

Farmington River Elementary



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Thursday, May 12, 2016

Meeting Start: 3:15 pm

Motion made to approve minutes from April's meeting approved.

In attendance: Wendy Berman, President; Craig Drenga, Vice President; Kathy Adams, Secretary; Ilona Packie, Treasurer; Tom Nadolny, Principal; Chris Keller, Faculty; Kathy Couch, Aimeé Magovern, Stacey Schultze and Dawn Lemon, Parents and Committee Heads.

FOR OUR CALENDARS: Events

F May 13 – W May 18 Screen Free Week

F May 20 – Su May 22 1700s Colonial Soldier Reenactment by *Ye Old Lebanon Militia*

F June 3 Field Day (Rain Date: Th June 2)

FOR OUR CALENDARS: PTA Meetings, 3:15 pm in the School Library

Th May 12 This is our final PTA meeting of the year!

Next PTA Meeting: Summer Transition Meeting, TBD

FOR OUR CALENDARS: School Committee Meetings, 7 pm in the School Library

TBA May School Committee Meeting date to be announced on FRRSD website

ENDING SOON!

Target Rewards Program This program has now ended

Labels for Education Get your Labels in! Program ends in June

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Wendy

Thank You note from 6th Grade

For Online Book Fair purchases

School Nurse Day: Wednesday 11 May.

From Denise for our having bought her lunch and a goodie basket.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Craig

Terracycle update.

Looking into Terracycle to support Ilona. Craig will investigate other programs with Terracycle to assist Ilona.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ilona

State of the Treasury

Note: Be sure to submit any receipts if you haven't already!

\$684 check just arrived from Box Tops; not verified, but Karen Yvon feels we are now over 1k. Staff Appreciation Day expenses have doubled from last year; addition of thanking more staff. Was \$717, this year was \$1,400. Field Day t-shirts paid today, \$633. Account holding \$19,366 - classroom \$7,621 = \$11,744. Field Day Bounce House expense still coming; but in a good position. The PTA has been responsible for Perfect Attendance gift card; flowers at graduation; Citizenship Award. Coordinate with Christine McArthur, 6th Grade Teacher, for end-of-year items. Best Buy and Amazon gift cards given before, having replaced technology gift; can hit replay. Kathy A. to do detective work and look through past minutes to see what was done and report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Kathy A.

Secretarial Wrap-up

In wrapping up Secretarial duties, will provide help to Aimee in transition.

OLD BUSINESS

Vote: Slate of PTA Officers for 2016-17 school year

The PTA Nominating Committee presented a slate at the April meeting; motion to approve ballot is now put forth. New committee takes over at conclusion of school year.

Motion approved for the 2016-17 PTA slate of officers:

- Wendy Berman, President
- Craig Drenga, Vice President
- Aimée Magovern, Secretary
- Dawn Lemon, Treasurer

Campbell's Labels: Kathy C.

Will put big effort into last push to get word out (ad in Gazette, etc).

Almost at 9,000 points worth of UPC codes, which would give us a \$100 gift card. Can be used for something special or wait until the need arises. Has been redeemed toward Teacher Appreciation day, prior; \$500 was used last year, and this is probably a reason why Teacher Appreciation cost so much less last year. Jane has accounting.

Fall Fundraiser: Kathy C.

An aside in the past, we had great profits prior with Yankee Candle fundraising; Kathy C. brought in updated info and the summer catalogue for us to reconsider the Yankee Candle fundraising effort again, possibly for our Fall Fundraiser. We get 40% of sales. Can also have a new component, an additional top-selling catalogue put out by Yankee Candle for items like waffle irons, crock pots, etc. Sixty-five items under \$15, so the good deals and fair prices are very considerate of family's budgets. Recommended orders go in by first week of November, latest. Might prove to be a timing conflict with Nature's Classroom; to be solved.

Possibly we could do coffee sales through New England Coffee; however, it is recommended we should avoid doing more than one fundraiser, because it becomes overwhelming both to organize and to families to support, sell and buy, especially before the expensive pre-holiday season. We can do more research on ideas for the fall fundraisers via email, due to time constraint today.

SCREEN FREE WEEK:

Friday, May 13, 4–6:45 pm

Swimming and Dinner at Berkshire South in Great Barrington.

FREE for Farmington River students, \$5 family members. Lifeguard on site. Dinner provided by PTA. People arrive at 4 pm, get wrist bands and collect permission slip paperwork, meeting with Betty; then prepare dining area while kids swim, then they finish, dry and dress, and eat. 7 dessert donations. Sherry handling hot food from Price Chopper; will pick up, timing planned at 5 pm. People arrive by 4 pm. Kathy C. will oversee paper goods and utensils, and be sure they arrive. Wendy will fetch and make up salad stuff.

Monday, May 16, 4–5:30 pm

Hike with Mr. Keller.

Benedict Pond Hike. Parent must accompany younger children. Drinks/snacks provided. Sherry picking up treats. Wendy will send list of all who signed up to Ilona.

Wednesday, May 18, 5–7:30 pm

Bingo Night at school with popcorn, pizza, salad and dessert.

Family members and the Otis community invited. *Sponsored by the Otis Recreation Commission.* "Hit replay" like with pizza dinners, with someone going to Big Y to pick up and deliver pizzas; prizes to give out, about 20, comprised of wide age range arts and crafts items. Dollar Tree items; stuffed animals, etc. Popcorn machine needs operating; Rec Center has purchased popcorn. (Our old popcorn has gone passed.) Rec Center does not have enough volunteers. Someone needs to run the popcorn maker and someone needs to run and check the cards. Craig offered to do the popcorn. Stacey also volunteered to help. 7 dessert volunteer donations.

Teacher Appreciation Week / School Lunch Hero Day Wrap-up
Received great praise and appreciation. Will revisit about costs and what to repeat.

Recess Materials, Indoor Kits & Pallet Offer: Wendy

Tools for Schools offers points from Price Chopper; Ilona noted some things boring, such as colored paper, but they have playground balls, which is exciting. Also we have colored chalk to offer for the recess bins. Not heard back from the \$50 palette person in CT. Will keep trying.

NEW BUSINESS

6th Grade Trip to Boston

Typically pay for lunch; now at \$6.25 per student (\$100). Trip is June 10th. In the past, was \$5 or \$6. Fully approved and agreed to support again.

Colonial Encampment

Friday, May 20 – Sunday, May 22 1700s Colonial Soldier Reenactment by *Ye Old Lebanon Militia*

All on schedule. Handicap size porta-potty arriving Wednesday after school. Open to public both Saturday and Sunday, 10–4 pm. Saturday night, it reopens at 8 pm with a Candlelight Tour.

Just an idea, throwing it out there: Chris has no time to organize, cook and sell hotdogs out front of school, but if anyone wants to take this volunteer effort on, please contact Chris. Mark DeCelle donated his grill, but he is already committed and cannot cook. Also an opportunity to set up a table to get people to sign-up for the PTA. Suggestion to find 4th and 5th Graders to help assist, to help supplement Nature's Classroom; if interested in organizing this, please do. Suggestion that someone from the Otis Rec Center might be interested, as part of getting out info about the Rec Center to the community.

Field Day

The dunking tank is filled the night before; Tom will ask if Fire Dept will come and fill. New water pump is not yet in, so we must rely on outside help. Mark is aware of everything and will handle Field Day details. Tom said we will actually have a cookout this year, with a cooker provided by Mr. Sa-loomey, instead of eating indoors in the cafeteria. Also, Star is working to see if we could have a special surprise. The 6th Grade made a request for tie-dyed T-shirts, rather than just grey; Laura Catullo has the setup for tie-dying, and students and staff will receive their tie-dye shirts. As long as Laura is up for it, suggested to keep as a tradition for the future. Dawn suggested we might like a live broadcast for Field Day on WSBS for approximately \$600; will double-check fee. Mrs. Costa and Miss Lynch were interviewed recently to discuss Farmington River, courtesy of Dawn's brainchild.

Ice Cream Social

June 21 is last day of school, so will look to schedule the week before. Usually between noon–2, and arrive to help scoop. Wendy will confirm date and send out a Signup Genius.

BOGO Book Fair

May 31 – June 3, will be open until 1 pm on Field Day for parents who want to shop on Field Day. New selection purchased by Scholastic Dollars from Book Fair. Had \$1,300–\$1,400 to spend; Becky Bliven and Rachel Cannon's list was only for approximately \$800. Mary Turo is working with teachers to see if any teachers have curriculum needs. Might be an expiry.

PTA End of Year Luncheon

Tom will cover the office, while the PTA has its traditional luncheon; we will discuss via email.

Fall Fundraiser Ideas

Usually, the PTA board will meet and discuss mid-summer. Wendy will assign point persons to assist with delegating details.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:15 pm