**PTG Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, 1/22 @ 9:30pm | Willard Elementary School**

***Attendance:*** *Kristen Lester, Kaitlyn Whittier, Bryn Hilts, Matt Lucey, Amy Casher, Jamie Ring, Laura Bulino, Tracy DeTora, Jeanne Fahey, Dan Rodriguez, KC Camp, Robin Baughman, Reem Alzahabi, Emily Perez, Liz McKneely, Diana Abata, Darcy Heintz Perkins,*

**Principal Update** - Matt Lucey

Today is halfway day. Kindergarten registration is kicking off, right now last day of school is June 12th pending snow days. We all received a message last week from Dr. Hunter regarding absenteeism. Often times, these absences have to do with needing family time or illness/health related. The state is making in person learning a priority and is targeting underperforming schools in particular. Will be reaching out to families with students on track for potential higher rate of absenteeism in a thoughtful way.

We will be invited to complete a survey related to the district’s 5 year plan.

Mr. Fiandaca’s class will be presenting at the school committee meeting Tuesday 1/23 about responsive classroom efforts. Will be coordinating with middle school on Celtics playbook initiative. Give a primer to rising 5th graders so they are aware of the effort.

Will be offering breakfast menus daily 8:40-9 for students who may need a healthy meal in the morning. Free, same guidelines for ordering (ahead of time). Will be overlapping with the before school program so will need to cover participants during that 8:40-9am window.

Working on getting a guest speaker for students and parents around impact of screen time for 4th and 5th grade. More details will be provided. School sustainability efforts are underway. School advisory committee will be meeting this week, two kindergarten parents are the Willard members.

**Presidents' Update** - Kristin Lester/Kaitlyn Whittier

Family game night (Wednesday 1/24). Volunteers are needed for set up, run event, hand out prizes. Many fun events coming up:

February 5th Orange Theory Fundraiser- *Willard parents event- don’t need to be a member. Social time afterwards. Up to 25 participants. $30 donation).*

Math Night March 29th

Science Fair April 6th

Spring Fling May 19th

International Fair Sunday April 28th (1-3pm)

 ***PTG Committee Updates***

**Green Sustainability Committee:**KC Camp

Proposal was made for what this committee could do to encourage sustainable behaviors and learning at Willard. KC has been meeting along with other school representatives with Priscilla Guinney (Green initiatives coordinator). Setting this as a formal committe within PTG will help keep it going. KC and Alison Green are committed to kicking off the committee but are looking for 2-3 more people. Meeting attendees voted on the creation of this committee (Robin sets motion, Jamie seconds, all vote to approve). Question about engaging students more in this and possibility of a club will be discussed at a later date.

**International Festival:**Jeanne Fahey

6th annual event coming up. Gives a voice to international families or people who just want to showcase a country/region/culture of interest. Biggest event at Willard in terms of participation. Typically there are approximately 20 tables. Food area, display area, performance/arts area but don’t have to do all 3. How can we make this more inclusive? Alcott hosts a Cultural Kaleidoscope based off Willard’s events. Thinking about changing the name so people realize anyone can participate. Would like to encourage more families to participate and funding can be an option if that would help families to prepare for it. Doesn’t have to be a country, could be a state/region. Will discuss with Mr. Lucey. Please consider participating – you can represent a country, state, region etc…

**Treasurer’s Report**- Kristen Lester (reporting for Colleen Currier)-

We reached our Annual Appeal Goal!! Currently at $34,200. Received funds from box tops, picture day, and school supplies. Expenses include teacher classroom reimbursements, folding table purchase (we now own tables instead of needing to rent for larger events), school assemblies, author visits.

**Willard Wear** - Bryn Hilts

Using a new vendor (Tricon) this year and have created a website. Can do a 2 week fundraiser where we push the items and everything gets shipped at once. Discount comes with a bulk order hence why we are moving to this option. Will consider a spirit day to encourage purchases-more to come.

**Enrichment Update**- Amy Casher

3rd grade Plimoth Pawtuxet visit to Willard was cancelled due to illness so third grade is going to skip this event. 1st grade had sound program from Acton Discovery Museum which was excellent and teacher feedback indicated it fit better with the curriculum than previous enrichment events.

**Communications**- Laura Bulino

Reminder that blast communications should be sent to weekly@willardptg.org atleast one week in advance to when we need them sent out and submissions to the Weekly can also be sent to that address by end of day Tuesday for inclusion in that Thursday’s newsletter.

*Meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM*