



# Parker Middle School PTO Minutes

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Meeting date: October 16, 2017

## I. Call to Order: Alicia Mills

- 7:09 meeting called to order by Alicia Mills; 11 members attending.

## II. Opportunities to Volunteer

- **Discussion:** Science Fair at Parker. Teacher's involvement is difficult to come by. Middle School is an independent project. Byam has a model that worked well. PTO ran the Science Fair at Byam, no fundraising attached to it. Fair had officials to judge projects. Principal Fredette supported the Fair. Beth would be willing to do it after she's done with Byam. Parks got some Google Science Fair, students are able to sign up and do projects on their own. John Morris would be willing to put this out into the Middle school layer or use the Google Science Fair model. Jeff will get options and then present to the students. Could consider looking at it for this school year. Flyers went out right around December break and the Fair itself was about 3 months later. Registrations were heavy in January with a deadline to sign up a month before. Next meeting Jeff will bring John to explain more about the Science Fair options.

## III. Principal's update: Jeff Parks

- **Discussion point:** MCAS
  - Window for this year is 4/4-5/25
  - State has determined that 5,7,8 will take test online this year. ELA and Math. Science will be paper based
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade district has ability to decide on what format this grade takes the test in
    - Jeff's initial reaction to have 6<sup>th</sup> grade to take it online
  - CPS has the infrastructure to support this online model
  - Not every school is in the same position
  - McCarthy doesn't have the infrastructure to do this
    - Could impact support
    - Should be able to tell the teachers soon if it will be online for this year
  - More overhead to paper based testing
- **Discussion point:** School Year to date
  - Things are off to a great start
    - 1<sup>st</sup> term ends November 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Lots of new staff members and energy, adding in livestock (goat scaping) was fantastic
    - Goats are here for another week **#goatfest!**

## IV. Approval of June PTO minutes: Tracey Mathewson

- Motion to approve June 2017 minutes by Suzanne; seconded by Jen; voice vote, motion carries

## V. Treasurer's Reports: Edie Gale

- June Income
  - Magazine drive: \$10.80; Lowell spinners: \$430 (for parent checks); Parker Pride Run: \$19.56; Miscellaneous: \$747.00; Amazon: \$17.14; Boxtops: *paid*=\$18.85; Scrip/Gift cards: \$18.31
- June Expenses
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade year book party: \$537; Purchased 40 standing desks (each classroom has a standing desk): \$1159; Paid \$10,746 out of P/Y Unallocated Funds for standing desks
- July Income
  - Amazon: \$45



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- July Expenses
  - \$0
- August Income
  - Spinners \$90; Amazon: \$40.67; B&N=\$108.56 (lower than expected \$2k in sales, we only sold \$1085); Wachusett: \$20; Surveys: \$15; Bank account interest: .28
- August Expenses
  - Grade 5: \$392.24; Staff appreciation: \$214.45; Balance: \$14,821.64
  - PTO statement of cash at the end of the fiscal year
- September Income
  - Amazon: \$21.00; Scrip/Gift Cards: \$18.50; Bank interest: .25
- September Expenses
  - New teacher lunches: \$494.12
- Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Suzanne Talbot; seconded by Jennifer Perry; voice vote and motion carries.
- Motion to approve budget for this year: Jen Perry; seconded by Amy Kelliher; voice vote and motion carries

## VI. Enrichment Update: Kristin Brosofsky

- Update was presented on programs, scheduling, and costs to date for the 2017-18 school year. Programs discussed included the following:
  - **All grades:** Healthy Futures program is being brought to Parker through the Chelmsford Health Department. Programs are occurring through October and beginning of November.
  - **Grade 5:** Healthy Futures occurred last week. History at Play/Deborah Sampson (March 23); Chelmsford Department of Public Works/Stormwater Pollution (arranged by teachers); The 6<sup>th</sup> Middlesex Regiment Minuteman (June 14). Drumlin Farms/Wetlands and Watersheds (information and quote received, pending feedback from lead teachers).
  - **Grade 6:** Healthy Futures is this week. Boston Public Library (Oct. 4, 4 sessions); Museum of Science/Motion, Forces and Energy (Feb 26, one session up to 200 kids); Glen Davison/Kite Designing and Applied Mathematics (March 9); Barry Burbank/Weather (Kristin has reached out, pending response); Jean d'Arc/ Financial Literacy (date pending, arranged by teachers).
  - **Grade 7:** Healthy Futures (Nov 7 presentation); Kimberly Connors/Trained Archeologist (pending grant approval, awards announced end of October); Marion Blumenthal/ Four Perfect Pebbles (Kristin to reach out beginning of 2018).
  - **Grade 8:** Healthy Futures (Nov 8 presentation); Museum of Science/Heat & Temperature (Jan 10).
  - Teachers have reached out for PTO assistance with field trips but have elected to go with parent contribution considering the bottom line when cost is broken out per student.

## VII. Fundraising/Grant Update: Kelli Brown

- Manage the spinners night in the spring as existing contact has left
- Jen is doing the hockey night for Riverhawks
- Scholarship program – next year someone should shadow Kelli to take it over
- Grants – spoke to Beth briefly about owning supporting writing

## VIII. Committee Update

- **Box Tops:** Jennifer Perry
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade has 924 - would like to do it again in February for pride week
  - Prize for content – recess is the prize
- **Book Fair/Pizza & Pumpkins:** Michelle Conrad/Alicia Mills



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- P&P: Alicia to have Jeff send out email for volunteers. Not doing pre-order pizza sales; going with best guess; tracking dessert offers through signup.com; reduced the duration from 1 hour to 30 min blocks; chips and bottled drinks.
- Committee chair vacancies – work on this offline
- Everything that was open in August is still open
- After this week Michelle should be able to go forward with covering vacancies
  - Scrip should be the next one covered
- **Spirit Wear**
  - Still open – Alicia will text Nancy
- **Coin drive**
  - Doing this along side the bookfair. Laura Swanson is helping. Again will be giving back to cancer patients. Using money to purchase comforting chemo bags. Starting on 10.17

## IX. Adjournment

- 9:05 motion by Alicia