



WILLARD PTG

Communication | Enrichment | Community

Willard PTG Meeting

October 19, 2020

Attendance

Janet King, Liz Colgan, Sydney Pressley, Matt Lucey, Alex Ruhmann, Tracy DeTora, Susannah Benner, Yumi Suarez, Colleen Currier, Janice Moritz, Sarah Bettencourt, Hazel Thompson, Darcy Heintz-Perkins, Candace Root, Sam Jaddou, Sarah Bulibwa, swathi

Welcome & Recap (Janet King)

- Janet welcomes everyone to the first evening meeting, Board member introductions
- September minutes were approved and posted
- Willard Wear will soon have masks available in a variety of colors
- The PTG volunteer sign up page went live, and we have 10 new vols already
- Janet and Liz attended the monthly virtual PTG meeting with superintendent Dr. Hunter
- Concord Rec needed more space in the cafeteria so PTG materials were moved to a newly purchased storage rack in the basement (thanks to Mr. Sweeney!)
- PTG Teacher Fund Letters were sent to teachers/staff letting them know the details of our donations to them this year; Matt Lucey used some of his Teacher Fund for zip-top bags that kids can use to keep laptops dry.
- New families to the district received gift bags



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Principal & Teacher Update (Matt Lucey, Sydney Pressley)

- A letter went out to the school detailing what fully-remote learning might look like. This is not because any threat is imminent, but Mr. Lucey reminded us we cannot be complacent. Kids are masking throughout the day, washing hands regularly and it's working!
- The computers have enabled the community to access remote learning with equal access. Mr. Lucey highlighted traditions that have been able to continue like Classroom Buddies, even if physically distanced.
- Collaboration with the town has been extraordinary e.g. Fire Department to perform remote safety training this year; DPW for parking at White Pond; Concord Rec for afternoon program
- Ms. Pressley adds that staff are happy to be back in-person and the amazing feeling of being with kids face-to-face. Parent support has been wonderfully appreciated

Fundraising (Susannah Benner)

- Pinwheels launched this week and have already sold 165 out of 500, including 90 in front of the school. Susannah takes a picture of any with a teacher's name and sends it their way.
- Initiative launched with Shutterfly, Minted, and Tiny Prints. Details on PTG website
- Discussion of putting Amazon Smile info on PTG home page
- Directory ads brought in \$2,100

Willard Weekly/Website (Sam Jaddou)

- There are currently 510 subscribers to Willard weekly with about a 50% open rate.



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- Idea is floated to have a shared Editorial Calendar of events/dates. Consensus is that a similar calendar existed in the past and was extremely helpful. Thank you Sam for spear-heading this!

Book Fair (Darcy Heintz-Perkins)

- The virtual Book Fair is underway this week. There are fewer titles available but we have great quality vs. quantity
- The same percentage as last year's vendor (roughly 25%) will go back to Willard. Tracy Breen is identifying students/families in need of financial support

Directory (Candace Root)

- Being printed today and will go home in backpacks to those who have purchased soon.
- Remote families are able to contact Candace through email to receive their copy.
- Front office will place copies in a child's backpack as payments come in, after this initial round of printing. Thank you to Sherry Loiselle and Alison Corwin!
- Sydney mentions that teachers can add items like Directory sales or Pinwheels in their weekly newsletters to parents. Room Parents can coordinate when such information would be helpful.

Annual Appeal (Yumi Suarez)

- The Annual Appeal letter has been written and approved and will be mailed out next week. Thank you to Yumi and Angela Lindenmuth!

Room Parents (Tracy deTora)



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- There is only one spot left to fill for Ms. Alex's class, as well as vacancies for all of the Remote learning groups. Matt Lucey will help provide class lists/remote parent lists.

International Festival (Rebecca Lemaitre)

- Event will be Feb. 22-27. Each weeknight will feature a Zoom on a special topic (recipes, musical performance), culminating in a live two-hour event on Sat. Feb 27.
- A keynote speaker may address parents one night during the festival to further engage the adult community, not just students

Talent Show (Alex Ruhmann)

- Event date is April 30; move into the spring means kids who want to do an act together can wear masks and be 6 feet apart outside
- Families can be involved this year, not just students, but student still needs to be the star of the act
- Same safety rules and policies that apply at school will apply to all talent show acts; anything unsafe will be disqualified
- Question comes up of having equity for all student acts. The committee is looking for someone with editing/video skills to help balance sound & video quality among all entries. CCHS might have a student who can help
- Show has been renamed the Variety Show
- 5th graders can be MCs in between acts this year since they don't have usual opportunities like stage crew.
- Question comes up of concern for online privacy issues; Sam points out there is password protected option. Further details TBD

Social Committee (Darcy Heintz-Perkins)



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- Committee chairs are hopeful events can happen but it's still hard to know what the year is going to look like. Thank you to Darcy and Meagan for staying on top of it!

Treasurer's Report (Colleen Currier)

- Money has come in through Directory sales, Pinwheels, and Annual Appeal.
- Outstanding bills from spring have been paid

New Business – Janet King

- Drive thru Halloween has been organized by Concord Rec. Volunteers are needed for the Willard Table.
- Picture Day will be May 13
- Field Day will be June 1-3
- No November Board meeting

****Next Meeting**** December 7, 9.30 a.m., Zoom