

# MINUTES

## Potter Road Elementary School PTO

*Date | time* 10/10/2018 7:30 PM | *Meeting called to order by* SaRah BoweRs

### Administrator's Report – Michelle DaCosta

- Thanks for coming to Family Learning Night and Curriculum Nights. Both were successful, turnout was great, and teachers and parents were pleased. New format for Curriculum Night this year - feedback will be incorporated next year to adjust timing.
- School Council met last week to review School Improvement Plan, look at what is happening so far this year and feels there is good progress being made.
- Mr. Weinstein and Mrs. Moriarty are working on STEAM Day – Details TBD – focus will be on how everyday things work, each teacher in the school will present ½ hour to hour.
- MCAS scores arrived – PRS is meeting expectations. Instructional Leadership team is reviewing data, looking at trends, how to improve, etc. We met targets, but there is room for growth. Scores will go to parents on Friday.
- MOS Outreach Live New England recently came to Potter Road for all students. The event included different stations throughout the school, including animals, science presentations, science activities, etc.
- Back to school clubs are starting – Engineering, Ballroom Dancing, BOKS, etc.
- PBIS (positive behavior program) is highlighting the word ‘responsibility’ this month. It’s also National Bullying Prevention Month, so teachers are presenting about this. See [stopbullying.gov](http://stopbullying.gov) for more info.
- Bus Safety was reviewed in September to set expectations at the bus stop and on the bus. Parents should discuss with their children and reinforce these expectations.

### Treasurer's Report – Kevin Harris

- We are a very healthy PTO – we are fortunate to have terrific parent involvement and fundraising is successful. Total assets about \$56K. Fun Run last year net proceeds \$13,687, which was the biggest fundraiser ever at PRS.
- PTO recently purchased new curtains for the stage. New sound system and lights will be coming soon.
- PTO also funded new furniture and improvements to teachers lounge over the summer.
- Easy ways to support PRS:
  - Amazon fundraisers – last year \$260; this year \$174. Must click the link via PRS website.
  - Direct Donation drive (continues all year) – last year to date \$1900; this year to date \$1700
  - Box Tops – send in any time throughout the year. Collection bins in all classrooms, ongoing basis.
    - PRS submits box tops twice per year (October/March). Goal to raise more than last year (\$800).
    - There will be a competition – classroom that collects the most wins \$100 Amazon Gift Card, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize will be \$50 gift card, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize will be \$25 gift card.
  - Stop and Shop – if you have a Stop and Shop Loyalty Card, please go online to link to our school (details on PRS website or MySchoolAnywhere). Our school has received \$1500/year for the past two years from this fundraiser.

- New program: TD Bank affinity program will donate \$50 to PRS for each new checking account; \$10 for each existing account. If you open an account, you will get \$25. Our school will also earn 1/10 of 1% of annual average savings balances. Contact [PotterRoadPTO@gmail.com](mailto:PotterRoadPTO@gmail.com) if you need instructions to set up.

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### Townwide PTO/Other Updates – Kevin Harris

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- Next Month – Scott Wadland from School Committee will come to talk about Fuller Middle School Project. Even though our school doesn't feed to Fuller, the project will benefit our entire school community, and will require voter support in December special election. This will impact taxes but is desperately needed.
- District-wide March field trip is planned for all 4<sup>th</sup> graders to visit Boston Symphony Orchestra. Funding for the buses is being negotiated. More info coming soon.

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### General PTO Updates – Kevin Harris, SaRah BoweRs

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- PotterRoadPTO.org is our new internet domain, and our email addresses will be changing in the near future. Please add new addresses to your address books to prevent anything from going to spam folders.
- Robotics club for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders – more info coming soon, will start in mid-November this year.
- Recent email sent by Claudia Miller for ALL parents, contains link to survey from Gabby Oliveira related to her research on the two-way Portuguese program. It's a quick survey – very helpful if all parents will respond.
- School picture retake day will be on 10/30.

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### Committees Report - Jasmine Laffin

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- Monster Money Challenge is starting next week. Competition for all classes; jars will be set up in the office. Add loose change to jars earn points for your class, or add dollar bills to remove points from competing classes. Winning teacher dresses up as a pumpkin on the day of the Turkey Trot.
- Spirit Wear – adult-sized clothing will be ordered only once per year, so please place order online via MySchoolAnywhere by Friday 10/12. V-necks will be available this year.

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### Pumpkin Fair – Jasmine Laffin and Jaime Cesar

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Pumpkin Fair coming up on Saturday 10/20 from 12-4 PM.

- There are still volunteer slots open – please sign up via sign-up genius. We especially need help with food distribution, and prize redemption. Student spots are also available for Potter Road alumni and older kids who need community service hours.
- On Friday from 6-8 PM we need help with set-up; pizza is provided and kids can come. We also need a lot of help with breakdown after the fair on Saturday.
- Halloween decorations are needed (to borrow or keep) for the haunted hallway.
- Class Donation Flyers will be sent home on Friday – look up your child's class to see the requested items. Items can be sent in 10/15-10/19. You can send in a \$5 contribution if you don't have time to shop.
- Tickets for sale at the door – purchase tickets, or all-day wristbands for inflatables, etc. Cash and credit card will be accepted.
- Looking for new co-chairs for next year, so please get involved if you are interested.
- Pumpkin Fair raised over \$4K last year.
- Please spread the word – Pumpkin Fair is open to everyone (not just for our school).

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## Fundraising Report – Jaime Cesar

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- Many items have already been discussed, but a couple others include
  - Mabel's Labels – order on MySchoolAnywhere or PRS website and our school gets a percentage.
  - Restaurant fundraisers – planning to do about four this year. Details TBD.
- Saxonville Haunted Yards – 10/20 at 6:30 PM at 227 Water St. Free event, but donations support Potter Road.

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## Motion to Approve Minutes – Colleen Frost

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- The September 2018 PTO meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The meeting was called to a close at 8:30 PM by SaRah Bowers.

The next PTO meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 14 at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria.