

South Grafton PTO Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm in the MSES Library. Members of the board present were Robin Callahan, Tisia Ciesluk, Becky Miner, Mary Lou Butler, Allison Le May and Kristin Pliakas. There was 1 staff member and 7 parents present.

Secretary's Report: The report and minutes from September 11, 2019 were reviewed and approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: The report from September 1-30, 2019 was reviewed and approved as written.

Principal's Report for SGES:

Since the beginning of this year, we have held:

- Back to School Night (Thursday, September 12, 2019)
- Our first PD day on September 25 (Staff did ALICE training)
- Picture re-takes, Oct. 2nd
- Progress Reports, Oct. 9th
- Bus evacuation
- First all school assembly
- Spirit week with Hats On Day, Football Day and Kindness/Green Day (We raised over \$1800 dollars with our KCS Scholarship collection)
- Golden Tickets changed with the changing of the month with new goals: Being a Good Listener, Playing Nicely with Others, Shows Kind Actions, Is Respectful
- Rewards for Golden Tickets - Lunch with Mrs. Parker, Extra Recess Time with Mrs. Parker, Pencils/Prizes

We look forward to:

- Columbus Day- Oct. 14th
- OCTOBERFEST!!!! October 19th
- Halloween Parade- October 30th
- Preschool Bus evacuation
- PD Day on October 31st
- Veteran's Day on November 11
- Parent Conferences- November 15th - Please call if you need to schedule a conference
- Flu Clinic on October 24, 3-5 at NSES
- Our first Golden Ticket Challenge

Principal's Report for MSES:

Our final Monarch butterfly was released on Thursday of last week. We raised and released over approximately 25 Monarch butterflies in our classrooms this second year of the community project. This is a dramatic decrease from the 120 plus butterflies hatched and released last year. Mrs Roth, the school-wide project coordinator, explained that a particular fungus had affected the caterpillar eggs and there were far less available. It was a wonderful activity to start the school year and build classroom communities.

Walking Wednesdays have begun! Mrs. Stocklin will meet walkers by the preschool playground at 8 am to give out swag and take a picture!

National School Bus Safety Week is October 21st – 25th . As our tradition, students will be making cards for the bus drivers. We will recognize the drivers during the week and treat them to "breakfast on the go" Tuesday, October 22nd .

Thank you PTO for recognizing our drivers with coffee gift cards.

Student Picture day is Tuesday, October 29th .

Crazy Hat Day will be on Thursday, October 31st ! Students may wear a crazy hat of their choice to school. This is also a half-day. Dismissal will be at 11:25am.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held the evening of November 14th and during the day on November 15th (no school for students on this Friday). Click [HERE](#) to access PTCFast.com to access your child's teacher's conference schedule. If you have any difficulty securing a conference, please call the school office at (508) 839 - 0757.

Reminder that there is no school on Monday, October 14th .

Committee Updates:

Book Fair at MSES did fantastic. At this point it looks like more funds were raised this year than last year.

Box Tops are due October 11th. Cathy Lazo, who coordinates Box Tops at MSES, spoke about how the Box Tops reward program is moving to the Box Tops app. If you have not downloaded the app yet, please download. You can click on whether the amount is correct after taking pictures of your receipt and if not, you can contact someone directly from the app about the incorrect amount earned. If your child is at MSES, they are still having a Box Tops competition. Before you click Send on the app, there is a star icon that you can click on to give credit to your child's teacher. Click the star icon and type in the teacher's name.

Octoberfest is October 19th and we are still in need of more volunteers.

November 8th is the first movie night at MSES, more dates to follow.

October 23rd is Highfields Restaurant Night Fundraiser. There will be a 50/50 Raffle. Highfields will be open until 8 p.m. that evening. The fundraiser is all day so it includes lunch and take-out orders.

Yankee Candle online sales are open until January.

November 2nd is Worcester Railers Community Night. Flyer to follow shortly.

High Fives to:

Katera Lazeren, Jen Tonelli, Irene Mariano & Lynda Barry - Scholastic Book Fair at MSES
Cathy Lazo and Stephanie Bazinet - Box Tops
Becky Miner - Highfields Restaurant Night
Katie Hannah and Cathy Lazo - MSES Beautification
Kaitlyn Marshall and Heena Crouch - SGES Beautification

Parent Teacher Input:

A parent spoke about possible charity grants through her work and a discussion on applying for these grants was held.

A discussion was held on reimbursement for Octoberfest expenditures for Chairs.

Flyers went home for Spirit Wear at SGES. Spirit Wear is in the works for MSES. At MSES you will be able to order your item and it will be shipped to you shortly. SGES Spirit Wear will be printed and shipped at all at once as there is an end date to being able to order. There will also be a Grafton logo option for SGES and MSES Spirit Wear.

Ice Cream day is now Wednesday at SGES due to long pizza lines on Fridays.

Board members were present at the School Committee Meeting on October 8th. The later school start time discussion has been shelved indefinitely due to cost effectiveness and the proposed times not being beneficial to the entire community.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 13, 2019 in the SGES Cafeteria.

Respectfully submitted by,
Kristin Pliakas, Co-Secretary