



Sargent PTO
Meeting #1
September 9 2024

General Assembly Minutes

Presiding: Ryan Biracree
Minutes: Laina Mason

1. Meeting preview (2 minutes) and welcome:
 - a. Review of agenda items
 - b. Introductions of attendees
 - c. Review of the function of the PTO, explanation of “Membership”, events and volunteer opportunities
 - i. Highlight of needing the most volunteers for Field Day
 - d. Directing families to the revamped PTO website with volunteer tab
2. PTO Updates
 - a. Scholastic Book Fair 9/16-9/20 : Need volunteer signups
 - b. Back to School Night 9/18 : Need volunteer signups for Book Fair also
 - i. Elise and Catie are Co-Chairs for Book Fair
 - ii. Book Fair the night of “Back to School Night” will open a little early at 5:30pm
 - iii. There will be childcare provided in the gym by the Varsity Boys and Girls Soccer teams, \$5 per student and pre-registration required
 - c. Holiday Shoppe - PTO will be organizing the entire event this year
 - d. Trunk or Treat, October 18th (rain date 25th)
 - i. There is a form on the website you can fill out to do a trunk for the event, with theme etc.
 - ii. Will need volunteers for the event as well as candy donations
 - e. Panera (Fishkill) Fundraiser September 12th, 4-8pm
 - f. Planning for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, all of October
 - i. Last year we joined the “On Wednesday’s we wear pink” initiative
 - ii. Fake tattoos as well, donated by Audrey
 - iii. Oct 13th is National Metastatic Breast Cancer day, the day to ensure kids wear the tattoo, they will go home in backpacks
 - iv. Can add an option for parents to donate to a foundation to support orgs e.g. Miles of Hope (comment from Erin G)
 1. Potential project for the Student Leadership Team as well
 - g. Picture Day, September 27th
 - i. Need volunteers; Chaired by Emily Hare and Jenet will join to co-chair this event going forward



- h. Thanksgiving Luncheon: no date set, committee of teachers organize this
 - i. A yearly luncheon for local seniors to attend and the kids serve them
 - ii. PTO helps support the costs along with donations from local businesses
- i. Openings for Event and Committee Chairs
 - 1. *Chairs help plan these events, being the “go to” person with support from the PTO Board around all logistics
 - ii. Teacher Appreciation Week (spring semester)
 - iii. Spirit Wear (would like to formalize a committee on this)
 - iv. Camp Sargent (End of Year and PRIDE party)
 - v. Recruitment Committee Co-Chair
 - vi. Bingo Night
 - vii. Spring Fling
 - viii. Arts & Crafts Night
 - ix. Trivia (DONATIONS)
- j. 5th Grade Committee (Laina, Miranda, Audrey, Erin, Shayla)
- 3. Sam from Land to Learn
 - a. Garden Teacher at Sargent
 - b. Land to Learn is a non-profit that partners with the school, provides garden time /sprouted for K-2
 - c. Kindergarten is 1x a month, 1-2 it's every two weeks for one hour sessions
 - d. The kids learn how to plant seeds, harvest and prepare the food
 - e. Promotes math, literacy and eating a lot of vegetables
 - f. Piloting 3-5th in another elementary school, and hoping to bring that to Sargent next year as well
 - g. Merch available as well
- 4. Teachers' Report - N/A
- 5. Principal's Report
 - a. Had a successful back to school event to welcome new kindergarteners, including a new Sargent T Shirt for each incoming student
 - b. There are new t-shirts available at the main office as well
 - c. New Sargent mascot, Astronaut being personalized by Mrs. Silverman, named “Sarg”
 - i. Need a parent to volunteer to wear this at the Spirit of Beacon Day Parade
 - d. Pre-K started today
 - e. Library still under construction and open this Thursday 9/12 for students
 - f. Library is now also a “Special” which will be in addition to their other specials
 - g. Mrs Ferrara has written a new curriculum to implement in the new learning space
 - h. Also building in “flex time” in the library so kids can use the “makers space” during indoor recess
 - i. Question around getting a 3D printer for the maker space; Ms. Biordi sharing that it's currently not functioning adequately
 - ii. Potential PTO and Technology dept project?
 - i. School purchased Osmose for coding for younger kids
 - j. There is also a lifesized chess board for the kids to use during recess
 - k. Today was the start of the Positivity Project, with the first introduced trait
 - i. Character education program, nationwide and about 600 school partner with it



- ii. Founder coming to visit the school this Friday 9/13
- iii. 10 minutes a day teachers bring P2 lessons, with a different trait every week following the national calendar
- iv. There will be a star of the week award for students who exhibit the Trait of the Week and Character Honor Roll Assemblies divided by junior and senior school, at a different frequency than last year and will invite the parents to the school-wide assembly
- v. Every teacher has also been trained in Responsive Classroom which includes a Morning Meeting at the start of each day
- vi. Jack McMellin designed the cover of the planners for this year, which include Positivity Project themes
- vii. We also want to become a “Green Shield” school, and having school mission that aligns with the project is a key component
- viii. All 4 elementary schools and RMS will eventually become part of the PP
- ix. Parent Teacher Communicator Folders; you can also check the QR code for the “virtual backpack” to get all forms that were physically sent
- x. School is still doing the Morning News, will be starting it up and 5th graders will be doing it
- xi. New ELA program for 3-5th grade as well
- xii. Science 21 for the hands-on experiment based curriculum
- xiii. iReady Math and Eureka Math curriculums
- xiv. Special Persons Breakfast schedule will go out soon, first one for Kindergarten will be first Friday in November
- xv. Upcoming Field Trips
 - 1. 4th Grade 18-19th Clearwater Sail
 - 2. 2x2 Zoo for PreK-2nd grade
 - 3. 3-5th to HS end of Sept. for Speed Painter assembly
 - 4. Central Hudson comes for an Incursion Energy Assembly
 - 5. Rhinebeck PAC coming to Wizard of Oz performance for K-2
- xvi. Turkey Trot November 9th - event fundraiser for the PTO, 5k event that's open to the public, plus a kids fun run
 - 1. Please sign up on the runner's sign up for kids and adults
- xvii. Student Council also does food donations for the local Fareground food pantry at this event

- 6. Open Discussion / Follow Up
 - a. Questions about Chromebooks
 - b. Gratitude for tshirts for all kindergarteners