

Wheelock PTO Meeting Agenda

October 10th 2025

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions- Kevin Madden

Principal's Report- Kevin Madden

Treasurer's Report- Beth Rumul

ATTENDEES

- Beth Rumul
- Jen Richards
- Kevin Madden
- Ali Spidalieri
- Sophia Viglas
- Megan Goldberg
- Libby Eisenman
- Kayleigh Carrington
- Sunita Patolia
- Leah Ciccone
- Maria Newberg

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Busy Month: School picture, Rainbow Run, Assemblies, Plimoth Patuxet museum visit
- Oct 1 was deadline for staff to use Parent Square for communications
- Wayfinder pilot launched (social emotional curriculum). Will use at assemblies (piggyback with monthly spirit days)
 - o Staff meeting: TAs and specialists to use the language from wayfinder program
 - o Medfield spirit day went well – fun trivia games at the assembly

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Parents have asked re: Thank You Funds (people aren't using as much, donations come in through the summer when Room Parents haven't used all of their funds during the school year.) Teachers are using Amazon wishlists instead.
 - o \$2K balance
 - o Memorial collating all wish lists to share; also partnering with Park Street books to source things locally.
 - o Remove Thank You fund language from Room Parent information
- Wheelock will have to pay for staff water – will be approximately \$20/teacher for the year
- Wheelock has the biggest budget of all the schools so far – will help with field trip buses if necessary
 - o Plimoth buses were \$4K

Discussion / Event Topics

- Room Parent Update
 - All room parents have been assigned and all should have reached out to their teacher by now.

Recess Duty – Mr. Madden to write a blurb re: responsibilities to go out in next week's update.

- Rainbow Run
 - Raised \$85K to split amongst the 3 schools
 - Tshirts are the biggest cost (314 kids raised at least \$125)
 - Beth sent out the Google form for shirt ordering – not all have ordered
 - 8th graders need community service hours so they will help Beth organize
 - Successful event overall
 - Day of Volunteers were very active
 - New lead Brett Vollmuth (and team members Ashley Moore and Jackie Ostiguy) were phenomenal.
 - Need to figure out how to make this less of a fire drill next year
 - Many parent complaints re: frontstream
 - K8 needs a volunteer to run technology (managing the backend technology for online fundraising platforms)
 - Potential to move to Butter for reduced fees (frontstream contract ends in March 2026)
 - Maria Newberg to discuss with Casey Kavanaugh who now runs the K8 website
 - Put out Rainbow Run announcement in the summer to help fundraise?

Need to advertise more broadly where PTO funds go to (i.e. on field trips costs)

Sophia putting together a video from Rainbow Run photos.

Put it on the parents of the Do Not Photograph students to weed out their photos from Rainbow Run

- 3rd Grade Video (shown at assembly and sent out at the end of the year)
Marissa Foley created Google Drive photos – organized by school event
Check off every child in 3rd grade
Helpful if parents rename photo files to be Teacher name/student name if possible
Post in 2035 FB Group
QR code at Rocky Woods with link to folder
Kellie Kane to photograph at Rocky Woods
Sophia to connect her with Mark re: 3rd grade video production, as well.

Halloween

- o Parties are teacher dependent
- o Mr. Madden to share student costume update/guidelines

- Hospitality Update

Sophia to touch base with Kelly

- School Start Time Feedback
 - o Dismissal is now actually closer to 2:26 PM – Mr. Madden to make announcement to parents
 - o Sophia to discuss with the School Committee re: changing one school dismissal by 5 minutes to allow for double pick-ups.

Lunch

- o Kids are running out of time – request to add 5 minutes? Staff is trying to speed up kids.
- Parent Square Feedback
 - o Digest feature well received
 - o Striving for staff consistency on communications and usage
 - o Overall, parents like it
- Victory Garden - Any update on need for fencing
 - o Gardeners to price out fencing options
- Rocky Woods
 - o 10/27: Watson, Newton, Callahan
 - o 10/28: Sheehan, Cawley, Lynn
 - o 10/30 Morante, Trikoulis, Kuehl
 - o Okay on volunteers except for clean-up
 - Watson food prep low
 - Lynn food prep needs 2
 - Morante needs 1
 - Need veggie washers
 - o Sophia to send Jen a Rocky Woods FAQ/blurb to disseminate to 3rd grade room parents. Help explain, amongst other things:
 - Food Prep
 - Clean Up
 - Bussing
- Holiday Shoppe
 - o Thursday December 11th & Friday December 12th

Sophia to reach out to Kayleigh C and Stephanie Goodwin (volunteered last time) re: spearheading. Maria Newberg to reach out to Molly Heany, as well. Libby E. to help, as well on the committee
Attempt to send budget sheet and catalog to students well in advance.

Upcoming Meetings: Friday, November 21st, Friday January 23rd