Stoughton South Elementary School 

PTO Agenda

*May 1, 2024*

**Welcome, THANK YOUS & Introductions**

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| Allison Reddington (President) & Kasey DiBiasio (VP) |

* Approval of April meeting minutes Approved - Nancy & Amanda
* Upcoming at the South Note: be sure to subscribe to Mr. Dore’s Google calendar and check regularly to ensure you’re aware of anything that may be updated.
  + 5.1 PTO Meeting
  + 5.2 ½ Day
  + 5.3 School Lunch Hero Day (Celebrated during TAW)
  + 5.5-5.10 TAW\* (Celebrating our Teachers, Paras, Lunch, Nurse & Admins!)
  + 5.8 School Nurse Day
  + 5.10 Popcorn Friday \*\* Note this was moved due to Willy Wonka show
  + 5.12 South Red Sox Game
  + \_\_\_\_ Spring Spiritwear Online Store Opens
  + 5.22 School Council Meeting, 3pm
  + 5.23 Spring School Store Please make sure any venmo payments for School Store are sent **24 hrs in advance** so volunteers know that day!
  + 5.28 K Orientation
  + 5.29 Fine Arts Night, 5-7pm
  + 5.30 Field Day\* There will be 2 shifts in the morning, lunch, then teacher race/ pieing in afternoon
  + 6.4 Book Swap & Literacy Palooza\*
    - PTO helped fund this to ensure every child can go home with a book!
    - Bring books you’re done with to swap
    - Ms. Amy from Stoughton Public Library will come do presentations during this time and give out library card registration forms
    - Library summer reading program is also great to encourage/ track summer reading and you can win prizes!
* Old Business
  + TAW\*
    - **Sunday** - Chalk the Walk - Sara & Tiffany will be running Chalk the Walk on Sunday, chalk will be provided between 2-4pm! Still looking for people to sign up and donate things – check signupgenius!
      * You can come earlier or later than 2-4pm if you want, but need to bring your own chalk
      * Balloon fairy will be setting up Sunday as well.
    - **Monday** – Jolly trolley checklists will go out for teachers to fill in
    - **Tuesday** – teachers will get their love note boxes
    - **Wednesday** – teacher survival kit (box of needs: purell, sharpies, post-its, etc.)
    - **Thursday** – teacher catered luncheon from Roxanne’s
    - **Friday** – Jolly Trolley gifts will be distributed along with big gift from PTO
  + Library Birthday book plaques (Summer Order)
  + Literacy Palooza & SSR Books, ORDERED!
    - South Suggested Summer Reading – worked with literacy specialists to come up with books for each grade level, teachers worked with kids to choose a book they’d be most interested in reading within the suggestions.
      * This is not required, but encouraged… teachers may ask kids to share about these books at beginning of next year.
  + Scholarship Recipients, SELECTED!
    - Two $500 scholarships this year
    - Next year we will give out three $1,000 scholarships and select a committee to review and vote on these
  + 24-25 PTO & SC preferred meeting times, Update
  + Anniversaries Milestones
    - Plaques, Order, 6 Milestones\*
  + Amazon Classroom Wish Lists, STILL Accepting– teachers should still be sending these to us if they have them, and as teachers update them they will be updated for families to access.
    - * Submit to AllieReddington@gmail.com
* New Business
  + New Building Updates
    - <https://www.stoughtonschools.org/article/1567902>
  + MSBA approved!
  + Town Meeting next week Tues 5/7 – town meeting reps need to vote to have a general election
  + There is a hold on 6/11 for special election if town meeting reps vote for it
    - We need everyone to show up and vote YES if this happens!
  + Walkthrough on Monday – Mr. Dore showed the true state of the issues in this building. We will have more of these and can schedule as many as needed to ensure everyone is well educated.
  + Note that MSBA $$ does NOT have to be reimbursed or go into our taxes. It is funded out of our state sales tax. If we don’t vote yes to accept the MSBA grant, the town will need to foot the whole bill for whatever is needed to update or replace this school. We may end up needing to pay more
  + If we say no to MSBA, we may not be invited back to apply for this grant for other schools in need, e.g. the Middle School
  + Long term goal for Stoughton is likely to go down to 3 elementary schools
  + What would happen with existing buildings?
    - If vote passes, existing South School would get turned over to town to decide what to do with it
    - State is pushing universal pre-K, so we need a space to house this eventually as we know it will pass (ages 2.9-5) – the Wilkins would likely serve this purpose
    - Jones School would likely close
  + Redistricting will happen no matter what, whether or not we have a new school. South is fully at capacity based on current district.
  + Stoughton is on an upswing right now – 11.5-15% increase in students expected in 10 years
  + Property values expected to increase ~14% for entire town if we get this new school (not just in the school district)
  + As soon as vote passes, we’d hire a construction company
    - Site clearing – Sept
    - Ground breaking – Sept 2025 – building done in 22 months
  + Admin Professional Day (4/24) Flowers & Amazon GCs gifted from PTO
  + Student Teacher Gift
  + VOTE 🗳️ Open Positions!
    - Cultural/School Enrichment (currently Nancy) – **Sara Levine** nominated by Nancy, everyone voted yes.
      * Nancy will still help and lead culture night still
    - Membership (currently Tiffany) – **Michelle Frost** nominated by Allison, everyone voted yes.
      * **Abby Eustis** will shadow Tiffany for book fair and take over after next year.
  + 4th Grade FT Grant Opportunity, Vote 🗳️ Required Sara made motion to vote for $440 to fund this, all in favor.

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| Jola Tuck (Treasurer) |

* Budget Notes, Profit & Loss
* Walmart Sparks, Status Update: Summer project
* Other

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| Melanie DiBiasio (Secretary) |

* Website, Updates
* Newsletter - **email** [**southptostoughton@gmail.com**](mailto:southptostoughton@gmail.com) **to be added**
* Red Sox - **16 tickets sold total; much lower than past years. Decide if worth continuing to offer?**

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| Abby Eustis & Jenney Ivaldi (Fundraising Chairs) |

* Shark Season! Book Special Dates NOW!
* To put in your request – venmo $25 and email PTO with address/ date (note if it’s a birthday!) – we can do this even after school ends. Bri & Nicole (sharking chairs)
* Textile Bin!
* Staples CONNECT Program has ended, Replacement?
* Walmart SPARKS (Jola setting up this spring/summer)
  + - Treasurer
* Spirit Wear Store Online, SOON!
* Box Tops for Education
* Fun Run, Final RECAP! $75,348.58 🤯

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| Nancy Nunez (Cultural Enrichment Chair) |

* ***→ Cultural Chair Up for Re-Election***
* Cultural Night - 1/9/25 5:30pm – 7pm
  + (BackUp dates: 1/16/25, 1/23/25)
* Whale Exhibit, Spring, Grades 3-5 (Fall ‘24) October \_8\_th?
* Discovery Museum, Grades K-2 (Fall ‘24) October 15-17th
* Dr. Mary - Family Health & Wellness Event (TBD)
* Garden Box & Compost Project, Status Update
  + Mrs. Doherty & Ms. Gabriels

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| Tiffany White (Membership Chair) |

* ***→ Membership Chair Up for Re-Election***

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| Mr. Dore, Mrs. Shute & Ms. Guay (Admins & Staff) |

* Other School Updates
  + Note upcoming important dates:
    - 5/28 – Kindergarten orientation – this will be an informal walkthrough during school hours. There will also be a meet & greet in August (date TBC) which will be a better chance for incoming kindergarteners to engage with each other, teachers, etc. ahead of school year. keep an eye out for more info on this.
    - 5/29: Art show – K-5 @ 5-6pm, concert 6-7pm for band & chorus (4/5 grade) **Note: Art show will NOT Be open for viewing during concert!**
    - Kindergarten Moving Up ceremony date moved to 6/13
    - Grade 5 Moving On is on 6/14
    - Last day of school 6/18 (both 6/17 and 6/18 are half days)
  + For Maplewood field trip (6/11) we are still figuring out two shifts and how grades will break out
  + **Concerts** – strong turnout for concerts this year, there will be a survey in one of the next couple Friday updates asking for feedback on the format & time.

**\*Volunteer(s) Needed**

***>> Next Meeting - June 5, 2024 <<***