



WES/MAC PTO

January 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes

- ❖ Welcome – Vice President, Stacy Silva-Boutwell
 - President Jen McMahon was away on a business trip, so Vice President Stacy Silva-Boutwell kicked things off and welcomed everyone to our first meeting of the new year and thanked everyone for coming.
 - To get right into business, we will kick things off with the nominations for the leadership elections for upcoming PTO board openings

- ❖ Leadership Board Nominations/Elections
 - Vice President - Becky Ryan was nominated; no other nominations given
 - President - Kristen Wiley was nominated; no other nominations given
 - Both positions were voted unanimously - Kristen Wiley will be the WES/Mac PTO President and Becky Ryan will be the WES/Mac PTO Vice President for the coming 2024-2025 school year. The current PTO board thanked them for volunteering and are excited to begin working with both women now and for the coming school year!

- ❖ Last meeting approvals
 - Co-Secretaries – Caitlin Sampers/Amanda Viveiros
 - November minutes approval - minutes were approved unanimously
 - Treasurer– Kristen Ferreira
 - Budget review and updates:
 - There is still some outstanding monies from the Mentalist fundraiser - tracking those down
 - The Holiday Fair totals are in - the event raised \$5,451.87 for the WES/Mac PTO - we were \$1,000 over the previously expected budget for revenue from the event - nice work to Gina Marshall (outgoing event chair) and committee and event volunteers and thank you to all our local businesses for their donations to this event!
 - After school programs - after all the staff and vendor payouts - we raised \$2,500 for the PTO!
 - Movie Nights - Vicki Pinkham will provide update
 - Dining for Dollars - We have almost met our budget with just the 1 event at Cask N Pig! But the recent event at FiveBelow netted \$109 for the PTO.
 - November/December Budget approval - budget was approved unanimously

- ❖ School Updates
 - Principals
 - MAC: Stacey Duquette
 - Time is truly flying by at the Mac!
 - The biggest event to report on is that the students are doing very well in ST Math and they are reaching their goals and making personal progress toward those goals
 - Stacy is trying to plan and get more families involved and into the building for events
 - Up coming out of school time - MLK Day Monday 1/15 - no school, and there is a half day on Thursday 1/25; February vacation is 2/19-2/25.



- Progress reports will be going home soon, be on the lookout for those!
- There will be an Open House across the district - this will be for families to come in to the buildings and get a first hand experience within the Westport Schools - trying to encourage families to send their children to Westport Schools and to keep their children in Westport Schools
- DESI gave an ignite reading grant to the district - Mrs Correirra is the Integrated Arts Teacher at the Mac - she is working with the students to get them to join this program, the program is online and the student receives 15 minutes a day for online tutoring, it is 1 on 1 online help, with extra focus on reading fundamentals, so when a teacher cannot get individual help to a child or all the children, it is a way to provide them with that extra 1 on 1 assistance, the Mac is a pilot school for this program, which usually starts in 1st grade, this will start on 2/12/24; they are current in the "Get to know your Tutor" phase right now. More to come!
- Melissa Parker ran a play for an after school activity at the Mac and during the performance they passed a donation bucket and raised \$220! The attendance at the play was wall-to-wall with families, great turn out!
- WES: Kevin Aguiar
 - Kevin reports good things happening at the WES!
 - School Council meetings have begun and a big topic discussed is the concerns over the budget issues
 - Progress reports will go home on 1/20, but only to students that need them, if your student is doing well, nothing will go home.
 - Thursday 1/25 there is an exciting event happening at WES - Literacy Night! The reading specialists have created a "Game-Night" themed event for the students and their families to attend and to get the students excited about reading and literacy, this is from 5:45-7pm.
 - Wes is a Unified School with the Special Olympics - Ms. Terry Pacheco is our schools liaison with a focus on inclusion and incorporation - we want to work with all children of all abilities and have this program be successful
 - The WES Reading Specialists are making good progress - Kevin will provide some numbers at the February meeting
 - Also, more to come on the outdoor track updates - still making progress.
 - Overall things at WES are running well.

❖ Committee Updates

- Holiday Fair- Gina Marshall
 - We are 1 month post-event - a BIG thank you to anyone and everyone who came and who volunteered and/or donated items!
 - We had some last minute changes once we were in the building since it was the first time we hosted this event at the New Middle High School - the Holiday Shoppe was moved from the media center to further down the hall into the open space between classrooms and then the shoppers were funneled back through the media center to have their gifts wrapped and to check out.
 - We sold out of Holiday Shoppe items more than half way through the day! Lots of shoppers came through and were buying more gifts for friends and family members than in the past, we also added pet gifts as an option this year.
 - We also sold out of some of the food items this year as well
 - There is a bigger footprint/layout in the new space this year, which was good and bad - the vendor space was not as crowded as it has been in the past and we can



- accommodate more vendors in the new space, but the Holiday Shoppe and Food sales are farther away from they vendor area
- Overall it was a very successful event!
 - We are still looking for someone or a team to take over running this event!
- Dining for Dollars- Kate Carpenter/Kristen Ferriera
 - FiveBelow - raised \$109
 - Next event: Kozy Nook on 1/30; this is for dine in or takeout, just show or bring the PTO event flier
 - Casino Night- Stacy S-B/Becky Ryan
 - The Event date is Friday 2/2
 - There was a committee meeting last night, 1/8/24
 - They are always looking for new members/additional folks to help
 - The event is from 6-11pm at the Cultural Center in Fall River; from 6-7 will be the champagne cocktail hour, with a charcuterie grazing table and passed apps and then the gambling doors will open at 7 pm; tickets are \$50 and that includes a complimentary champagne, food and funny money for gambling, with additional drinks and funny money available for purchase
 - Becky described the night and how all the games work and how the raffles work; some of the available prizes are - ferry ride to Martha's Vineyard, Boston Red Sox tickets, Celtics Tickets, Restaurant Gift Cards
 - They are still looking for additional sponsors, there is a master list of sponsors and donations we can share
 - Remember - Dress to Impress!
 - Movie Nights- Vicky Pinkham
 - 3rd Grade movie night was on 12/8 - there were 35-40 students that attended, the kids had fun and it was much more manageable doing one grade level at a time.
 - 2nd Grade movie night is scheduled for 1/26/24
 - 1st Grade movie night is scheduled for 2/9/24
 - Once those happen, the rotation will start over again
- ❖ Enrichment
- Assemblies- Stacy S-B
 - Mac - Mrs. Claus was a hit and went well; she said for next year she would like more scheduled time with the students
 - Upcoming events in the Spring - the choices are Animals, Music or Science - leaning toward music
 - After School Programs
 - Becky will need help with the Spring programs at the WES, Nikki Potter will not be able to help out for this session
- ❖ Old Business
- Wildcat t-shirts for students

**Next meeting: Tuesday, February 27th
(Rescheduled for snow day on 2/13)
6:30pm at WES**