



January 8, 2019 PRS PTO Meeting Notes

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions	PTO Board
Support South Windsor Schools Update	Daria Plummer
Spanish Program at PRS	Maria Lewis
STAR Testing	Julie Ratajczak & Kelly Burke
Events Updates: Ground Breaking, Wooster Street Pizza Fundraiser, & Bingo Night	
PRS Updates	Michelle Dixon
PTO Updates	PTO Board

Support South Windsor Schools Update – Daria Plummer, Chairperson

- PRS Groundbreaking on Saturday, January 12th at 2:00pm
- *Support South Windsor Schools* is hoping that each elementary school will march in the Memorial Day parade this year in their Spirit wear. Kickoff is at 10:00am. More to come!!!

Spanish Program at PRS – Mrs. Maria Lewis

- Mrs. Lewis provided an interactive presentation to the parents in attendance.
- Mrs. Lewis teaches students in 1st and 2nd grade classrooms for 15 minutes at a time. Students are becoming familiar with greetings, numbers, seasons, weather, clothing, and a variety of question and answer techniques. These young years are the prime ages to learn a new language!
- The district is proposing that the World Language program to extend to 3rd and 4th grade next year.

STAR Testing, Julie Ratajczak (Math Specialist) & Kelly Burke (Reading Specialist)

- The STAR assessment is an adaptive, norm-based, multiple-choice assessment given to students in 2nd-10th grades three times each year (September, January, and May). It is given to assess students' reading and math achievement, and it provides one piece of data to determine how students are progressing toward state standards. Results of STAR

guide instructional planning for small groups for intervention, enrichment, etc. It helps teachers differentiate their instruction for small groups, as well.

- This is the district's first year utilizing STAR. It is a state recommended assessment, which takes students approximately 20-40 minutes to complete. Parents are welcome to call and ask about their child's score at any time.
- PRS will hold a SBAC night in February...stay tuned!

Events Update, PTO Board

- PRS Ground Breaking – January 12th
- Wooster Street Pizza Fundraiser – January 15th
- Bingo Night – January 25th (We still need volunteers and raffle prize donations!)
- Valentine's Hearts – Through February 8th (More to come soon!)
- Movie Night – March 1st (Most likely *Incredibles 2!*)

Principal's Update, Mrs. Michelle Dixon

- Thanks to all for participating in parent/teacher conferences. Never hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher with questions about progress.
- The PTO was amazing in December with granting teacher wishes! It was such a morale builder during parent/teacher conferences. The teachers had a blast with it!
- The Scholastic Book Fair was incredibly successful, raising over \$4500 in Scholastic dollars. The majority of the profit will be used to purchase flexible seating for the classroom (i.e. wobble cushions, standing desks, accordion chairs, etc.). Any remaining funds will be used to supplement classroom libraries.
- The Teacher Soup Luncheon on December 12th organized by Kristen Sweeney was greatly appreciated! The teachers and staff look forward to it every year! Thank you Kristen for organizing this event!
- Thanks to the PTO and the Cultural Arts Committee! Carol Lin provided two 45 minute programs entertaining students with her 5 string electric guitar and modern technology to integrate many forms of music. The program was very interactive and she was impressed with what a wonderful audience our students were!
- SBAC testing to take place between April 22nd and May 13th. Grade 5 will also take that NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) on May 16th.
- PRS Groundbreaking Ceremony to be held on January 12th! Hoping for a big turnout!
- Kindergarten registration begins on February 4th!
- The Brick Campaign is still going on and will continue for quite some time! Bricks will be incorporated into the Memorial Garden at PRS. Buy your brick today!
- On March 4th, author in residence Marlo Thomas (*author of Free to Be . . . You and Me*) will work in classrooms and host an evening event for parents.

PTO Updates, PTO Board

- We had fun granting wishes this holiday season! Thank you to the staff at PRS for always going above and beyond for our children!
- We have a NEW app called Let's All Do Good! It is in real time, and it is a great way to get information to you quickly! Download it today!

- Mrs. Julie Dixon, current PTO Treasurer, will be stepping down at the end of the school year. We are looking for someone to shadow Julie for the remainder of the school year before taking over in the fall. Please email us at prsptoboard@gmail.com if you are interested!