

South Grafton PTO Meeting Minutes  
January 15, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the MSES Library. Present were Amy Albertson, Robin Callahan, Becky Miner, Alyssa Schnabel and Kristin Pliakas. There was 1 staff member and 5 parents present.

Secretary's Report: The report and minutes from November 13, 2018 were reviewed and approved, as written.

Treasurer's Report: The report from November 2018 was reviewed and approved, as written.

Principal's Report for MSES:

It has been a smooth and quiet transition back into the school year after a very busy end to 2018! In December, sixth graders attended Nature's Classroom, we had Parent/Teacher Conferences, second grade performed a wonderful holiday concert, the Winter Band and Choral Concert was held at the high school and everyone enjoyed the traditional All School Meeting & Holiday Sing a long on the 21st. Thanks to all the room parents and volunteers who helped with the holiday parties and special activities throughout the month.

A big THANK YOU from the staff an for the fabulous luncheon and awesome gift card raffle before the holiday break!

Now that 2019 is here, Grade 4 is looking forward to a presentation by Myth Masters tomorrow (1/16).

Also this month, fifth and sixth graders will wrap up basketball intramurals on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Fourth, fifth and sixth graders participating in Math Olympiad continue to meet with Mrs. Buckley on Tuesdays after school.

We are holding the Geography Bee on January 24<sup>th</sup>. We have over 20 fourth, fifth and sixth graders registered to participate.

After school Chess Club will begin for interested students in grades two & three on Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> and for grades four, five and six on Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and will run for six sessions.

Teachers have begun Winter Reading assessments on students in grades 2 – 5. In early February, the cohort of students participating in Title I Reading intervention will be reformulated. We will release students who have reached their reading intervention goal and add new students to the service.

Progress reports will be going home February 1st for those students who merit one.

A few Reminders:

Patriots Spirit Day this Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> as well as a Movie Night!

There is a half-day of school Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> for afternoon professional development.

Six Flag Reading Logs are due February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Principal's Report for SGES:

We have held:

- Our Book Fair. Students were excited and eager to go to the book fair.
- A Flu Clinic. We had many families participate.
- Golden Ticket Challenges- Students were challenged to earn a set number of tickets by a specific date. Their whole school rewards were a PJ and Movie day on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and a Stuffed Animal and Movie day on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Report card day.
- Parent Conferences – conferences were very well attended.
- Holiday Concerts
- Holiday Sing-a-Longs for PreK.
- Holiday Class parties were held on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Our Book Drive- books are now being offered as prizes for Golden Tickets! Students are loving the option of choosing a book for themselves to keep!!
- Zoomobile for grade 1- Students loved the program put on by Southwick Zoo. Students saw a baby alligator, porcupine, snake, chinchilla and more. Their favorite seems to have been Pickles the porcupine!
- I like to Read for Kindergarten was a success! Students could be heard singing along during this presentation.
- The Grafton Library continues to visit with our Preschoolers with a visit last Friday.

We look forward to:

- Bubbleology for the whole school tomorrow
- Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. There is no school on this day.
- Professional Development Day- January 29<sup>th</sup>; 11:30 am dismissal for PreK (am session) and 11:55 am for K and 1
- Specialists' Night- February 7<sup>th</sup>, 5:00- 7:00 pm
- Valentine's Day Celebrations- February 14<sup>th</sup>

Thank you to the PTO for a wonderful Holiday luncheon. It was spectacular and delicious! Thank you to all who donated to the luncheon and/or gift cards for the staff raffle.

Committee Updates/Upcoming Events:

MSES Kid's Night Out will be Friday January 18, 2019. We will be showing the movie Smallfoot. This event benefits both MSES and SGES. Please consider volunteering.

The 6th Grade Staff vs Students Basketball Game will be March 28, 2019. Stay tuned for details for this fun community event.

The Adult Spring Fling/Silent Auction will be coming up, planning for May. Date and details will be available soon.

Red Sox Game will be June 9, 2019, tickets will go on sale soon. This is a no profit event and a fun day!

High Fives to:

Robin Callahan, Becky Miner and Kristin Pliakas - MSES Read-a-thon  
 Leah Doret - SGES Book Drive  
 Brandi Taylor - Yankee Candle Fundraiser  
 Michelle Grenier and Amy Alberson - Many Thanksgivings  
 Abby Cross - MSES Holiday Luncheon  
 Michelle Hyland and Christina Popsuj - SGES Holiday Luncheon  
 Stephanie Bazinet and Cathy Lazo - Box Tops  
 Dawn Bosland - Flowers for MSES Band and Chorus Performance  
 Jodie Phillips - Harvard Pilgrim Grant  
 Bob Baniukiewicz - Fidelity Foundation Matching Gifts to Education Grant

Parent/Teacher Input:

Cathy Lazo spoke about the upcoming Box Top Challenge at MSES. The deadline for the Winter Challenge submission is Wednesday February 13, 2019. Prizes to the top class will be awarded including a Gift Card and free recess.

Stacy Hebert spoke about upcoming Octoberfest planning and committee openings.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34pm

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 12, 2019 in the SGES Cafeteria.

Respectfully submitted by,  
 Alyssa Schnabel  
 Secretary