

**William M. Strong PTO Meeting
November 8, 2017 at 7:00 pm**

Board Members Present: President - Lauren Marino, Secretary - Lisa Gelada, Treasurer - Steph Staszewski, VP Fundraising - Maritza Nadeau, VP Clubs & Activities - Leanne Kennedy, VP Communications - Kathleen Titsworth, Angelique Bilodeau - Co-President ex-officio

Principal: Melissa Barbuto

Teachers: Karin Carey, Leslie Petro

Attendees: Danielle Gorski, Laura Prior, Elaina King, Jen MacCallum, Jessica DeMello, Jodi Clavette and Ashley DellaBitta,

1. Welcome: Introduction of Board Members & Attendees

2. Approval of October Minutes

Submitted and reported by Leanne Kennedy. Laura Prior moved to approve the minutes; Danielle Gorski seconded. Minutes approved without objection.

3. Principal Report

Ms. Barbuto reported that parent visitation day is November 15th from 9:15 - 10 AM. Parents will be able to observe the students during classroom activities.

5th grade committee meeting is scheduled for November 14th 6:30 - 7:30 PM.

Training for school website will start to move forward; teachers will trained at the next faculty meeting.

4. Teachers Report

Mrs. Carey reported that Running Club's last day of the season will be 11/9. Once the running club starts again in the Spring, they will offer 2 sessions, AM (before school starts) and PM (after school) which will be open to 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. The club will also be looking into participating a final mile celebration.

Ms. Petro reported that the school will participate in a whole school garden activity contest called Carton to Garden Contest. More info to follow.

5. Officers' Report

President: The electronic technology meeting, for parents only, that was held on October 23rd 6:30pm at Derynoski School was poorly attended, 6 families. A Strong School parent that attended said it was very informative. She suggested that maybe a webinar would be better so more families can participate from home. The Box Top contest was Ms. Irazabal class. She will receive \$50 to spend on the classroom and each student will receive a Box Top Spirit Stick. Congratulations to Mason from Mrs. Gowdy's class who was the top seller for Yankee Candle. Thank you to all the Book Fair volunteers for helping. Thank you to parent Wess Cogswell for taking the yearbook cover picture with a drone. PTO Board Members will attend a District wide PTO Board Meeting later this month. We will share the outcome/details in January.

6. Treasurer's Report

Steph Staszewski reported: Deposits: \$1,030.68, \$45.00, \$90.00, \$95.00, \$961.00. Payments: \$283 Roaring Brook Nature Center for K-2 assembly, \$320 Environmental Learning Center CT K field trip, \$509.72 Cardmembers Services (Ice Cream Social, Open House, School Store, Tea & Tissues), \$50.00 Mrs. Irazabal Box Top Winner, \$41.00 Lara Lewkowicz Fall Fundraiser refund, \$569.00 PTO Today Membership insurance, \$9.54 Lauren Marino Yearbook supplies, \$11.95 Carrie Brunalli Box Top mailings. Mrs. Carey moved to approve the budget. Jessica DeMello seconded. Budget approved without objection.

7. Committee Reports

A. Little Shoppers

This will be held 11/28-11/29. Students will be able to purchase items for holiday gifts. More info to follow.

B. Fundraisers

Fast Camp- Local summer camp sign ups will be coming in March. Every family who signs up at that time, Strong School will receive \$10 per family.

Lewis Farms Pies - Maritza Nadeau reported orders are due back on 11/9. The pie pick-up will be held on 11/17 between 5-6 PM in the school Community Room. Pies that are not picked up at that time will held at Lewis Farms.

Lewis Farms wreaths and poinsettias- Maritza Nadeau reported that we will be selling these. Order forms will go home next week. Pick-up will be on 12/7.

Amazon Smile- if you shop on Amazon please consider using AmazonSmile - the school will receive a percentage of sales.

Grocery Store rewards- So far 117 families signed up at Price Chopper, 9 families at Shoprite and 83 families at Stop & Shop. The families that sign up for Stop & Shop will need to register themselves one time. In the past, the school has earned over \$1,000.

Disney on Ice- an email has been sent out on available discount tickets. This is not a fundraiser.

Splash- Doing well. There are 2 upcoming houses to SPLASH. Splash will continue until the first snowfall.

Scrip Gift Cards- Purchase gift cards for full value and the company will give a % back to the school. The order will be filled on sent home in backpacks on 11/20.

C. Cultural Arts

Roaring Brook- they did an assembly for K-2nd grade on 10/19. The program was about animal adaptation. We will resume Cultural Arts events in January/February.

D. Clubs

Drama Club: Leanne Kennedy reported that she has reached to Chris Palmieri to get prices for mics and mic packs. The PTO will purchase these for the drama club by the end of January. Anticipated cost: \$3,000.

Ski Club: There will be a mandatory meeting on 11/13 6-7 PM. Carrie Mcdougall is the contact.

8. Communications

Kathleen Titsworth reported that the school website has an updated PTO section, which includes meeting minutes, important dates and PTO meeting dates. The Facebook page for the PTO continues to be up and running

Meeting adjourned

Next PTO meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2018