

Goodwin PTO Meeting Minutes
13 April, 2016
Goodwin Music Room 6:30–7:30

Present: Jen Scanlon-Passmore, Richard Weyel, Alexia Smith, Veronica Barcelona de Mendoza, Kristen Zadnik, Jearl Clark, Meghan Silliman, Tracy Rittenhouse, Susan Muirhead, Marianne Legassey, Tiffanie Itsou, Marisol Dumeng, Melissa McLaren

Recorder: Alexia Smith

1. Call to order: 6:35
2. Officer's Reports
 - a. President's Report (Jen Scanlon-Passmore)
 - i. Motion to accept minutes from March by Megan Silliman, Kristen Zadnik seconds.
 - ii. All items will be covered below.
 - b. Vice-president report (Veronica Barcelona de Mendoza)
 - i. Has questions about building request for Whale Bash. Will not use kitchen for event. Building Use Request forms will be submitted soon requesting space from 8:00am to 4:00pm to allow time for set up. A lot of set up takes place the evening before. Will need use of building on Friday from 3:30 to close of building (around 6:30pm). Will need tables, chairs, garbage cans. Should replicate last year's form.
 - ii. Budget Meeting: will continue to get word out about upcoming meetings. Last year budget was voted in but failed at the referendum. Is highly likely that this year's vote will go to referendum. Existing school buildings in district are old and need significant upgrades to infrastructure. \$160,000 included in the budget for a study to assess of building needs. Such a study is much needed. Mansfield may be affected by state level cuts.
 - c. Treasurer's Report (Tracy Rittenhouse)
 - i. Profit and loss statement presented (included below).
 - ii. Very little income this time of year and account balance drops owing to outgoing expenses.
 - iii. Motion to accept treasurer's report by Megan Silliman seconded by Richard Weyel. All approved.
 - d. Secretary's Report:
 - i. Minutes from last meeting submitted to Goodwin PTO website.
 - e. Principal's Report (Susan Muirhead):
 - i. School now has 2 clothing collection boxes in the parking lot. Will be used to generate funds for Student Activity Fund. Every 1000lb

of clothes pays \$100 (roughly 2.5 bins). Please spread the word: they can be used to collect clothes, belts, purses, stuffed animals, worn shoes and sneakers, torn textiles. Clothing that cannot be worn can be shredded and recycled into fibers.

- ii. Talent show on 4/12/16 was a huge success and a lot of fun. Many thanks to the PTO and Shamim Patwa for organizing such a great event. Hopefully it will become an annual event.
- iii. 7 iPads purchased by the PTO have arrived and been given to teachers. Purchase of the reflector app was approved by the PTO but the site license has not yet been purchased (will need funds for the license now). Would like to purchase 2 more iPads and cases. Can the PTO cover the cost of these? PTO agreed to discuss this later during the meeting.
- iv. 4th grade promotion has been scheduled for the 13th of June, 7:00 to 8:00pm.
- v. Board of Education 12 May meeting. Goodwin will be honored for receiving Blue Ribbon Award. Should be completed within first 5 to 10 minutes of meeting. It would be wonderful if families and students could attend.

3. PTO Business

- i. Nominations for PTO board: existing board has agreed to include their names on the ballot for next year's board.
- ii. Teacher grants: Existing iPads are getting a lot of excellent use (including facilitating communicating with English language learners). 2 additional iPads will cost \$1158 plus \$59.82 for 2 cases. Given the excellent use of the iPads, it makes sense to provide iPads to the 2 teachers who do not currently have them. Motion to accept purchase of iPads and cases made by Kristen Zadnik, seconded by Meghan Silliman. All in favor. Discussion of Mr. Dean's request for skis: overwhelming support for request for skis and equipment (\$4284.40), but concern over bottom line of current budget. Providing funds in full right now would drop budget to an uncomfortable level. Motion to provide 50% of funds now and have goal to provide remaining 50% in next year's budget made by Marianne Legassey, seconded Tiffanie Itsou. All in favor. Will make a point of aggressively fund raising to generate needed funds.
- iii. 501(c)3 status: existing PTO does not currently have non-profit status. We are an unincorporated organization and can file for non-profit status, but this can place the board as personally liable if a lawsuit is filed against the PTO and there are insufficient funds in the PTO bank account to settle the claim. The alternative is to become a PTA as a chapter of a larger organization. The larger PTA organization then takes on legal responsibility. CT chapter requires \$5.50 dues per member per year. Tracy Rittenhouse will continue to research the implications of becoming a PTA (such a change may require us to change by-laws). National PTA is a political lobbyist

group and may impose more control on the parent/teacher organization than we are comfortable with. Could become incorporated while pursuing future options. Will reach out to lawyer to obtain additional advice. Motion to approve up to \$500 to cover lawyer's fees made by Melissa McLaren, seconded by Kristen Zadnik. All in favor.

- iv. 4th grade promotion: has been set for 13 June (7:00 to 8:00pm)
- v. Big Whale Bash: need someone to run the Whale Bash next year since Christine Jeffers will no longer be here.
- vi. Silent Auction: Melissa McLaren reports that we are doing well. Have already secured 31 donation (listed below). One parent has donated 50 bags! Additional donations coming in and Melissa is still in communication with other businesses. Looking for a more diverse range of items/services (yard work, cleaning, etc.). Would be useful to have pet-related items. Committee will advertise items with "sneak peaks" through digital backpack at Goodwin and other schools to generate interest. Will also try to encourage members of the community to attend. Southeast always has a huge turnout and generates lots of income.
- vii. Barre workout fundraiser: Keri Jenkins (6 May 2016, 7-8pm)
- viii. Yoga with Nancy Alder fundraiser: 11 May, 1 June 7-8pm
- ix. Jearl Clark: a parent who had 3 children attend Goodwin in the past is looking to make a donation to benefit the whole school (around \$1000). One option is to help enhance the PA system in the gym.
- x. Mileage Club: could use more parental help to supervise students.
- xi. Meghan Silliman: need to sell 2 more yearbooks.

4. Motion to adjourn: Jearl Clark, Meghan Silliman, seconded. Meeting adjourned: 8:05.

Treasurer's Report

List of items donated to Silent Auction (to date)

**Goodwin PTO Treasurer's
Report Profit & Loss Statement
March 16, 2016 – April 13, 2016**

Starting Amount		\$16510.53
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Income		
Parent Donation	\$50.00	
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Total Income	\$50.00	
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Expenses		
Pizza	\$29.78	
Sitter	\$25.00	
Enrichment 3 rd Grade	\$323.92	
Box Tops	\$25.45	
UpBeat Entertainment – Sock Hop	\$200.00	
Cash Box - Bookfair	\$150.00	
Arts Day – Funds to Artists	\$1400.00	
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Total Expenses	\$2154.15	
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Profit/Loss		-\$2104.15
Box Top Balance		\$3435.24
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Balance		\$14406.38
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Silent Auction Donations received so far:

1. Disney World 4 Park Hopper Passes valued at \$620
2. Kim Gates- 20 Zumba classes valued at \$120
3. Mansfield Community Center- 3 month membership
4. Old Sturbridge Village- 1 Free Daytime Admission for (2) Adults (2) Youth valued at \$84
5. Lucky Strike Bowling- 2 coupons for 1 hr of bowling & shoe rental valued at \$60
6. Jorgensen Center for Performing Arts gift certificate \$50
7. Willimantic Food Co-op Gift Basket
8. Maynard Trucking and Excavation- 4 yards of garden manure delivered locally
9. Red Rock restaurant- gift certificate for \$25
10. Mooyah Burgers \$25 gift certificate
11. Domino's Pizza in Storrs gift card \$25
12. Wings Over Storrs \$5 (3) gift certificates
13. Nature's Health Food Store- Storr \$10 gift certificate
14. Price Chopper gift certificate for \$10
15. Peabody museum
16. Mystic Aquarium

Parent/Staff Donations:

1. Karen Neuman: Fox Meadow Farm- CSA Share \$450
2. Martin/Ricci family: 3 weeks share of different local CSA's \$90
3. Lite n' Scent candles and/or soap by Riema Saria
4. Mary Kay basket from Ms. Lasky
5. Melissa McLaren- Origami Owl Custom Jewelry valued at \$150
6. Melissa Grakowsky Shippee Jewelry
7. Marianne Legassey- handmade jewelry
8. Principal Muirhead- a night of babysitting
9. Party outfit from Noaris \$80
10. Jia Zhang photography service
11. ZenFull Results Photography (Steve Pfaffle)- 2 5x7 prints
12. Mark Mirko- Original photography
13. A variety of canvas purses valued from (\$50-\$75 each) from Jason Chen's mother
14. Hoysradt family- Legos
15. Jearl- Time magazine signed from father in law who had movie made about him