

**Memorial PTO Meeting**  
September 14, 2023

**Attendees:** Kelly Behbehani, Kayla O'Brien, Natalie Tordiglione, Jayme LaVallee, Meredith Lambert, Jennifer Sroka, Michelle Kirkby, Kayleigh Carrington, Nikki Anello, Kat Smith, Emily Falotico, Kat Smith, Christina Danna, Liza Robinson, Lauren Geary, Megan Macdonald, Christine Adamson, Katharine Schipani, Ali Spidalieri, Stephanie Goodwin, Briana McAuliffe, Cinzio Lo Venturo, Lauren Soder, Ayse Bakar Atici, Keren Matreer, Meg Boudreau, Danielle Alli, Missy Bilsborough

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

- a. Michelle Kirkby-School Committee Representative
- b. Jennifer Sroka-MCPE Representative

**2. Principal's Report**

- a. First open house format was last night so kids were involved and parents could meet various staff through the school
- b. First spirit day is tomorrow, Patriots Day, across Memorial, Wheelock and Dale
- c. The year is off to a good start and busy.
  - i. Practicing various drills and getting used to new routines
  - ii. If you have questions, Missy is always available

**3. Treasurer's Report and Budget Review**

- a. We are beginning to prep for the start up funds for the teachers to support them with needs in their classroom.

**4. Committee Chairs 2023-2024**

- a. Hospitality/Teacher Appreciation: Elyse Brocks, Christen Holmes, Andrea Nichols, Ali Spidalieri
  - i. Decorate, set up and break down various teacher lunches/treats etc during the year
- b. Read Across America: Julie Monahan and Jenna Schwirtz
- c. Kindergarten T-shirts: **TBD**
  - i. In the spring the Kindergarteners have the opportunity to order shirts that are typically worn on field day and an adult size for later
- d. School Supplies: Allison Goodband (we may want a second volunteer to help/shadow)
  - i. Kits can be ordered and then they are waiting at your child's desk on the first day of school
- e. Playground Committee: Amy Gilmore and Rachel Grof
- f. Auction/ Fun Run/ K-8 Fundraisers: **TBD**
  - i. There is an online auction which will happen later in the year
  - ii. The Rainbow Run is coming up on 9/27, which is a townwide fundraiser
    - 1. In the afternoon during the school day
    - 2. Parents fundraise to sponsor their child in the run, a link can be shared with family friends and relatives to raise money
    - 3. A sign up genius will be sent out for volunteers

4. Money is used for student programming and events, playground, teacher support etc.
5. Parents can also just come watch

## 5. Important Dates

- a. Official Memorial PTO Meeting Dates
- b. We alternate morning in person and evening on Zoom
  - i. Thursday, September 14 th at 9:30am @ Memorial
  - ii. Wednesday, October 25 th at 7pm, Zoom
  - iii. Thursday, January 11 th at 9:30am @ Memorial
  - iv. Wednesday, March 6 th at 7pm, Zoom
  - v. Thursday, May 9 th at 9:30am @ Memorial

## 6. Upcoming Events/Initiatives

- a. Rainbow Run: Wednesday, September 27 (afternoon)
  - i. The first \$30 each child raises go toward PTO dues and all additional donations will go to the Rainbow Run. Biggest fundraiser of the year!
  - ii. This year there will not be a separate ask for PTO dues, it will all be rolled into the Rainbow Run
- b. Teacher Start-up funds
- c. Hospitality Update
- d. Fans?
  - i. Missy says they did have fans and parents reached out to make sure teachers were all set
  - ii. For future heat waves, frozen water bottles passed out to the children was a helpful way to cool down
- e. Ideas for student assemblies/programs that focus on DEI and SEL initiatives

## 7. Playground Project

- a. Background info on the project
  - i. A few years ago Missy thought about upgrading the playground and had plans drawn up and then Covid hit.
  - ii. In 2022 the cost for a new playground had doubled
  - iii. We have changed playground companies and decided to update the playground structure by structure
  - iv. The future of the Dale Street School has to be considered as well, which might impact Memorial by traffic pattern or playground area etc.
  - v. The new playground structures are movable if needed in the future
- b. What we accomplished in the 2022-2023 school year
  - i. We put 26k into the playground which gave a new spinner and accessible pathways and swing
- c. Fundraising Goals: what we hope to accomplish during the 2023-2024 school year
  - i. Rope Vortex Structure + Installation: \$33,898.
  - ii. There is already 20k from MCPE that can be used
- d. Possible Fundraisers
  - i. **Fall:** Movie Night: October 13. Need to start planning now

- Mr. Grace Stay and Play: November
        - ii. **Winter:** Patti Allen, Studio 109 Grown-Up/Child Paint Night  
Cookie Decorating Kits, which are dropped off at peoples homes
        - iii. **Spring:** Food Truck Night/Scratch Ticket Raffle which was done on Art Show night  
Mr. Grace Stay and Play: May
        - iv. **Ongoing:** Minted and Mabel's Labels where you can use a school code when ordering and money goes towards the school
      - e. Should we look into grants and/or corporate sponsors this year?
        - i. In the past we have not qualified for grants but we can always look again
      - f. Any other ideas for fundraisers?
8. Jenn Sroka on MCPE
  - a. 15 person parent board who fundraises and then puts the money back into the school
  - b. Last year they raised 53k
  - c. Their first event of the year is Fall Fest on Oct 20th at the German Club
    - i. Live band, drinks, snacks, Medfield merch. Etc.
    - ii. Casual and tickets will go on sale on Medfield Day
9. Michelle Kirkby
  - a. School committee approved the Strategic Plan for the next 5 years
  - b. School building committee will be having a meeting Nov 7 at Dale and is open to the public
  - c. Please contact the school committee directly if you ever have any questions

**6.Any questions about PTO or Memorial in general?**

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 25 th at 7pm, Zoom