

## Minutes

September 14, 2020

Wanaque Elementary School

Called to order: 7:10pm

Welcome: Leanne Tully, President. Thank you to all for all the support so far and for attending tonight.

Introduce the Board:

Leanne Tully President

Tracy Purcella 1st VP

Lisa Bellante 2nd VP

Amanda Treasurer

Juanita Villacais Corresponding Secretary

Yvette Stoker Recording Secretary

Mr. Mooney - interim superintendent: It was a long summer. In June we received a letter stating we can restart in September. We knew from the start we would have a hybrid design. We immediately put together a committee for the teachers and administrators. We spent long hours and long days getting everything in place - opening the school was a good idea. We did not take any days off, we had board members, teachers and parents all working together. Questions and comments were all delivered respectfully. Our area is still enjoying very low instances of Covid. We continue to monitor it and we are doing the best we can to keep things as close to normal as possible. The kids are being great and so obedient. You should all be proud. Please take note the next BOE meeting is 9/22 at 7pm.

Mr. Frick: Principal: thank you for joining us tonight, I know the Giants are about to start their game so I know this was a sacrifice for some. Thank you to the PTA for continuing to work in the interest of our children. We have been working all summer and still have some issues streamlining everything but we have come a long way. Everyone on the committees really listened and we are very grateful for all the feedback. Please reach out to the PTA board with any questions and please spread the word for everyone to join the PTA. We need everyone to be onboard with the PTA. You can email us with questions and we will do our best to fix any issues. Fundraising will be different this year but it will happen. Again, thank you for coming.

Mrs. Puzzo: Assistant Principal: I am also in charge of the 100% virtual families. I really think this PTA is awesome, I have been involved with a lot of different parent teacher organizations and this one is by far the best. The 8th grade graduation was amazing and the PTA did everything possible to make it so special for the kids and parents. I echo Mr. Frick by saying if you have any questions please reach out, your feedback is welcome as well. We are doing our best and thank you for doing your best.

Angela Demetriou: BOE President: Welcome, just want to say thank you to the PTA for everything you do - this is the part of school that the kids love. All the efforts are so appreciated.

The graduation was great, hoping this year will be better but graduation was so special I would love another one just like it too. Thank you for everything, best PTA ever.

LT: Love to hear all the praise but it really is a team effort. Our meetings will be a little different for now, we are not going to go through every committee. Our year will start a little quieter than usual but we will try our best to keep the kids engaged and having fun. We were able to get the teachers all their welcome back gifts and all the hybrid kids got their planners. We were also able to get 8-pocket folders for the middle schoolers as well. We will be doing a lot virtually this year as you can imagine. Meetings and we are looking into virtual bingo. If anyone has any ideas, we are happy to discuss and put them to a vote. We are working closely with the Haskell PTA and keeping as much in sync as possible. Christine Struble is the president there and we have a great rapport.

Bookfair: This will be virtual, not dates yet but we are working on it, trying to keep gatherings to a minimum.

Boxtops: Iman: This has gone virtual already too. We are still accepting clippings, we will send an email with the virtual instructions. If you have clipped box tops be sure and have your child and teacher's name on the bag and send in with your child. We will also post the instructions on the website.

Class Parents: Forms are being collected. Obviously there won't be as much involvement as before but there are still ways the parents can assist their teacher. We don't know if we are having a tricky tray, there won't be class trips this year and no parties, but there are ways parents can assist. Forms are on the website and Juanita will circulate the form via email as well. You must be a PTA member to be a class parent.

Tricky Tray: This is our biggest fundraiser but is still up in the air for now.

Class pictures: Hoping to get them in before the bad weather, will speak to Mr. Mooney offline about possibly doing them outside for the fall. 8th graders need pictures but LifeTouch is not going to provide gowns - we will place the order now in order to have them sooner for pictures.

Teacher assignments were recently moved around but Ms. Sisco is still the 8th grade mentor.

Dine to donate: these dates are coming. These events help the PTA as well as the local businesses so please participate if you can. Right now both 8th grade committees are filled at both schools so thank you to all volunteers.

Fundraising: Lisa B: As Mr. Frick said it will be a little different but we will have fundraisers starting with the mum sale. This is going on right now, last day to order is 9/18 and pick up is 9/25. So far we have only sold about 75 so please if you are planning to order, get them in soon. We usually sell between 300-400. Please get your orders in.

Kids stuff books: Shanna: Everything is done online. PTA will send the links. If you sell 5 books you get one free, payments are all online as well, books are \$25 each.

Gertrude Hawk: This time around the products will be delivered straight to your homes.

Trunk or Treat: This year this is just not possible. It is a great tradition and we will look forward to doing it again next year, however it is not in the best interest of the children to do it this year. All the events require too much close contact and it is just not safe. If anyone has any ideas for an alternative activity we are happy to listen. Maybe pumpkin painting or a drive through scarecrow hunt - any and all ideas are welcome.

Holiday Shop: Shanna: Once again, all virtual, we will have dates soon.

Membership: We are currently at 71 members, we need the support of all our families so please spread the word. We promise we will still have a lot of things for the kids, please join., you do that online as well, the link is on the website.

School apparel will be online sales, please visit the online store - link on the website. We have added customized masks and chromebook covers as well as some other new designs.

Q: Will the 3rd graders still be getting recorders?

A: Yes, if you have any issues, write your congressman. In an effort to keep things to some sort of normal, the 3rd grade always looks forward to this time so they will get their recorders and bring them home.

LT: One last comment, 9/18 we are distributing planners to the virtual students. Need some volunteers from 2-4 at Haskell. Mrs. Puzzo will be in charge. Arosters keep changing so we may meet a little earlier, please let me know if you can help and we will establish a final time.

Thank you everyone for coming, we will adjourn until 10/5 at 7pm.