



Lancaster Parent Teacher Organization

March 9, 2023 PTO Meeting Agenda

- Call Meeting to Order
- Introductions and Attendance
- Review and Approve February 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Town Override Vote - School Impact
 - Town Administrator Kate Hodges
 - Lancaster has been using free cash to fund town expenses (essentially, the town's saving's account)
 - No capital funding for 11 years, Prescott was funded via bond
 - For town personnel services 4.3 m, non-personnel, 2.24, Minute Man 282,000, Nashoba \$15 M+
 - Deficit of \$1.1 M
 - Override will be \$1.1 M - \$1.3 M (sustain for 5 years)
 - The hope is that new re-zone will bring in development and reduce taxes, could lead to an override.
 - Plan B if override doesn't pass: deficit of \$894k, \$400k off of municipal services (police, fire, reg boards, library), \$400k from Nashoba assessment would lead to \$1.3M reduction overall, which would lead to massive layoffs.
 - Override is a ballot question
 - Selectboard meeting on 3/20
 - Encourage members to engage with the materials available, so that they can make an informed decision
 - Info sessions with staff, tv station will tape, and it can be shared via social media
 - Jen L. will create a graphic synopsis. Monica will connect Jen with Kate
 - Date of the town vote is May 8th (Monday after Town Meeting, which is on May 3rd)
- Treasurer Report
 - Account Balance: \$54,737.23

- Allocated Funds: \$22,792.96
- Remaining Balance: \$31,944.27
- Funding Requests
 - DC Trip
 - Previously approved \$5k for DC trip (see Feb meeting minutes)
 - \$1,110 for meals needed
 - Down to 72-74 students, creates coach surcharge
 - \$1288-\$1858 extra
 - Last payment is due by 4/15
 - Another trivia night, proceeds can return to PTO
 - Niki motions to approve an additional \$1.9k for DC trip, passed unanimously
 - 4th Grade
 - Concord Museum, requires classes be split due to size, so it doubles the cost of the bus
 - \$750 for buses
 - 4th grade still has \$8 left for kid.
 - Jess motions to approve extra \$222
 - Nature's Classroom - Grant for 2023-2024 school year
 - Look at Cultural Council grant
- Booster Program Update
 - Houghton is making \$15k-\$20k
 - Monica recommends going full service (people in school)
 - It's a six-day program, in school, culminates with a glow run or dance
 - ~15 minutes per day for the first five days
 - Kids get something at the end, every child is recognized equally
 - Digital donation plan
 - Also plan to do a calendar raffle
- Clay Time fundraiser
 - They bring everything, then we get 20%
 - Book for spring
- PTO Inclusivity & Family Welcome
 - Language Inclusivity
 - Jen D. can translate Spanish
 - Strategies to expand PTO membership
 - "Welcome Wagon" for new families (spirit sticks?)
 - Largely Hispanic non-white population, primarily Brazilian
 - Opt-in with language options in Welcome packet
- Enrichment Update
 - Plimoth - Native Organization - went well!

- Scholarship Update
 - Need to share on Town
- Current Open Business
 - Family Literacy Night
 - March 23rd, no Unicorn Books
 - Auction
 - Currently focused on sponsors
 - Need invites posted around town
 - Goal is \$20k
 - Have Jen & Judy send one email
 - Jill will do
 - Teacher Appreciation Week
 - Spring Fling
- Resolved Business
 - Lip Sync
 - \$2,504
- Principal's Update
 - New principal tomorrow
- SEPAC Update
 - ADHD Essentials - Virtual Presentation 3/22 @ 6:30 PM
- New presentation from police department about social media