



## **Dale Street PTO Meeting September 18, 2024**

**Attendees:** Nicole Saulnier, Michelle Kirkby, Kelly Behbehani, Erin Keysor, Jill Werner, Katherine Weisse, Steve Grenham

### **Welcome!**

#### **PTO Board for 2024-2025:**

5th Grade Co-President - Nicole Saulnier

4th Grade Co-President - Jill Werner

Vice President - Nicole Crocker

Secretary - Kelly Behbehani

Treasurer - Erin Keysor

#### **PTO Meetings for 2024 - 2025**

September 18, 2024 9:45 AM

November 13, 2024 9:45 AM

January 15, 2025 9:45 AM

March 12, 2025 9:45 AM

May 14, 2025 9:45 AM

#### **Principal Update** - Steve Grenham

- Great start to the school year. Teachers did a great job preparing for the year over the summer.
- PTO worked hard to furnish/decorate/fix up the calming room and pumping room. Thank you!
- Be Proud Be Dale Stickers (from the grant) are up!
  - (The rest of the grant money will be saved to use for decals selected by the Student Council)
- ELA Pilots: Dowd, Hayes, Gutierrez, Buff, Burnham, Chamblin.
  - Benchmark and Fish Tank. We'll pilot Fish Tank through Halloween and then Benchmark the rest of the year. Teachers will pick which one they like and present the recommendation to the school committee.

- It includes phonics and morphology. 50 minute block for reading and word study. 40 minute block with writing and grammar.
- When we do a pilot, the state curriculum standards are still being met.
- 5th grade Social Studies Pilot-Investigating History-Open Source State Curriculum. Follows the DESE Massachusetts Standards. ELA pilot teachers will join the social studies pilot in January.

#### **Author's Visit Grant Request-**

- Steve submitted a grant request for an author visit from Rob Buyea (*Carter Avery's Tricky 4th Grade Year*).
- Grant is for \$2,000 which covers multiple presentations (teachers prefer smaller audiences vs whole school at once ).
- Board voted and approved the request.

#### **Open House-tomorrow night**

- Scavenger hunt format where families can meet the classroom teacher, along with specialist teachers.
- Every teacher will also have a slide show that they send out with curriculum information. It will be sent the day after Open House.

#### ***The Wild Robot*-All school read.**

- Every classroom is currently reading *The Wild Robot*.
- Can we take a field trip to the movies to see *The Wild Robot* as a school? More information to come.
- Students can work on compare and contrast writing about the movie vs. book.
- How can we also integrate maker space/library projects with *The Wild Robot*?

#### **Student Support Series Webinar**

- Principals are hoping to bring this back. Let Steve know if we have any topics we'd like discussed.

#### **PTO/STUCO Collaboration-**

- PTO would love to collaborate with STUCO again-last year we did a pajama and sock drive.

#### **Presidents' Update - Nicole Saulnier and Jill Werner**

- **Summer Happenings**

- Calming Room and Pumping Room-We fixed these up over the summer.
  - Recess Equipment-We ordered new bags and new balls for recess. We should check in January and February to see how the supplies are holding up.
  - Ice Machine and Refrigerator was purchased for the Teacher/Staff Room.
  - Massage chair-one in each teachers' room at all the schools (Grant written by HR)
  - Back to School Kick Off - first day fun-Music and bubbles!
  - School Supply Kits -Alli did an awesome job again organizing and distributing.
    - Alli Goodband will take the lead on this again for 25/26 school year.
  - Start Up Funds - Each teacher got their start up funds.
- **Dale Open House** - PTO has a table. We have a QR code that will link people to volunteer sign-up forms.
  - **Volunteer opportunities**
    - Hospitality – No additional volunteers needed
      - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Jamie O'Connell and Kiren Annigeri
      - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Kelly Scobba and Christen Holmes
    - Kids Night Out
      - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee: Katie Lynch, Katherine Weisse, Sophia Viglas, Kelly Keene, Laura McCullough, Nicole Crocker
      - Need a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee
    - Yearbook
      - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Katherine Weisse and Emily Grella – they will need additional team members
      - Need to recruit a 4th grade group to shadow
      - Can kids be a part of the yearbook process?
        - Have kids be class reps to take photos of the kids in each class throughout the year?
        - Have a Yearbook club like an intramural?
        - Kids can interview each other about favorite movies, songs, etc. Snapshot of the grade at the time.
        - Nicole Saulnier can also be the liaison between yearbook + student roles. Or Nicole Hartery? Nicole, Katherine, Steve will talk offline.
    - Dale Street Variety Show
      - Meg Cabezud is set to lead this again in the Spring – need to recruit a few people to help. Meg is reaching out to Caitlin Caskey to see if she would be interested in helping from 4<sup>th</sup>Grade.

- Enrichment (Authors Visit/Literacy Night)
  - Need to recruit a couple people to run with this
  - Literacy Night and Math Night-In March. Should there still be a book fair?
  - Teacher Wish Lists-What is the best way to get books in teachers' classrooms?
- Rainbow Run-Wednesday October 2nd
  - need volunteers to manage for Dale Street and need to create a sign up genius for parent volunteers day of.
  - Dale in the morning, Memorial in the afternoon.
    - 50 minute rotations

### **Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget - Erin Keysor**

#### **Medfield Talks**

- We might have to put a line item into our budget for this year and going forward. PTO, MCPE, and SEPAC would all contribute to fund the speakers.
- 3 speakers per year.

#### **Book Vending Machine**

- 63 kids earned the gold medal for summer reading, and will most likely get a coin for the book vending machine.
- Librarians must approve all the books in the vending machine.

#### **School Committee Update-Michelle Kirkby**

- School Committee meeting is tomorrow night!
  - Dr. Marsden will give an update on the strategic plan.
- School start times will be voted on soon. Teacher's union must approve 1 out of the 3 options. Hopefully we can vote on this soon and give everyone almost a full year notice.
- Cell Phones and Mobile Devices-language strengthened in handbooks at Blake and HS
- Dr. Marsden is putting together a cell phone task force-to better understand how cell phone policies can look in Medfield.
- Dale Street/SBC Update-We'll hear in December whether we got approved from the state. In November, we will vote on the site selection.