



Winooski PTO Meeting Notes Wednesday, February 16, 2022

WSD Priorities: 1. Literacy; 2. Capital Project (playground and staff appreciation);
3. Parent/Community Education around Restorative Justice

Attendees: Laura Lee, Kate Simone, Lucy D'Aponte, Arica Bronz, Amelie Thurston

Welcome/Introductions

- Welcome everyone and introductions
 - Name, pronouns, anything else you'd like the group to know
 - Check-in question: What is something you're looking forward to next week?

Land Acknowledgement

"The PTO would like to acknowledge that we meet in community on Abenaki land. Our city of Winooski reminds us with its Abenaki name, "land of the wild onion" of the indigenous people that lived and stewarded the land of Vermont long before the Europeans arrived in North America. It is with respect and gratitude that we work towards practices of cultural equity to benefit current and future generations."

Arica read the land acknowledgment.

Timekeeper: Amelie

Agreements:

- We agree that the PTO's work reflects the dynamic and changing needs of our school district (children, families, teachers, and staff).
- We agree to communicate with kindness and listen with the intent of understanding.
- We agree to respect each other's time.
- We agree that our voices and behavior as members of the PTO represent our school district.

Secretary's Report

- January 2021 Meeting Minutes
- ***The group approved the January meeting minutes.***

Treasurer's Report

- January 2021

Revenue

Interest from banks	\$ 0.04
Concession	\$ 413.09

Expenses

Bank Fees	\$ 5.00
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Misc. (office supplies)	\$ 33.71
Boosters (concessions)	\$1625.00
Annual Donation (Winooski Baseball)	\$ 89.00
KN95 Masks	\$1626.40
Funds Requests	\$ 285.74
Gifts/Teacher and Staff Appreciation	\$ 566.59

Cash Balance at end of period **\$50,552.71**

- ***The group approved the treasurer's report for January.***

Committees

- Fundraising – ***Gofundme update. Amelie needs bank account info. "Non-profit" name ends up pulling up "Parent Boosters (Section Winooski PTO)." She will tweak and send around to the officers before sharing and posting to FB.***
- Inclusion and Outreach – ***Kate C-S in a 2/16 email offered to schedule a meeting. soon-ish.***
- Teacher/Staff Support
 - [Event calendar](#):
 - ***Dates are not set, teachers don't yet have this list.***
 - ***Can we post the link for sign up to FB and FPF? We can also email folks individually.***
 - ***Laura could prepare sign-up genius or equivalent (Doodlebug), including list of all dates and general description and allow people to sign up.***
 - ***Should we give teachers and staff the opportunity to sign up for events like this in the future? Should we highlight certain local restaurants on a rolling basis?***
 - ***Note: We will likely need to vote on future expenditures, as we're close to exceeding our budgeted amount. UPDATE: Group voted on a March 6 email to approve an additional \$3,000 for teacher/staff support.***
 - ***2/27 (4-5): Laura, Amelie, and Arica can meet next to sort some more things out.***
 - FEBRUARY:
 - 2/28 – Grab and go meal
 - Papa Franks is not able to help with this event.
 - Laura has a meeting tomorrow with the folks from Three Brothers to see if they are willing to help out.
 - ***3 people would be good to have on site for this event (3-5). Laura and Lucy are available the afternoon of 2/28.***
 - ***Laura to contact 3 Brothers 2/17. Suggest gluten-free and vegan options.***
 - ***The logistics could be a bit challenging (getting to the school, where to put leftovers for other people to get the next day).***

- **Could we let people know ahead of time and suggest they bring their own containers from home?**
- MARCH:
 - 3/11 – Grab and go breakfast (City Market)
 - 3/28 – Hand written notes w/PTO logo
- APRIL:
 - 4/11 – Bulk seeds
- MAY:
 - 5/2 – Staff Appreciation Week
 - 5/30 – Nominate a Colleague
- JUNE:
 - 6/6 – Ben and Jerry’s ice cream truck
- Notes from meeting: [Teacher Staff Support Meeting Notes 1.30.22](#)
- Boosters
- Events

Previous Business

- [By-laws Review](#)
 - Next Steps – Revisit in March
 - Action Items
- Community Opportunity - Book Group (Kate Grodin and Kayla Loving) (**WSD Priority 3**)
 - [The Little Book of Restorative Justice](#) **ON HOLD**

New Business

- 8th grade move up dance (\$900 budget line item), tentative date for this year’s move up event/dance is June 14th. **Email from Amanda Spencer. We have the \$\$ budgeted for this. And we could be there to help.**

Funds Requests

- \$500 requested for Community Iftar (see below). **The group approved the funds request.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 16 (**NOTE: Due to conflict with a MS/HS band/orchestra/chorus concert, the group voted on a March 6 email to move the meeting to March 23.**)



Winooski School District PTO

Winooski School District PTO Request for Funds Form

Contact Person: Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver	Date: Jan. 26, 2022
Contact #/email: cmacleod-bluver@wsdvt.org	Grade(s) involved: 9-12
Nature of Request: Funds request	Number of Children Involved: 50-100
Amount of Request: \$500	Date Funds Needed: April 28, 2022
Check Payable to: Caitin MacLeod-Bluver	
Curriculum Connection: Honoring students' identities and backgrounds, celebrating students' cultures	

Please give a description of the request and explain how it will promote the welfare of our children in the school, home or community:

Last year, a group of students worked to organize our first ever Community Iftar during Ramadan. Due to Covid constraints, this was a virtual affair. Students received a bag of food to bring home and to eat during the zoom celebration. The event was a huge success, with more than 50 participants. The Community Iftar was a chance for Muslim identifying students to share what Islam means to them, why Ramadan is important, and what they want others to know about Ramadan. Non-Muslim guests were able to ask questions and learn from students and guest speakers about this important month.

This year, we hope to build on our success last year and our goal is to have the event in-person the week of April 25, 2022. Ramada is April 2-May 2, 2022. Sunset is around 7:50 pm. We anticipate the event would be from 7:30-8:30. Guests wil gather, our program will begin, Muslim guests can pray at sunset, and then the we will share iftar together.

Students wrote the following: Ramadan is the holiest month for Muslims. After fasting all day, we break our fast with Iftar. During the Iftar, students and community members will explain what Ramadan is and why it is important to Muslims. We will talk about the importance of Ramadan and Iftar and take any questions from people in the community. Anyone who wants to come to the Community Iftar can come. We will use these funds to buy food for the Iftar when we break our fast after sunset. This project will help our school community because many people in our community don't know much about Ramadan. This project will give people who don't know about Ramadan or about Islam the chance to learn more about our culture.