



# Memorial PTO Meeting

## January 11, 2024

In Attendance: Kelly Behbehani, Jayme Lavalee, Kayla O'Brien, Ali Spidalieri, Kayleigh Carrington, Lauren Geary, Meredith Lambert, Megan McDonald, Katharine Schipani, Missy Billsborough

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

### 2. Principal's Report – Missy Billsborough

- a. There is a lot going on from both staff and student perspectives.
  - i. Tomorrow is Hero Day which we have been talking a lot about what that means.
  - ii. Since it is hard to dress up as a hero you can also bring in something that supports MLK's message
  - iii. We are finished with preschool registration for current students and there is an open house for incoming families next week.
  - iv. Kindergarten registration coming right up as well
    1. Within the next few years K may be offered as full day only.
    2. Tuition support is something they have been able to help with for some families who wanted full day and could not afford it.
    3. There was a Digital Citizenship and Internet Safety webinar that happened last week that will be available soon for anyone to view on their own time.
    4. Literacy workshop happened as well with great discussions and looking ahead towards new curriculum coming up etc.
    5. There is a Professional Development day coming up on the 23rd

### 3. Upcoming Dates

- a. Valentine's Day Parties - 2/14/24 (PreK T/Th class will have a different date)
  - i. Classes will be hearing from their individual room parents.
- b. Read Across America Week: March 4th - 8th
  - i. Chairs: Jenna Schwartz and Kris Bruyette
    1. Will be working with Mrs. Farahar to do decorations etc.
    2. Last year was recordings of guest readers which allowed teachers to play them when it fit with their classroom schedule. They are not sure yet which format will be used this year.
  - ii. Readers - TBD

- c. Spring Field Trips
  - i. Kindergarten - Easton Children's Museum
    - 1. (Acton was already full, but will return there for 2025)
  - ii. Grade One - Stonybrook-Dates are being finalized
    - 1. Also looking at possible different options for next year just to mix it up a little.
    - 2. Stonybrook comes here and presents in each individual classroom as well.
  - iii. Per the request of town-wide PTO, can we break down the total cost of the field trip, less what PTO covers, on the field trip letters that go home to families? That way people are more aware of what the PTO is covering.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report: Natalie Tordiglione

##### a. Fundraising Update:

- i. Halloween Parade Experience Raffle: \$450
- ii. November Stay and Play: \$1,050
  - 1. There was good feedback about it being smaller (50 kids verses 100) but that was just because we could not fill more volunteer slots.
- iii. Cookie Kit Fundraiser: \$1,020
- iv. Mabels Labels: \$150.14
- v. Minted: (We don't have the fundraising total yet)
- vi. Rainbow Run: approximately \$20,000 per school
  - 1. Should occur every fall going forward.
  - 2. There are already volunteers from Memorial ready to help next year.

#### 5. President's Report – Kelly Behbehani

##### a. Playground Update

- i. To avoid 2024 price increases, we placed the order for the Rope Vertex Climber.
  - 1. We don't have to take anything out for this new structure to be installed.
  - 2. It will be installed over the summer.
  - 3. Before the end of this year we will make a plan for what we want to focus on to order for next year.
  - 4. We are working with Child Scapes and they have been awesome.

##### b. New Volunteer Opportunities- Volunteer Sub-Committees have been formed. Sign up today!

- i. We want to create more opportunities for people to be more involved on the PTO

#### 6. Committee Updates

- a. **Kindergarten t-shirts** – Need to connect new volunteers with Ali so there will now be a small committee to help with this instead of one person.
- b. **Hospitality**-December- Holiday Teacher Luncheon;
  - i. February - collect cash donations to purchase \$5 gift cards to Starbucks and Dunkin; March-Power Up Station for Conferences
  - ii. March - A "power up" station for the conferences
- c. **Beautification**-Ali Spidalieri and Stephanie Goodwin-Fall and Winter Decor

- i. Hoping to seasonally spruce things up and add decor and talk about bigger ideas too like cleaning the playground or adding low cost things that would add some “bang”.
  - ii. Could also decorate any empty bulletin boards in the school etc.
- d. **Family Fun** - Paint Night with Patti Allen, BINGO Night, Ties and Tiaras Event and/or First Grade Celebration?, A tea? No School Day Meetup (4/3)
  - i. Kelly has reached out to Patti, who has done it several years, waiting to hear back.
  - ii. Space is always an issue for some of these things, whether its Bingo or a dance.
    - 1. Would it be a single grade only, would it be a different location than the school, could it be outside etc.?
    - 2. Even dates are a challenge to find a date that does not conflict with sports if we need to use the field.
    - 3. Maybe for the 1st graders it could be at Wheelock as an introduction to the 2nd grade space.
  - iii. Hopefully meeting again in another month or two
- e. **Fundraising** - Spring Stay and Play, Memorial Art Show Food Trucks/Raffle, other ideas?
  - i. Is there a way we could tie a fundraiser in with Valentines Day or the actual Valentine cards with things we are already doing?
  - ii. Should we add anything to the Art Show night?
- f. **School Supply Kits**-Memorial School’s Share from last year’s school supply kit sale: \$2,314.89.
  - i. Thank you to Ali Goodband who did all the hard work with that.
  - ii. Hoping to not require 1st graders to buy headphones again, making it optional within the order form.
- g. **Student Assemblies**-Ideas for the spring?
  - i. Last year we brought in the Bubble Man who did two different shows. Maybe in upcoming years we could bring in something from a Children’s Museum.
  - ii. Acton did a traveling science show a few years ago but it had to be small group and they were pretty strict in all aspects.
  - iii. Smaller enrichment programs might be a nice approach.
  - iv. We could ask Bellforge if they have any ideas.

7. School Committee Update: Kelly

- a. Jan 25th there is a public budget meeting.
- b. Information School Committee Conversation next Tuesday at 10am
- c. Medfield (Dale) was not invited back to MSBA so the school building committee has to go back and evaluate next steps.
- d. Strategic Plan dashboard is now live on the Medfield Public Schools website.
- e. There is a school start time committee being formed now to evaluate start times going forward for the High/Middle School students.
  - i. Nothing would start until Sept of 2025.

8. MCPE Update: Ali

- a. Over \$40K in grants was awarded to the schools.
- b. Decodable texts was purchased for 1st grade
- c. Recording studio at HS and many other things across the district

- d. Spelling B March 18th
- e. Trivia Night coming up, Tickets on sale on the 16th.
- f. Seeking new board members, there are many open positions

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 6 th at 7pm, Zoom