

Minutes

March 15, 2021

Wanaque Elementary School

Called to order: 7:05pm

Welcome: Leanne Tully, President. Thank you to all for joining this evening.

Approval of minutes: motion: Iman

2nd - Lisa S.

Mr. Mooney: 2 very important things - Tuesday the board will be voting in the new superintendent - Patrick McQueeny. I have worked with him before for 2 years in Hawthorne, good guy in every way. He has gone through the long process. The BOE did a great job choosing, please take the time to join and meet him. Big news for the district. I hope he is as happy as I have been working with the district.

The second thing I want to comment on is the Covid situation. We have been on shifting sand since day 1. Dealing with 4 different schedules, Hybrid, All Specials, All virtual and All in person for ESL and special education students. We have started K-1 program and on the 22nd we are going to start the 2-3 program. From there we will try and bring the 4th and 5th grades in. It is very difficult to get everyone in, it gets very confusing. We have about 30% students who are still full virtual. 4 cases in the Wanaque school recently, the health department recommended the closure though it broke our hearts. We hope this is the last closure. Looking to put desk shields on the 2-3 group. All the PPE is still in place as well as the temp checks and full cleaning every day. We do have plans for a very nice trip to Spring Lake in lieu of the Washington Trip for the 8th graders. Il Palazzo set us up with the Regency so that the 8th grade dance can happen. It seats 500 and we will be about 150 all together - and the governor just raised the limit from 25-50%. Hoping for graduation outside this year as well. All of these things are contingent on the conditions. Everyone wants to open and expand and we are doing our level best to do that. We would never have suspected we would need to close right after we opened to K-1. Field Days and graduation brunch along with other things - we want to open them all up. We are going to do everything in our power along with the amazon PTAs. Finally we are going to address publicly about a math and LA programs for the summer with social distancing and recess to address social and emotional learning. In the Fall we are going to do it again, state and federal aid has helped and will allow us to start next year in relatively good shape.

Q: Thank you for stepping and and stepping up, have heard nothing but wonderful things about you, thank you for your time and service.

A: The district has been amazing, you are the best.

Q: The grades who are coming in, are we still following the 6 feet or going down to 3 feet? Are we keeping the classes small?

A: Keeping the 6 feet for now, admire Dr. Faucio but we are going to stick to the 6 feet for the time being and keep the classrooms small. We want to wait till we can open the windows so the air will rotate more and hope the virus numbers will dip with the fresh air and desk shields.

Mr. Frick: Couple of things - parent teacher conference just happened - if you were not able to schedule a meeting, please reach out to your teachers, they are happy to meet. Planning end of the year events, Spring Lake trip, brunch - exploring the option of getting all the 8th graders in at the same time. We will do everything we can to ensure the 8th grade students get all the activities and celebrated to the extent it normally is. Thank you to the PTA for the after school clubs. Really nice to have the baking and game clubs, the kids love it and the teachers are having fun too. If you have any questions we are here

LT: Recap:

Gertrude Hawk spring sale went super well - we still need some fundraisers so we can still do some things for the kids - thank you for your participation. \$4000 in sales so that is really great. This will definitely help the PTA pay for things we have done and for things coming up. Delivery date March 25, pick up between 3-4pm. Pick up will be in the hallway by the gym.

Fall pictures and 8th grade grad pix - all 8th graders got their pictures taken - we are thrilled we were able to get that - might be one we don't have but we will follow up. We want to be sure everyone is represented.

Some events during the school day - we had a Valentine's Day contest, fun guessing game - the winning student won LED lights and it was really fun for the kids.

After School clubs - teachers have teamed up with us and have been a lot of fun. Baking club was a big hit, for all grades, close to 60 kids between the three clubs. Mrs. DuHaime led the game day and then 5th grade snack and chat will be the next one coming up soon. For the middle school we are still looking for yoga for them, more info on upcoming clubs is on the facebook and web pages.

March 24 there will be a virtual author visit. There will be 2 sessions.

4th grade recently had an assembly, we are working on getting as much as we can in for the kids.

Clothing drive is 4/17/21 - did not get it done in the Fall so we are looking to do it for the spring. Lisa B. is the chair person, if you want to volunteer please reach out to her. Can't use kids this year due to covid so if we can have some adult volunteers that would be great. No toys, car seats or anything other than clothing. More specifics are listed on the website. There will be tax forms available.

We do not have another dine to donate scheduled, more coming in the spring.

8th grade we have already talked about that.

Teacher appreciation is coming up, this year we should be able to do something for them, they deserve it.

In May we are going to do a 50/50 raffle, not able to do the Tricky Tray for the 2nd year, look out for the raffle in May.

Box Tops: Our next check should be coming at the end of April, should be a couple hundred dollars. Please continue to download the app and scan the receipts so the school gets the most return. Right now we are scanning for February and March so the deadline is 3/31. ShopRite

has a new program. ShopRite for my school - put in your price plus card on the app and it will automatically link participating products - comes in our checks from Box Tops.

Q: Amazon Smile donations - how does that work? What percentage do we get?

A: We are not made aware of the percentage but we get a check every month.

New business: Nothing right now - more to come as the year progresses

Old business: Make sure you are checking the home page and the facebook page for updates.

Thank you everyone for coming, we will adjourn until 4/12/2021 7pm.

Motion: Iman

2nd: Lisa S

Adjourned until 4/12/2021