



## Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2020

**DRAFT** - To be reviewed and approved at September meeting

### (6:38 PM) Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance

### Special Reports

- **Harrison PTSA** - Reported by Chris Rostek. All of the teachers at Harrison are great, the new students will love them. Chris is trying to get T-shirts with Class of 2027, instead of HMS so the students will get more wear out of them. She will also try and get a size bigger. She sent a design to Jess. The step-up dance is TBD, it will probably be closer to fall. There is a Facebook page for the Harrison PTSA so please join if you have a fifth grader going to HMS. IF you have any questions or comments, please contact her or Kelly Bischoff.
- **Lego Club** - Reported by Dave Green. The school year ended with only one group of first graders. Jessica Eckert and Dave talked and thought it might be a good idea to try a virtual Lego Club for first graders, although it will be opened up to all of MES. The idea was proposed to Mrs. Wessel. They would try to do different projects, once a week, in a private Facebook Group that way the kids would be able to participate even though they aren't coming to school. Many parents did not request refunds, so Dave/Jessica wanted to do something for them. They will start reaching out to the families originally registered for first grade to see if they would be interested and what the feedback is. There is a concern, that, some of the students may not have Legos at home. They do not need to go out and specially buy Legos, they are thinking of challenges that include something like building bridges. They would send the invite to parents, and the parents can post a video or picture of the kids' creation on the site. There might be an opportunity for some kind of zoom call with all of the kids to interact with each other. Details are being worked out. In regard to kindergarten, they had a challenging time building their name in 3d letters, so Dave is going to try and create instructions to make it easier. Thank you to the 42 families that donated their refunds back to Lego Club.

### Secretary's Report

- April Minutes read and approved.

**Motion to approve made by Amy Barnhart, 2nd by Laura Benesetelli. Approved by all.**

### Treasurer's Report

- Reviewed Treasurer's Report
- Balance of \$73,162.51 as of 3/31/20
- Balance of \$71,757.52 as of 4/30/20

**Motion to pay bills made by Stella Eperthener, 2nd by Carolyn Page. Approved by all.**

### Building Reports

- **MES** – reported by Mrs. Wessel. She thanked the PTO for all of the wonderful teacher appreciation gestures that were done this week. She has received so much feedback regarding the sign outside of MES. It put the teachers and her, in tears, as they miss the kids so much. Thank you to Allison Pascarella for personally dropping off the cards for the teachers. Some of the teachers were in the building and they were blown away and so very

appreciative. MES and the school district are working on plans to finalize the year and working on getting students personal materials collected for distribution. They are actively planning kindergarten recognition and first grade step up for leaving MES. There are so many parameters put in place for social distancing so, they don't know what that is going to look like yet. Mrs. Wessel thanks everyone for their patience with the online learning. It throws curve balls at the staff and in turn, at the parents so she thanks all of the parents for their support. Miss Anderson stated they miss everyone, and the sign is just beautiful. Ms. Ussia stated it was such a lovely surprise and they appreciate everyone and of all the parent's cooperation with the distance learning that is continuing to evolve. Mrs. Wessel thanked Margaret Mahoney for coming up with a great idea in regard to community hero's day. They would pair a student with a community hero, and they could write letters to each other. Margaret shared the idea with the teachers. Thanks, Margaret, for all of your hard work, you are doing an amazing job!

- **WES** – reported by Mrs. Newberry. She thanked everyone of the gift cards and a lot of the teachers will get their cards when they come into the building. She is looking forward to seeing the sign and she is excited for it to come over to WES. WES is working on getting the kids items collected also as the teachers are going through their classrooms. They are in the process of having some conversations about what they could do with 5<sup>th</sup> grade recognition since they are missing out on their last moments in the building. She thanks all the parents for all they are doing.

### Presidents Report

- In regard to the funds for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders, the bylaws state they have to be used for the fifth graders. They will not have a field trip and we don't know what next year is going to look like. The board came up with three ideas and could send out a survey to the 5<sup>th</sup> graders and they could vote. The ideas are as follows:
  - Memory gift- T-shirt and another gift
  - Metal water bottle, locker lock & earbuds
  - School supplies- binders, notebooks, etc.

The board is asking for a motion to spend the 5<sup>th</sup> grade funds now instead of waiting to see if a field trip is possible.

**Motion made by Amy Barnhart, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Courtney Brown. Approved by all.**

A survey will go out asap to all 5<sup>th</sup> teachers to get pushed out to the students so they can choose.

- The current slate for new PTO officers is Laura Benestelli for President and Eleanor Wilson for Treasurer. There are two VP positions open, Volunteer Coordinator & Secretary. If any one is interested, they can run from the floor. The meeting moved forward with a vote in for the new officers' positions for Laura & Eleanor.

### Committee Reports

- **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball**- reported by Tammy McWilliams. Tammy is working on the t-shirts, its difficult with the social distancing in place. Allison Pascarella deposited the checks today, 5/4/20.
- Tammy said the shirt place is still called and there is nothing we can do to have it with social distancing in place. Allison deposited checks today.
- **Munchie Mouth**- reported by Lauren Nort. Lauren is working on finalizing her book and amounts of money she needs to deposit. She will turn those over to Allison and she has an inventory of items left over. She is asking for a motion to donate those items to SHIM.

**Motion made by Amanda Lakomy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Amy Barnhart. Approved by all.**

- **Pencil Machine**—reported by Rhaina Immekus. Not much to share, she gave all the checks to Allison and she would like to keep the Pencil Machine committee for next year.
- **Pool Party**- reported by Allyson Green. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade video is completed. It is an hour long and a huge thank you to Amy Barnhart who supplied the pictures and the parents who sent the emails with the pictures. Amy Barnhart stated the Memory Book is almost completed, she has to put it together and get it printed. The gym bags for the

gifts have been shipped. They are scheduled to be delivered to Jess Eckert's house. As far as an actual pool party is concerned, even though the funds are being spent, the PTO would still sponsor the event if the pools are able to open safely.

- **Read-a-Thon-** reported by Laura Benestelli. Unfortunately, this event got cut short and Eleanor and Laura would like to thank all of the kids, students, parents, teachers, etc. for all of their generous support. Although the million minutes goal was not met, the students read 535,510 minutes. The event made \$14,515 and the PTO will receive 75%, which is \$10,886.25. They will come in two separate payments of \$8,709 and \$2,177.25. Prizes were shipped May 1 and are going straight to Eleanor. She will get in contact with the principals to arrange a date and time when they can be safely distributed.
- **Staff Appreciation-** reported by Jess Eckert. Jess met with the committee chairs and discussed ideas. Amanda Lakomy stated they thought about combining funds for both schools and giving the teachers gift cards. Allison purchased and delivered the gift cards to the school. Jess is going to put together a slideshow. If you would like to thank a teacher, please put the staff members name and mail to [mewepto@gmail.com](mailto:mewepto@gmail.com). The PTO decided the sign that is at MES will be moved to WES the last half of the week. We want all the teachers to know how much the kids miss them.
- **MES Yearbook-** reported by Lauren Huwalt. There is a lot of pressure due to the pandemic. There is not a set date, but they should be sent out in late June. She will organize a safe distribution following whatever guidelines are in place at that time. under a lot of pressure due to pandemic, date for yearbooks to be sent out in late June, then she will organize a safe distribution following whatever guidelines are in place at that time.
- **WES Yearbook** – reported by Amy Barnhart. She is planning distribution for early June and will set something up for distribution.
- **Additional Comments by the President** – She would like all of the committee chairs to keep their folders and Laura will coordinate with you. Please let Jess know if you want to keep your committee for next year. Each committee chair gets two years. Carolyn Page will handle book distribution again, Dave Green will chair Lego Club and Rhaina Immekus will be the chair for WES yearbook.

**Motion to adjourn made by Carolyn Page**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by Amy Barnhart**

**7:26 PM Adjournment**