



WILLARD PTG

Communication | Enrichment | Community

Willard PTG Meeting

May 3, 2021

Attendance

Janet King, Liz Colgan, Rebecca Lemaitre, Colleen Currier, Tracy DeTora, Jamie Ring, Samantha Jaddou, Susannah Benner, Darcy Heintz-Perkins, Meagan MacNutt, Sydney Pressley, Matt Lucey, Candace Root, Robin Baughman, Kristen Avini

President's Welcome & Recap (Janet King)

- April minutes were approved and are now posted on the [PTG website](#)
- Town-wide PTGs hosted a meeting update on CMS, including a best-case scenario for the new building's date of completion: January 6, 2025.
- Teachers loved the idea of an all-school Art Book, but decided it is too much to take on for the end of the year. Thank you to Sydney, Candace, and Susannah for help with the project!
- The new playground musical equipment will be a type of drum, likely installed next year. Thank you Candace Root for the research into this great new feature.
- PTG website now features a New Families page with information/FAQ.
- 3 remote teachers were given Global Kids activity cards for their classes.
- Liz Colgan reviewed the insurance policy for next year.
- PTG sent flowers and condolences to 3rd grade teacher Nancy Tracy after the loss of a family member.

Principal & Teacher Update (Matt Lucey & Sydney Pressley)

- MCAS are scheduled for late May/early June for grades 3, 4 and 5, including remote students. Parents can opt not to have their child(ren) participate. Matt points out that Willard has progress-monitored all year and is in a good place in that regard.



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- Bike to School will be held Thursday, May 6 with the aid of the Concord Police Department.
- Another new family has just registered, as more families continue to move in. Matt extends a thank you to the PTG for always welcoming families parent to parent.
- Over 80% of students are participating in COVID-testing pools, exceeding the initial goal, as well as almost 100% staff. All protocols will remain in place through the end of the year.
- A thank you to Robin Baughman and Lauren Endicott for the “embarrassment of riches” to occur this Teachers Appreciation Week
- Special Education Awards will be presented Thursday May 6 at CCHS, including a number of Willard staff receiving awards.
- Janet asks if there are any retiring staff, but not this year. One teacher will transfer full-time to Thoreau, meaning Willard will have one new hire.
- Janet asks about incoming kindergarten families; names can be shared with the PTG for upcoming events such as the August popsicle party.
- Wednesdays will remain the half-day for the next academic year
- Sydney echoes appreciation on the part of the teachers for everything going on this week!

Social Committee (Darcy Heintz-Perkins)

- Parent socials for grades K-2 occurred just before break. Darcy reports a great time; small groups were a nice chance to chat and for trivia. Thank you Darcy and Meagan for organizing!

Talent Show (Rebecca Lemaitre)

- A huge thank you to Alex Ruhmann for putting together the presentation. This year was a unique opportunity for new kinds of acts, including more young students and art displays. The team hopes to include a filmed segment moving forward.
- Meagan asks about the link for those who missed the show, which will be distributed in the upcoming Willard Weekly.



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Staff appreciation (Robin Baughman)

- The week kicked off with chalk art by Lauren Endicott and her daughter. Also to come:
 - Tuesday snack cart w/ grab-and-go snacks in Teacher's Lounge
 - Wednesday make-your-own flower bouquet with flowers and a cupcake table, weather permitting
 - Thursday coffee and treat cart
 - Friday ideas generated by room parents
- Bus drivers will be honored on May 19 with: a sign and cards that students make in their classrooms; a Dunkin' gift card and munchkins; and customized bus key chains. Tracy asks if this includes crossing guards – yes!
- Administrative Professionals' Day occurred over spring break; staff were honored with a lunch of their choice.
- End of year plans for the teachers are TBA, tentatively including boxed lunch from a local provider.
- Nurses Appreciation Week is May 6-12; Ann Thornley wonders if we can honor Patsy Sullivan, and the committee will brainstorm.

Room Parents (Tracy DeTora)

- All plans for Teacher Appreciation Week have been communicated to the classrooms
- Updates on end-of-year gift giving will go out soon

Willard Weekly & Website (Sam Jaddou)

- There is now a digital form for requesting checks from the Treasurer which will automatically forward to treasurer's email account. Thank you to Sam for creating this!
- No updates on Facebook/social accounts for the PTG

Treasurer's Report/Annual Appeal (Colleen Currier)

- Colleen, Liz, and Janet will present next year's budget at the June PTG meeting



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- 2 additional Annual Appeal checks came in; a few teacher expenses were paid

School Photo Day (Meagan MacNutt)

- This year will look different with no parental involvement: 4 photographers, outside and under tents if it rains.
- Photographers meet at 7.45 to set up; remote students arrive at 8.30 for photos
- Classes begin arriving at 9.20 in 20-minute intervals. The group decides it makes the most sense for teachers to go in by grade instead of choosing their time slot.
- More than likely there will be no retake day; 5th grade orders will be rushed for the yearbook

5th Grade Committee (Susannah Benner)

- Service day is Tuesday May 4; PTG will cover the cost for any extra supplies
- Dr. Hunter has approved the plan for the following Celebration:
 - Tuesday June 1: 5th grade Field Day
 - Thursday June 10: School spirit event, which will involve wearing something school-related
 - Friday June 11: On-site outdoor celebration with four stations to rotate through and ice cream delivery.
 - Monday June 14: Yearbooks delivered and signed; each student will have his or her own pen
 - Tuesday June 15: Student speeches shown over Zoom, meaning more family members can watch this year. Susannah will provide a slideshow with photos as part of this – thank you Susannah!
 - Wednesday June 16: Modified COVID-friendly clap-out will include students exiting the building to the parking lot. Kristen asks if 5th grade family members (2 per student) can be outside their car – yes!
- Susannah expresses gratitude on the part of the whole committee toward teachers for getting yearbook submissions etc. Meagan suggests a Dropbox that follows each grade from K to 5 to eliminate tracking photos down, in the future.



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New Business

- Janet presents the nominees for next year's Board, to be posted in the Willard Weekly and voted on at the June meeting
 - Co-Presidents: Liz Colgan & Rebecca Lemaitre
 - Vice President: Robin Baughman
 - Treasurer: Colleen Currier
 - Secretary: Jamie Ring
- Liz provides update on Committee Chairs for 2021-2022, including
 - Book fair: Darcy H-P and Jamie Ring
 - Family Game Night: Deborah Gilmore and Cayla Barnett
 - Pajama Jam: Tracy deTora and Sarah Schulsinger.
 - Positions still open include: Spelling Bee, Raffle, Silent Auction, Talent Show. Please spread the word!
- In the past, all volunteers have been honored with a party and PTG is looking for a way to honor this year and last year's volunteers. Rebecca suggests a gift giving parents a moment of "self-care"; Candace suggests personalized Willard cookies. Final decision TBD.

****Next meeting**** June 7, 2021, 9.30 a.m., Zoom