

Minutes of the East Moriches PTO Meeting

September 12, 2024

A meeting of the East Moriches PTO was held on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 7:00 pm in the East Moriches Elementary School.

**PTO Board Attendees**: Vice-President – Lauren Otto; Secretary - Maureen LaRocca, Treasurer – Trish Specht.

**PTO Guest Attendees:** Mr. Schneyer, Elementary School Principal, was present; as well as PTO Teacher Reps Mrs. Steuerwald and Mrs. Percoco. Mrs. Holborow, an elementary teacher, was also present.

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:15 pm. Lauren Otto welcomed everyone. Babysitting was provided by the NJHS.

**Minutes:** The May 2024 Meeting Minutes were dispensed, and members reviewed them. The Minutes are also available online at <https://empto.org>. A motion to approve the May 2024 minutes was made by Lorraine Baierwalter and seconded by Jocelyn Kaleita.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Trish Specht read the Treasurer’s report.

**Events/Fundraisers Updates:**

1. Completed:
   1. PTO Board Elections:
      * 1. President: Melissa Davis was unanimously elected.
        2. Secretary: Maureen LaRocca was unanimously elected.
   2. PTO Budget Presentation by Treasurer Trish Specht.
   3. Grades 3rd & 4th Bingo: April 18th. Lauren Otto & Melissa Davis. Fun night!
   4. ES 2nd Grade Paint Night: 4/30; Lauren Otto. Second graders were taught how to paint a beautiful ladybug (curriculum connections).
   5. T.V. Turnoff Week: Week of 5/6; Melissa Davis. Students earned raffle tickets for prizes if they turned off the TV to do more social and engaging activities.
   6. Teacher Appreciation Week: Week of 5/6. Melissa Davis. There was a “Friends” theme. Each day was named like an episode of Friends (The One When We…..)
   7. Mothers’ Day Plant Sale: Thursday (M.S) & Friday (E.S.), May 9th & 10th. Lauren Otto was the chairperson.
   8. Kindergarten Orientation: 5/15. PTO provided “Class of …..” EMO Eagle T-shirts for all incoming Kindergarteners.
   9. MS NJHS Induction Ceremony Refreshments: 5/16 @ 7 pm; Maureen LaRocca.
   10. 8th grade Dance Decorations on 6/14: Danielle Munsch was chairperson.
   11. 6th Grade Bingo: is 6/11. Tina Balzano was chairperson, Mr. Balzano was the Bingo Caller. For 2025, 5th & 6th grades will be combined. It was a fun night.
   12. 4th Grade Yearbook Signing Breakfast: 6/18; Melissa Davis. 4th graders enjoyed bagels while signing each others’ yearbooks.
   13. M.S. Fun Fair: 6/7; Melissa Davis. Inflatable water slide, slip and slide, ice pops, inflatable games, and tons of fun!
   14. E.S. Fun Fair: 6/21; Melissa Davis. Indoor inflatables, Mister Softee ice cream truck, and Splash bucket for teachers! Fun!
   15. 4th grade Moving-up Ceremony: 6/24, chaired by Lauren Crennan & Tara Gassick.
   16. 8th grade Graduation: 6/24; Lori Barraud was chairperson. The PTO provided décor, celebratory cake and refreshments to honor all of the graduates (4th in the morning, 8th in the afternoon).
   17. Kindergarten Meet & Greet: 9/3; Incoming Kindys got to meet their new classmates and teachers. We raffled off some Back-to-School goodies and parents had the opportunity to join the PTO membership.
   18. Family Movie Night & M.S. Principal Meet & Greet: 9/6; Lauren Otto. 150 people were in attendance and featured the movie, Inside Out. Movie and setup provided by Movies in the Moonlight.
2. Ongoing or Upcoming Business:
   1. 2024-2025 PTO Budget Vote: 23 Yays, 0 Nays, 0 abstained. 2024-2025 PTO Budget was approved, thank you.
   2. E.S. Open House: 9/17; The PTO will conduct a Membership drive at both schools’ Open Houses.
   3. M.S. Open House: 9/18; Membership drive.
   4. E.S. Ice Cream Social: 9/20; for Summer Reading Challenge participants; Melissa Davis. Students who completed the Summer Reading will enjoy ice cream as a reward.
   5. M.S. Picture Day: 9/25
   6. E.S. Picture Day: 9/26; volunteers will help students freshen up and be camera ready.
   7. Spiritwear Sale: 9/16 through 9/27: You can order online or send in paper orders. We will be selling hooded sweatshirts, tie-dye t shirts, as well as long and short sleeve shirts. Look out for our new logo to possibly be coming out in Spring 2025.
   8. Believe Fundraiser: 9/20 through 10/4; Trish Specht. This is a catalog fundraiser featuring holiday items and frozen desserts/pizzas.
3. New Business:
   1. Cheddar-Up online payment system for donations and membership dues.
   2. Scholastic Book Fairs: Lauren Otto; Volunteers needed. Sign-ups will be posted. Chairs and co-chairs needed for this year and next!
      1. M.S.: 10/10 & 10/11
      2. E.S.: 10/17 – 10/18
      3. E.S. Evening Fair: 10/17
   3. E.S. Harvest Fest: 10/17: Olivia Ruddick. Fun things are being planned. We will be having a Pumpkin Decorating Contest this year! Volunteers needed.
   4. 5th & 6th Grades Halloween Dance & Trunk or Treat: 10/25; Caitlin Giorgio volunteered to chair the Halloween Dance. Will Beckenhaupt volunteered to chair this event the Trunk or Treat. Volunteers needed.
   5. E.S. Halloween Costume Parade: 10/3. Melissa Davis. Weather permitting, students will parade in Halloween costumes around the bus loop for their parents.

There being no further business, Alexis motioned to adjourn, and Mrs. Steuerwald seconded the motion. The PTO meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

The next P.T.O. Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Middle School.