

Smithtown Elementary PTA Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Executive Board:

President: Desiree Zgoda

1st Vice President: Sharon Gribbin

2nd Vice President: Sue Bosinius

Treasurer: Carolyn Prego

Recording Secretary: Kim Pernice

Corresponding Secretary: Nicole Williams

Council Delegate: Melanie Quagliata

Agenda:

- **Pledge**
- **Welcome-** Desiree Zgoda

- **Treasurer's Report** – Carolyn Prego
 - Budget was approved: Copies available if you're interested in seeing
 - Committee budgets available if you're interested in seeing
 - End of August \$18,000 in account

- **Principals Report-** Dr. Kakalos
 - Thank you for the PTA's support at the Meet and Greet. Over 300 families and staff members attended.
 - Great start to the beginning of the school year. An assembly was held to go over expectations. Overall message is to be kind to all.
 - Fire drills and lockdown drills are underway.
 - Red, White, and Blue day and a moment of silent for Patriots Day
 - Constitution Day was celebrated
 - Family Connect Night's are Back! First night was 9/19/23. Great opportunity to do something or have conversations as a family
 - Arts and Ed Meetings are underway
 - Picture Day is 9/28 and 9/29.
 - Clubs-Will be before school. There are a variety of clubs for grades 3-5, but Scope also runs clubs for other grades before school.
 - Thank you for the teachers who attended tonight's PTA Meeting
 - All grades get to be apart of the Morning Message where they end the announcement with the "School Motto"

- **Teachers Rep Report**-Katelyn Kenah, Jaclyn Garbulewski, Victoria McKee, Erica Lewis-Kerim
 - **Kindergarten-**
 - *Math*: Answering "How Many" up to 5 and learning to draw shapes through songs and poems.
 - *Foundations*: Orientation and lowercase letters t, b, f.
 - *PLTW*: they will begin forces of motion - pushes and pulls.
 - They are making new friends and building the classroom community, while reviewing school rules and expectations. They are also learning colors through reading Pete the Cat books.
 - **1st Grade-**
 - First Grade has started their reading launch unit by learning how to be active listeners and take care of books. Students have enjoyed being introduced to classroom libraries.
 - In math, they are focusing on counting and comparing sets of numbers to 10 using number paths, tally marks and number bonds.
 - First graders will start the first P.L.T.W. unit where they will explore light and sound. Students will be introduced to the design process as a way of solving problems in this fun learning adventure.
 - **2nd Grade-**
 - Through the ELA launch and our SS curriculum, second grade is starting the year reading, writing and discussing fabulous books about building "classroom families". The children are learning many rules and procedures as well.
 - In math, they are organizing data by using graphs.
 - They started the PLTW unit on Properties of Matter where the children have to solve the problem of keeping ice pops frozen without a freezer or cooler.
 - **3rd Grade-**
 - Third-grade students are currently reading *The Storm*, focusing on various points of view.
 - In math, students are learning about arrays and how they relate to multiplication.

- Students are excited to embark on our PLTW (Project Lead The Way) lessons, which will introduce them to the fascinating world of simple machines
- **4th Grade-**
 - Fourth graders are off to an amazing start! They are excited to begin their study in ELA with their first novel *The Secret Garden*.
 - In the area of Math, they are reviewing multiplication and place value strategies.
 - In Social Studies and Science they began the new year with the study of the Earth and its landforms. Students are excited to learn about our very own state New York and all of its special features.
 - Classes enjoyed celebrating Patriot Day and Constitution Day within their classrooms. They are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead!
- **5th Grade-**
 - In math, fifth graders are learning about place value concepts for multiplication and division with whole numbers.
 - In social studies, they are learning about geography in the western hemisphere, physical maps, the United States, Canada and Latin America.
 - In Project Lead the Way, 5th graders are learning about properties and reactions.
 - Students will begin examining ways to organize information and materials for their school subjects in preparation for middle school.
- **RISE-**
 - RISE began the school year by transitioning into new routines and adjusting to their daily schedules.
 - They are currently working on their N2Y curriculum, focusing on government and the topic is “We have Rules and Laws”.
 - Students are enjoying our new sensory room. This week they will begin a variety of fall activities.

Special Areas

ART:

- Artists are cooperatively learning and have been introduced to the art room rules and continue to practice appropriate procedures and use of supplies.
- **Kindergarten artists** started to create their “A” is for Apple and Artist collage

- **First grade artists** have begun their “About Me” collages and are starting their self-portraits this week that are inspired by the artist, Frida Kahlo.
- **Second grade artists** have begun their scarecrow collages and practiced the elements of art.
- **Third grade artists** have begun to draw their fall pumpkin artworks.
- **Fourth grade artists** have begun to create their “Look Who’s Back to School” owl collage artworks.
- **Fifth grade artists** have begun to create their fall haunted house collages with a painted background. They are reviewing and practicing the elements of art (color, form, line, shape, space, texture, unity and value) and the principles of design (balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, pattern and proportion).

LIBRARY: (Mrs. Diffley)

- The library has begun book exchange and the students are learning book care.
- Fourth grade has begun their genre study unit.
- The librarian is looking forward to a great year of exploring and discovering in the library!

MUSIC: Mrs. Yoon (General Music and Chorus), Mrs. Payne (Band and Orchestra), Mr. Powelson General Music)

- All general music classes are going well.
- We have a new traveling music teacher here, David Powelson on Tuesdays and Friday afternoons. Mr. Powelson’s general music classes are starting the year with a unit focused on beat and rhythm.
- Younger grades are doing this through movement, singing, and dancing, while older grades are building music literacy and engaging with instruments.
- Students are also doing many activities to build classroom communities and establish procedures.
- 5th Graders have started rehearsing for chorus during the school day and are off to a great start! We can't wait to see what they can accomplish.
- 4th Grade Before school CHORUS is beginning this Friday on September 22- Parent letters will be going out with further details from Mrs. Yoon.
- 5th Grade Before School BAND and ORCHESTRA rehearsals start this week- Band will meet on Thursday Morning and Orchestra will meet on Friday Morning.
- 4th Grade instrumentalists had introductory lessons today and came home with a bunch of information! We are so excited to start making music with them.

P.E. (Mr. Jenkins, Mrs. Madama, Mrs. Wagner)

- Students are working on cooperation and teamwork during group games and are looking forward to starting a soccer unit next week.
- This year, our third graders will have an opportunity to join the before school "Running Club".
- Fourth and fifth graders may join the "Sports Club."

President's Report

- **Committee Chairs Needed**-any 5th grade parents interested in becoming yearbook chair. We are in need of this position.
- **Spirit Wear** – New spirit wear is available. We hope to have all by Meet the Teacher 10/3
- **Fall Plant Sale**- orders due on Friday, Sept 22. Pick up on Thursday 10/5 from 3:45-6pm
- **Ralph's Fundraiser**-Sept. 28th
- **Picture Day**-Thursday Sept 28th K-2 and RISE & Friday, Sept 29-3rd-5th Volunteer List will be available on 9/19 evening
- **PTA Packet**-A list of events was sent home. The dates could change
- **Class parents** were selected and notified.
- **Join the PTA**-Each month will be a membership raffle
- **Meet the Teacher Night Tuesday**-10/3 6PM - 9PM

Still to come:

- **No School**-Monday September 25th
- **Meet the Teacher Night** -Tuesday 10/3 6pm-9pm
- **Plant Sale Pick-Up 10/5**
- **No School**-Monday Oct 9th
- **Next PTA meeting**-Oct 17th at 7PM
- **Trunk or Treat**-October 20th 6PM – 9PM-Volunteer opportunities available. We need all of the help we can for this event!

Committee Reports:

- **Council Delegate-** Melanie Quagliata
- **Green Team-** Sharon Gribbin
 - First Meeting is 10/5 2 7:30
- **Arts in Education-** Diana Barnes/ Nikki Ziolkowski
 - Meeting with the teachers on Friday, 9/22, so more information to follow
- **Beautification-**Jennifer Beinlich
- **Blood Drive-**Sharon Gribbin—NOW Kim Hanna
- **Book Fair-**Brandi Serper/Jen Morelli
- **Class Pictures-**Lori Drago
- **Clothing Drive-**Jackie Pardini
- **Dine-O-Round-**Brenna Vassilas
 - First event is at Ralph's on 9/28.
- **Fundraising-**Sue Bosinius
- **Fifth Grade Committee-**Brandi Serper/Jen Morelli
- **Giving & Sharing-**Brandi Serper/Jen Morelli
- **Health & Wellness-**Angela Monahan
- **Membership-**Sue Bosinius
- **PARP-**Kim Pernice & Lisa Bugiada
- **Donuts with grownups-**Eric Dimmier/Lisa Todaro
- **Plant Sales-**Sue Bosinius/Kim Hanna
- **Publishing-**Erica Dimmier/Lisa Todaro
- **Raffle Baskets-**Lauren Kolbeck

- **RIP**-Laura Alcaron
- **School Supplies**- Kim Hanna
- **SEPTA**- Meredith McMillen
- **SITE**-Jen Selitto/Robin Matejka
- **Spirit wear**- Robin/Sue NEW shirts avail to order- no shipping free, made to order
- **Sports Night**-3/1 Robin Matejka
- **Staff Appreciation**-Lauren Kolbeck/Kristina Cavalcante
- **Thanksgiving Pies**-Nicole Williams/Kim Hanna
- **Trunk or Treat**-Sue Bosinius
- **Website**-Robin Matejka
- **Yearbook**-Still needs a committee chair

PTA Website-tons of information/flyers and forms

Remind App: text @SELPTA to 81010

Next PTA Meeting will be 10/17 @ 7 pm