

GALWAY PTSA MEETING MINUTES

DATE: September 18, 2023

LOCATION: Cock N' Bull, Galway, NY

CALL TO ORDER: Kara Reed (President) @ 6:30pm

Additional officers in attendance: Trisha Hopper (VP); Amber Eaton (Treasurer); Becky DiCaprio (Secretary)

Total # of Attendees: 20 (inclusive of officers)

AGENDA:

- Introduction of officers
- Presentation by Michelle LaVoy (Membership Dev. Officer) for First New York Federal Credit Union
 - Prize/kick-off party will be 9/20, and that's also the first day of school banking for the year for ES
 - \$2.00 to sign up for school banking: \$1.00 for child and \$1.00 for adult – it's a join savings account
 - Deposits are done in-school weekly, \$0.50-\$10 deposits; prizes are given for milestones, money is deposited by FNYFCU for report card submissions; contests are run regularly – great way to get kids excited about saving.
 - FNYFCU can do sessions/seminars in school for parents and kids around financial fitness & financial literacy, how to review your credit score, retirement: free and confidential; grade-specific classroom education around budgets, etc.
 - Elementary starts Wednesday 9/20 in front of the ES cafeteria
 - Jr/Sr HS will start in October – more information will be coming about date and location
- Approval of June minutes (posted to website)
 - Motion to Approve: Helen Christopher; second the motion: Trisha; Approved.
- Treasurer's Financial Updates:
 - Monthly Treasurer's Report: only 2 outgoings, 1 bookfair related
 - Monthly Audit: ready for July & August
 - 2022-2023 Audit: completed.
 - *Thank you to Kayla Stoddard, Emma Obern, and Amber Ashmann*
 - *Trisha walked group through the audit; no adjustments/changes/corrections*
 - *Motion to accept the audit report: Becky DiCaprio; second the motion, Gail Symonds; Approved.*
 - 2023-2024 Budget Vote (copies provided)
 - Amber walked the group through; very few changes since preliminary budget was reviewed at the end of last school year
 - Amber reminded folks that monies raised stay with the group who raised it [i.e. money raised by Jr/Sr HS is spent on Jr/Sr HS, money raised by ES is spent on ES.]
 - Motion to Approve: Athena Cancio; second the motion: Hilary Clemens; Approved.
- Dance Program
 - We're back! 2nd week this week; began a week earlier this year
 - Goal is to continue improvements to the dance space; would love to paint and/or add some feature that graduating seniors can sign
 - Hilary and the dance teacher met over summer to align on dance schedule, and we added more classes to make each class smaller

- Registrations are full and now closed: 68 dancers, which beats 2019 pre-covid number (67); 11 are competition dancers.
- 1 scholarship was awarded this session.
- Early dance recital 12/3 – 2 shows; ticket sales will be online again: allows seat selection in advance of the shows and makes working the door easier.
- January spring session; April recital (positive feedback on a shorter spring season, because of the busy end-of-year schedules)
- New Business:
 - Fundraisers for 2023-2024:
 - Catalog fundraiser will kick off 9/21 and run 10/11 – will be trying some new catalogs and some overall new fundraisers
 - Company is local: located in Northville (C&H)
 - Holiday Gift Shop 12/6-12/8
 - This allows kids to shop for loved ones in-school for low-cost items
 - Sign-up Genius will go out asking for volunteers as we get closer, as will more information about the shop itself.
 - Also run by C&H
 - Membership drive competition for school classes to up student membership
 - Membership is \$6, and we only keep \$2; the most important piece is the email addresses to help us socialize and circulate information
 - Picture day is a fundraiser; income is based on packages
 - Picture company also does school IDs
 - Picture company is also local: located in Glens Falls
 - Fall Book Fair
 - Fair dates: October 26th-November 2nd
 - Family Fun Night October 26th 5.30-7.30pm (Free to all)
 - Pre-fair Fun:
 - 9/18: homerooms signup for PreK - 8 will be sent to faculty
 - 9/25-29: coin drive
 - 9/28, all homerooms will receive 3, \$7 gift certificates to distribute any way they choose.
 - 10/7-10/21: Galway Public Library is running a Book Fair Scavenger Hunt.
 - 10/9: eWallet flyers will go out
 - 10/13: deadline for butterfly coloring contest submissions
 - 10/16: flyers detailing homeroom bookfair visit date/times go home
 - Sign-up Genius will go out asking for volunteers as we get closer
 - Spring Book Fair – this will be Emma's last fair
 - **We need member(s) to volunteer to chair this spring fair and future fairs.**
 - Emma would love to have someone who's interested in taking over shadow her at the fall and spring fairs and learn
- Thank You's for 2022-2023 Volunteers
 - Hilary Clemens – Dance
 - Helen Christopher – District-wide Appreciation Days
 - Christine Gauss – picture days & school banking founder for Galway
 - Emma Obern – former PTSA board, Bookfair, picnics, contests, etc. so much.
 - Heather Berlin – Holiday Gift Ship and School Picnics
- Administrative Updates: *thank you Dr. Donovan & Mr. Miller for attending and sharing:*
 - Enrollment is looking good

- Communication to families and community is moving to Parent Square to centralize outreach and communication tools.
- Last year of 5 year plan ;will be looking at goals and mission statements for the next 5 years in the near future
- On December 12th a large capital project will be kicked off – HS entrance and security upgrade. Additional campus improvements include: technology improvements and design/welding/building opportunities; agricultural and business suite improvements – inclusive of a greenhouse; gymnasium expansion with a fitness center and walking track (which will also be open to the community in the mornings), and moving the wrestling room upstairs; adding a seminar room; GTV studio for broadcasting.
 - A website will soon be live with details – budget vote will be December. Assuming December budget passing, improvements will be seen over the next 3-4 years.
- Electric school busses were asked about: Dr. Donovan is exploring them and what infrastructure Galway would need to support this .
- Summer camps were asked about: funds were used for summer extracurricular camp; so summer camp options are being explored (specifically the sport camps).
- All Other Business/Topics from the Floor
 - *Next meeting is October 11th, 6:30pm, at the Galway Public Library – see you then!*
- Adjourned at 7:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Becky DiCaprio

Galway PTSA Secretary