

Memorial PTO Meeting
May 9, 2024
9:30am

Kelly Behbehani, Kayla O'Brien, Natalie Tordigione, Kayleigh Carrington, Stephanie Goodwin, Elise Balk, Missy Billsborough, Meredith Lambert, Michelle Kirkby, Lauren Geary, Mary Rooney

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Principal's Report – Missy Billsborough

- a) Very busy yime of year with a lot going on!
- b) Thank you to the PTO and all volunteers with painting the columns, teacher appreciation, upcoming events etc.
- c) Feedback on the programs (museum etc) have been fabulous
- d) New additions to the playground have been a big hit and been allowing the kids to play with each other in new and different ways, building cooperation and team work
- e) Flag Day presentation on the 29th, Rain Date 30th
- f) High School doing their walk though the 30th
- g) Art Show the 21st in the library for the first time
- h) Field Day June 6th, Rain Date June 7th
- i) Celebrating Mr. Grace's retirement and filling some maternity leaves for next year.

3. Upcoming Events/Important Dates

- a. Spring Field Trips- Some first graders have gone, some will go June 3rd, Kindergarteners is coming up too.
- b. Flag Day-May 29th from 9:30-10:30 am (May 30 Rain Date)
- c. Art Show-May 21st from 5-6:30pm
- d. Field Day-June 6th (June 7th Rain Date)
 - i. Parent Volunteers M
 - 1. Most spots have been filled, thank you!
 - ii. Richie's Italian Ice
 - 1. Enough for students, staff and preschoolers
- e. PTO & SEPAC Transition Night-May 21st at 7:30
 - i. Working on having panels of parents to provide other parents with info about transitioning to another school
 - 1. Both General Ed and Special Ed

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. Fundraising updates
- b. Minted Proceeds -\$1,144.03 from 35 orders
- c. Stay and Play we have collected \$930 so far
- d. There was an anonymous donation of \$1,000

- e. Paint Night money still coming in as well
- f. We also did the \$50 refresh checks in April to each teacher

5. President's Report – Kelly Behbehani

a. Student Enrichment

i. Puppet Show

- 1. Mixed reviews on the puppet show where some kids were really into it but some not as much- it was a long show
- 2. Very low tech and not what the kids were used to
- 3. Mixed reviews from the teachers
- 4. Probably look for something different next year, maybe back to the bubble show?

ii. Discovery Museum Science-Light and Discovery for Grade 1, Force and Motion for K

- 1. Each classroom got a 45min workshop where the person came in and did a lesson
- 2. This was a big hit and would be great to continue in the coming years

b. Playground Update

- i. Rope climber installed over April break, ahead of schedule!
- ii. Lines painted on the playground (basketball key, hopscotch, and four square)
 - 1. Thank you to Zebra Stripe Painting Co.!
- iii. Plan for next year
 - 1. What do we want the goal to be for next year?
 - 2. There is a rendering with suggestions by the company we're working with, we can sit and take a look and make a plan for next year.
- iv. Family Donation-Funnel Ball or put towards new structure next year?

6. Spring Fundraisers

1. Spring Stay and Play

- a. May 15th -sold out
- b. Thank you to Irene with helping organize this!

2. Caregiver/Child Paint Night with Patti Allen and Studio 109-May 10th-Only 25 tickets purchased so far. (25 pairs, so still 50 people)

- a. It is now open to siblings and other grades if more people want to sign up
- b. Hopefully next year it can be earlier in the year, as it was in Feb one time.

3. Raffle/Food Truck Night @ the Memorial Art Show

- a. Last year we had the hot dog wagon, ice cream truck, raffle etc.
- b. Other ideas: Face Painting, Music, Spin Art ?
 - i. Kelly reached out to a bubble guy but he was busy
 - ii. Set up friendship bracelet making table?
 - iii. Snack table/Concessions?
 - iv. Balloon art?
 - v. Buy pizza ourselves and sell by the slice?

4. Town-wide Fundraiser: Online Experiences Auction
 - a. Today in the newsletter there is a description of the K-8 Treasured Experiences Auction. Proceeds are split at the end. It is an online auction of experiences donated by teachers and sports teams etc.

7. Committee Updates

- a. **Kindergarten t-shirts** - These have been ordered!
 - i. Should be here by the end of the month
 - ii. The committee is also working on a kindergarten class gift to be purchased with t-shirt proceeds.
 - iii. Hoping to get some signage for the North St parking lot area
 1. Need to get it approved by the town
 2. Have a company (local parents) who are setting up a proposal to bring to the town
- b. **Hospitality**
 - i. May - Teacher Appreciation Week - something fun every day!
 - ii. June - Desserts to accompany the K-8 Funded luncheon
- c. **Beautification**-Ali Spidalieri and Stephanie Goodwin-
 - i. Spring Decor
 1. This will get changed out for the Flag Day ceremony
 - ii. Playground updates
 - iii. Columns are being painted by families
 1. There were about 20 families who signed up and participated
 2. Hoping to do the rest of the columns over the summer or in the fall
 3. Want to improve the preschool playground over the summer
 - a. Looking to apply for a grant for mats that should be out there, they are very expensive
 - b. It will be leveled and more mulch will be put down
- d. **School Supply Kits**- Order forms will be out soon.
 - i. Preschool Kit-\$58.99
 - ii. Kindergarten-\$83.99
 - iii. 1st Grade-\$70.99-Headphones are optional, but a working pair is required for first grade.
 1. It is expensive but also a fundraiser for the school and everything your child needs is waiting for them at their desk the first day of school

8. Memorial Board for 2024-2025 School Year:

- a. 1st Grade Co-President: Natalie Tordiglione
- b. VP: Kayla O'Brien
- c. Treasurer: Maria Newberg
- d. Secretary: Elise Balk

- e. Kindergarten Co-President: Jen Orlando

9. MCPE Update-Ali Spidalieri

- a. currently in the last round of grant submissions for the year.
- b. Blue Ribbon campaign is underway. Parents can make a donation to honor a teacher and that teacher will be recognized at MCPE's annual meeting

10. School Committee Update-Michelle Kirkby

- a. Strategic Plan was approved last summer which is a 5 year plan so will be looking back at the last year and going forward
- b. Looking at communication and school start time
 - i. There is a new monthly newsletter coming out and many other ideas and things being put out there to improve communication across the district
- c. Looking to see if we should adjust school start times
 - i. A committee has been formed to see if there are any adjustments that can be made. It will NOT be a flip with the elementary school start time.
- d. SBC will be having forums at the end of May looking for feedback on site selection for a future Dale St school
 - i. There is a letter that will be published soon discussing the financial implications on the cost of a new school
 - ii. SBC is on Facebook, please follow them
- e. Timeline for a new school
 - i. We have applied again for a grant and will find out in Dec if we got back in to the MSBA. If we got in that would be a 4 year time frame
 - ii. If it was self funded it would be farther out

11. Recap of all the great work we did as a PTO this year. Thank you for all your help, support, and generosity!

- a. We formed 2 New Committees: Beautification and Kindergarten T-Shirts + Class Gift
- b. We met our \$14,000 fundraising goal and installed our new structure ahead of schedule.
- c. We brought in 2 traveling science workshops and 1 puppet show.
- d. We had lines painted on the blacktop for additional recess games.
- e. We raised \$27k from the Rainbow Run!

12. PTO Meeting Dates for 2024-2025:

- a. Wednesday, September 11th at 9:30 am @ Memorial
- b. Wednesday, October 23 th at 7pm, Zoom
- c. Wednesday, January 8 th at 9:30am @ Memorial
- d. Wednesday, March 5th at 7pm, Zoom
- e. Wednesday, May 7 th at 9:30am @ Memorial