

02/05/19 Eisenhower Middle School PTO Meeting Minutes

EMSPTO Officers in Attendance:

PTO President - Michelle Danielson – mhdaniels@att.net

PTO Vice President - Gabriella Pereira - gabikpereira@gmail.com

PTO Treasurer – Christine O'Connor - coconn@optonline.net

PTO Secretary – Susan Szardenings - susizar@yahoo.com

Principal's Report:

- Mr. Gallagher reported that 2/8/19 Winter Fun Night tickets would be for sale and pick-up at 4 lunches, with Ms. O and Mr. G covering 2 lunch periods and students covering the other 2 lunches.
- Recently there was a Code of Conduct Presentation that addressed Safety, Security, Proper Dress Code and Cellphone Guidelines with the students by Ms. Omega and Mr. Gallagher in the EMS Auditorium. The students have been doing well with and providing utilizable feedback for the school security drills. Also, an appropriate clothing/proper clothing coverage was discussed. In addition, school cellphone usage regulations were reviewed. Addressing these points periodically throughout the calendar school year ensures that students are kept aware of, gain knowledge about, and can choose to follow the student school policies.
- The Student Improvement Contract Plan was discussed- it is a plan where the EMS student takes ownership of their not-so-good grade(s) {D's and F's} and along with their subject teacher, they design and implement a plan to improve the grade. This gives the student control over the plan's design, along with teacher and guidance counselor input and direction. In some cases for example, students may need to temporarily discontinue a sport or the drama play, sign off with parents to their contract, ultimately complete the grade improvement, and return to their regular school/activity schedule with an improved grade and outlook. This is an example of students advocating for themselves what and how they need to study and striving for improvement within their own life.
- The EMS Girls Basketball Team recently wrapped up their season.
- Two EMS students who competed by audition were accepted into one of the ensembles of the North Jersey School Music Association Junior Region 1 Band
- The Winter Fun Night is coming up on Friday, February 8th from 7-9pm in the EMS Cafeteria and Gym.

Treasurer's Report:

- The Spiritwear DeZine Line Fundraiser check for \$230.00 was deposited into the PTO account with an ending balance of \$8,221.29

President's Report:

- **Teacher Appreciation Week** starts on May 7th, which is the same as the first day of PARCC. Therefore, EMS Teacher Appreciation Week will run Tuesday, May 14th through Friday, May 17th. The PTO will encourage families to send in well wishes and food and will provide paper products and food as well. Let's celebrate our teachers!
- **National Police Unity Tour in May 2019**(Tentative date is Friday May 31st, with a rain date of Thursday May 30th))- the EM SPTO supports this. This is the event's 4th year with middle schoolers and faculty/staff riding their bikes to and around Horseshoe Lake and cheering on classmates~ this event helps raise funds for Roxbury Police and honors Police Officers that have fallen in the line of duty. The contact person for this event is Heather Roddy(hroddy@roxbury.org)
- **Easiest-Ever Fundraiser: Ongoing:** {\$7 membership dues and \$13 donation= \$20} **{Also: Please consider volunteering 2 hours of your time during the course of this school year to your child(ren) by helping out with PTO activities- there are opportunities during the day, at-home, and evening. Please share your talents, help out a committee, have fun with a group of your own friends by volunteering together, and enjoy knowing that you made a good difference in your child's school life.}**
- **Box Tops**- Jennifer Rosenbaum- collection boxes are in Main Office and Cafeteria
- **Spiritwear**- Nancy Loizou- DeZine Line- \$230 was raised from the Fall fundraiser and deposited into the PTO account. A Spring Sale is being considered.
- **Shoparoo App**- ongoing & growing!- Gabriella Pereira(gabikpereira@gmail.com)
- **Ella Wink Scholarship**- Christine O'Connor- Annually the EMSPTO is currently reaching out for a monetary donation of approximately \$400- \$450 from each of the elementary school PTA/PTO groups {Roxbury & Mt. Arlington} to form the scholarship fund. In February 2019 the application forms are distributed and senior high school students then write and submit a single page essay about a teacher who most influenced them from the middle school grade on up. In April the essays are collected and read. In May the recipients are chosen. In June the scholarships are handed out to the winners at the Senior Awards Dinner.

- **The 8th Grade Graduation(6-7pm) and the 8th Grade Step Up Dance(7-9pm) on Monday, June 24, 2019-** Christine O'Connor, Nancy Loizou and Susan Szardenings are heading the committee group for the dance. {Roxbury High School hosts the 8th grade graduation ceremony~ Mon. 6/24 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 the 7th grade 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. This special evening is the last chance for the EMSPTO to give something to the students. It is a gift to the children who are graduating.}
- ****The Roxbury High School Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, June 26th at 12 noon.**
- **Old Items Collection Truck will be on site at EMS in April or May 2019-** 100% of the monies generated will be donated to Roxbury Social Services. Details to follow-
- **Our next EMSPTO Meeting will be on Thursday, March 7th @ 7:30-9:00pm and we will be meeting in the Lab of Inquiry(LOI).**
 Directions to the LOI: Please enter the unlocked front main school 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. Meetings alternate monthly on Tue. and Thur. to encourage people to attend when they are available~
Principal Paul Gallagher and Assistant Principal Elizabeth Omega alternate meeting months. Assistant Principal Omega will be at our March meeting.

2019 EMSPTO Meeting Schedule

(7:30-9:00pm in the EMS Lab of Inquiry{LOI} unless otherwise noted)

Thursday March 7th

TUESDAY April 9th

Thursday May 9th

TUESDAY June 4th