins to recognize Goodwin Ambassadors for the next 3 years. Ambassadors provide tours of school, raise funds for various charities, build community outreach efforts, etc. Cost of 100 pins is \$250. Donors provided \$160 and PTO committed \$100.
    - iii. Additional initiatives: would like to formally recognize efforts of PTO volunteers (both teachers and parents). Please send any thoughts in on how to do this.
    - iv. Received thank you letter from Kelly Allen and Janet Pagoni for the grant to cover the cost of iPad minis. Letter included below.
  - b. Vice-president report: Mileage club is going well. Some students have signed up for kids' marathon to run 26<sup>th</sup> mile. Only available to students who have run 25 miles.
  - c. Treasurer's Report:
    - i. Budget included below.
    - ii. Busy month. Basketball was a good fundraiser, particularly given that the event was rescheduled.
    - iii. Motion to accept report Megan, seconded by Jen.
  - d. Secretary's Report:
    - i. Minutes from last meeting submitted to Goodwin PTO website.
    - ii. Jen: motion to accept minutes from last meeting. Meghan seconded.
    - iii. Committee chairs: email sent out and many people cannot continue to chair committees next year. Will send out emails soliciting new chairs.
    - iv. Jen: will purchase backpacks and will co-chair committee with Ellen Tulman. Useful to involve students to help pack bags and stress importance of donation. Could donate to Haiti or WAIM. Would be useful to include 10 minute presentation.
  - e. Principal's Report:

- i. Michelle assembling list of May/June end-of-year activities. PTO will promote activities through PTO email list.
- ii. Volunteer tea: Michelle put together the tea. Very nice event. Students made haiku poems. Only 12 of 30 people came. Would like to recognize all parents. Could increase awareness at Big Whale Bash. Please send ideas to PTO. Alexia: Event was much appreciated by those who attended.

### 3. PTO Business

- a. Vote for new board: nominations for new board include: President: Jen Scanlon-Passmore; Vice-President: Veronica Barcelona de Mendoza; Treasurer: Tracy Rittenhouse; Secretary: Alexia Smith. Kristin Hempel nominated entire board, Mary Dudas seconded. Unanimous vote in favor of all nominees.
- b. Big Whale Bash: 11–3pm, 16 May, Christine Jeffers reported that very few volunteers have signed up. Will send out additional notifications soon. Many people tend to volunteer just before the event. Inflatable bounce house has been booked. Would be nice to have the school kitchen to run the event but town rules state that the PTO would need to pay for a cafeteria member to be there for the day. Kitchen only needed for counters and potentially to cook hotdogs. Need to resolve kitchen access issue. Susan will follow up. New idea this year: full-day volunteers receive a bracelet for children which provides free bounce-house/obstacle course access for the day. Next year: Christine will continue to chair committee but would like to bring a new member in to oversee games (can be complicated to arrange prizes for each game and it would be useful for a new person to shadow Christine). Jen: great job on the signs!
- c. 4<sup>th</sup> grade promotion: Mary Dudas. June 18. Alexia Smith needs to check in with Nancy Titchen to get T-shirt sizes and place order (4 week lead time needed). 22<sup>nd</sup> June is last day of school. No concerns about food donations. Still compiling DVD with pictures of students, slideshow with music. In the past DVDs were donated and given to the parents. Mary is happy to continue to donate. Mary will come in to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes and interview each student.
- d. Square One Art: Kathleen Peirsman. Raised over \$1600, better than last year. Ann Caranci will continue chairing committee next year. Useful to include promotion at parent-pick up exit and book fair if it occurs before the art event.
- e. Yearbook: Meghan Silliman. Book for this year has been submitted and will arrive by end of the year. Contract signed for next year. Next year will do a cover contest. Students can vote on the best design.
- f. TV turnoff/sock hop: Mary Dudas. Gave out 110 glow sticks at sock hop (one per person strictly enforced!), so event well attended. In the past the dance was too structured and now it seems that there is not enough structure. Consider including some games next year. Could

provide minimal playlist. Need to emphasize that parents must stay in the school with their children. Many people volunteered and brought food on day of event. Have always held event in association with TV turnoff week but many families are busy in April/May. May be wise to hold in the winter or coordinate with spirit week and tri-basketball tournament. This would avoid problem with the heat. In the past have coordinated PJ reading evening with book fair.

- g. Tri-school basketball: was well attended and good earner. Organizers met for a debriefing meeting this morning. Need to emphasize concept of having fun and eliminate aggressive play. Suggestions to include rules in future games: not allowed to block shots, steal ball, etc. Will include a spirit award. Some concerns about safety. Next year will keep people permanently stationed at the doors. Designated area for wheel chairs. Goodwin was recognized as having best spirit by the other schools. Attempts will be made to develop equally gendered teams. Lea Gagnon will chair committee next year but need additional person (meetings often take place at 8:00am)
- h. Scholastic Book fair: need to submit date for next year's book fair soon.
- i. Town Meeting: Mary Dudas. Unpleasant tone at meeting owing to a small group of highly vocal people who oppose increases to the education budget. Need to show up to vote on 12 May. Since votes occur throughout the meeting, need to attend the entire meeting.
- j. New business: Jen Scanlon-Passmore. Many Goodwin music CDs in closet. Need to get rid of some of them. Open house, Kindergarten orientation, and Big Whale Bash provide good opportunities.

- 4. Motion to adjourn: Barbara Mellone, Mary Dudas seconded. Meeting adjourned: 8:00

Treasurer's Report

Thank you letter from Janet Pagoni and Kelly Allen

**Goodwin PTO Treasurer's Report**  
**Profit & Loss Statement**  
April 8, 2015 – May 5, 2015

**Starting Amount** **\$18,263.75**

**Income**

Yearbook	\$297.00
T-Shirts	\$150.00
Basketball Tournament	\$673.00

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**Total Income** **\$1120.00**

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**Expenses**

PTO Sitters	\$40.00
Pizza	\$23.40
T-Shirt (order for teacher helpers)	\$102.40
Mystic Seaport – 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade enrichment	\$10.00
Sock Hop	\$169.96

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**Total Expenses** **\$345.76**

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**Profit / Loss** Profit **\$774.24**

**Box Top Balance** **\$2,786.34**

**Balance** **\$19,037.99**

To the Goodwin PTO,

Kelly Allen and I would like to thank you all for contributing the funds for first grade to have two iPad minis. We appreciate your generosity and support of our program. We are awaiting the funds to purchase screen protectors and cases from the Mansfield IT budget and hope to have these shortly.

Kelly and I are looking forward to attending a workshop at UConn next week on implementing iPad technology in the elementary classroom. We look forward to utilizing this technology in our classrooms and will keep you posted on our progress.

Thank you, again, - we are so fortunate to work with such wonderful families!

Very Sincerely Yours,  
Kelly Allen & Janet Payne