



PRS PTO Meeting Notes

March 12, 2019

AGENDA

PRS Updates

Michelle Dixon

Internet and Social Media Security Presentation

Lt. Brian C. Eckblom

PTO Updates

PTO Board

Principal's Update – Michelle Dixon

- A huge thanks to Noreen and Suzanne for organizing movie night! Many families came out to enjoy *Incredibles 2*!
- BINGO Night was incredible, as well. Thanks to Jill and Judy for their hard work with this event!
- The Scholastic Book Fair raised over \$4000 in Scholastic Dollars. PRS will be using this money to outfit classrooms with flexible seating options such as standing desks, wobble chairs, disc seats, etc. The leftover money will be spent on books to stock classroom libraries.
- Thanks to the PTO for funding a recent internet safety program for our 5th graders!
- Parent-teacher conferences start Wednesday, March 20th, 2019.
- The 2019 SBAC testing window runs from April 22 to May 13.
- Our 3rd Annual Multicultural Night will be held on Tuesday, April 2nd from 6:30pm-8:00pm! Come check out Capoeira, a Brazilian martial art.
- Facilities update: Abatement is just about complete! Demo should take about four weeks and will be starting soon!
- Renata Bowers joined PRS last Thursday, spending an hour with each grade level.
- Bricks are still available for the memorial garden.
- Kindergarten registration is open!
- There are six 5th graders moving onto the state finals for their Invention Convention projects! Congrats to them all!
- A PRS student has moved onto the state geography bee!
- Early dismissal Wednesdays start March 20, 2019. After school clubs start then, as well.
- Tuesday, March 19th is a full day of professional development for teachers.
- PRS is **A School of Distinction** once again! This ranking is based on SBAC scores.
- The Elementary Parent/School Compact was shared with those in attendance. It includes expectations for staff, teachers, and parents.

Internet and Social Media Security Presentation – Lt. Brian C. Eckblom

- Newly appointed Lieutenant Brian Eckblom is a 14-year member of the South Windsor Police Department. He was the former high school School Resource Officer (SRO), and he is currently the Youth and Victims Manager.
- *SnapChat* – Lieutenant Eckblom stated, “The longer you can keep your kids off, the better” or better yet, avoid this app if possible. Streaks (like texting) are popular on *SnapChat*. Kids like to see who had the “longest streak.” There is a “My Eyes Only” Section.
- Photo Vaults are the idea that you have fake pictures saved on your computer/phone while the real ones are often behind a “vault” like a calculator that is password protected.
- Regarding Sexting, which is typically consensual. 2012 Connecticut General Statute states:

(1) No person who is thirteen years of age or older but under eighteen years of age may knowingly possess any visual depiction of child pornography that the subject of such visual depiction knowingly and voluntarily transmitted by means of an electronic communication device to such person and in which the subject of such visual depiction is a person thirteen years of age or older but under sixteen years of age.

(2) No person who is thirteen years of age or older but under sixteen years of age may knowingly and voluntarily transmit by means of an electronic communication device a visual depiction of child pornography in which such person is the subject of such visual depiction to another person who is thirteen years of age or older but under eighteen years of age.

Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

- Regarding *Fortnite*, kids can be playing with and talking to strangers on it. It is incredibly addictive!
- “Kids are always going to be more advanced on their phones . . .rather than trying to chase the latest app and try to figure it out, we must have ongoing open conversation with our kids so that we make clear to them what our expectations are and set guidelines and restrictions.”
- Officer Eckblom suggested using a cell phone contract with our kids. This gives our children clear boundaries and it eliminates threats. Officer Eckblom provided an example of one for those in attendance.
- Resources for safe apps and websites: www.common sense media.org and www.parenting.com
- The BEST Parental Control Software (2019) – Net Nanny and PCMAG.COM
- Online Bullying is often a two-way street and it is difficult to manage for schools and school resource officers. We need to catch it early and identify the issue before it gets too involved. Documentation is key for the schools. Kids hate to tattle. Make sure your kids tell you early when they feel bullied.

Upcoming Events!

- Tuesday, March 19th – NO SCHOOL
- Wednesday, March 20th – Half Day Wednesday’s start
- Tuesday, April 2nd – Multicultural Night
- Monday-Wednesday, April 22nd – 24th – Scholastic Book Fair
- Tuesday, April 23rd – Muffins for Mom
- Monday-Friday, May 6th – 10th – Teacher Appreciation Week
- Tuesday, May 14th – Final PTO Meeting of the year!
- Friday, May 31st – Spring Carnival