

11/13/19 Eisenhower Middle School PTO Meeting Minutes

Officers in Attendance:

PTO President Linda Mango
PTO Vice- President Lori Fisch Romano
PTO Treasurer Christine O'Connor
PTO Secretary Susan Szardenings

PTO email address:

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In attendance were parent Michelle Clark and 8th grade ELA teachers Mrs. Richman and Mrs. Rodas. Due to illness, Ms. Swaim was unable to attend.

Teacher's Report- EMS Report by Mrs. Richman & Mrs. Rodas:

- On 11/6/19 a Veterans Day Assembly took place in the auditorium. Invited guest veterans, Roxbury Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts and EMS participating students helped to make it welcoming and special.
- On 10/11/19, 'Read In Day' took place in the hallways and rooms of EMS. It was a great success and was featured on News 12!
- The 7th Grade Class went to see Edgar Allen Poe at the Pax Amicus Theater.
- Starting this school year, three **7th** grade teacher advisors and three **8th** Grade teacher advisors (for 8th grade they are Mrs. Blewitt{Team 8-2}, Mrs. Richman{Team 8-1} and Mrs. Rodas{Team 8-3}) will work as liaisons collaboratively with their grade student body in a pilot wellness program that centers on fostering good student 'team member' life skills and abilities during their brief two years at EMS. This will better prepare them for their 4 year high school/tech school experiences that occur outside the actual academic classroom. They will learn about group unity, individual identity and positivity, developing good friendships and good study skills, etc. A student lead area will be created in Google Classroom for each grade group to use for communicating once a month or as needed.
- The **8th** Grade Class Breakfast will occur in the EMS Cafeteria on the school day morning of Tuesday, 6/23/20 (early dismissal half day of school). During the breakfast(tentative), Team Awards will be given out, yearbook signing, a memory walk and maybe a year-in-review video will be shown. There will be approximately 270 students and 30 faculty staff members in attendance. After the breakfast, the class will walk over to the Roxbury High School to practice for the evening's Set Up Ceremony.

- The **8th** Grade Class will be going to see Romeo and Juliet at the Pax Amicus Theater on April 20, 21, or 22(Teams TBD). Also, they will be going on a 8th Grade Class Trip to Jeff Lake. A flyer, outlining the three 8th grade events and the two payment plan options, will be handed out before the holiday break.
- The EMS Reading Train Program is going well. There are 7 classes participating (3- 7th grade, 3- 8th grade, and 1 hybrid class) and there is a once a month gift card drawing based on completed reading books.
- The teachers suggested that the PTO create an award to be given out at the Set Up Ceremony to a student who exemplifies a particular attribute (including kindness, etc).

President's Report:

- **Easiest-Ever Fundraiser(Ongoing):** {\$7 membership dues and \$13 donation= \$20} The \$7 membership dues allows students free admission into the 2 Fun Nights (Fall and Winter). Students can sign their family up to the PTO right at the entrance door as they enter the Fun Night. Children of supporters will attend the fun nights free of charge. There will be an admission fee for non-supporters. An accurate, up-to-date dues/donation spreadsheet will be maintained by the PTO treasurer and will be present at each event.

• **THE THREE MAJOR STUDENT EVENTS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR ARE:**

1) The Fall Fun Night on Friday, November 15, 2019 from 7-9pm

2) The Winter Fun Night on Friday, February 7, 2020 from 7-9pm

Both of the above fun nights are for 7th and 8th grade students attending EMS~ parent donated snacks/drinks are set up in the lunch room & the gym is divided into two sides: one side for volleyball and the other side for a DJ playing music- on the Wed. or Thur. before the fun night, PTO volunteers will be selling tickets near or in the lunch room- parents can sign up for the PTO by having their children pay the supporter dues then, or else an admission fee will be charged at the door.

For the Fall 11/15/19 and the Winter 2/7/20 Fun Night: A Sign Up Genius will go on both the EMS Parent and EMS PTO Facebook pages to ask for volunteer help. The PTO will purchase new volleyballs from Walmart to use on the one half of the Gym. Eighth grade student Tyler Benedetto will be the D.J. for the evening. There will be a variety of games in the cafeteria that the students can play throughout the night. The teachers in attendance tonight made suggestions for increasing attendance that included having a raffle that lead up to and was announced at the dance, having stipend

teachers chaperone at the dance along with parents, and promoting dressing up for those who want to do so.

3) The 8th Grade Graduation(6-7pm) and the 8th Grade Step Up Dance(7-9pm) on Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Roxbury High School hosts the 8th grade graduation ceremony~ Tue. 6/23 is a half-day for 8th graders~ after the one hour long graduation ceremony, the students walk from the high school over to EMS for the 7-9pm dance~ the dance theme is designed by parents and is kept secret until the dance~ the evening includes music, food, a photo booth, giveaways, etc.~ 7th grade parent volunteers chaperone the evening~ the local Roxbury police attend to keep both a casual and responsible eye on the evening's festivities. 7th grade parent(s) are needed to chair this committee. Eighth grade parents most certainly can help with the planning of it, but they cannot be present at the dance.

- A Fall 2019 Dezine Line(Roxbury Clothing) fundraiser will happen and parent Nancy Loizou will be in charge of it. Ordered items will be distributed before the holiday break.
- Box Tops- parent Jen Rosenbaum will be our Box Tops Chairperson and will use the Facebook pages to communicate with parents.
- The Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon Day will be tentatively on Monday, May 4, 2020- more details to follow- families are encouraged to send in well wishes and food items to celebrate our educational community at EMS!
- **Our next EMSPTO Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 @ 6:30pm and we will be meeting in the Lab of Inquiry(LOI).** Directions to the LOI: please enter the unlocked front main doors and make the first left and follow that corridor until the end- the LOI is the last door on the left, a large room with computers and tables in it. Principal Paul Gallagher will be in attendance at this meeting

- **2020 EMSPTO Meeting Schedule**
(Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the EMS Lab of Inquiry{LOI} unless otherwise noted)

Wed. January 15th

Wed. February 12th

****Thur. March 19th**

Wed. April 22nd

Wed. May 13th

Wed. June 10th