

# Virtual Zoom Meeting

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May 6, 2021

## ATTENDEES

Mehta, Skopak, Furich, Gardner, Mazzara, Fink, Reynolds, Criqui, Farka, Maggie, Gadaleta, DiGiovanni, Toth, Corinne, Danielle R, Lyne, Ed, Steiner, Cesar, Roppalte, Holland, Hochkeppel, Stevenson, Farley, K. Criqui, Wactlar, Davis, Huegel, Nowak, Massaroni, Oubina, Renee, Demi, Rafiei, Cioce, Moran, Piccoli, Owen, Dioninsio, Davella, Lavezzo

## MEETING DETAILS

### Called to Order

- President Cindy Mehta called meeting to order at 9:34 am

### March Meeting Minutes

- March meeting minutes approved by Lavezzo & Vega

### Spring Auction

- Wanted to once again thank everyone who participated in the spring auction. We raised a bit over \$15,000.

### Administrative Professional Day

- Administrative Professional Day was Wed, April 21. We gifted both Mrs. Rivera and Mrs. Evangelista some chocolate covered strawberries.

### Teacher Appreciation Week

- This week was Teacher Appreciation Week. Monday, the hospitality committee, led by Tina Gardner, set up a breakfast spread for them. Tuesday, we gifted bottles of hand soap to the teachers with a little tag that says “just soaping you have a great week”. For Wednesday, Lindsay packed cookie ingredients into a jar to make at home. Thursday, we gave them little bags of Purell hand sanitizers, alcohol wipes and lotion with a tag that says “clean hands, full hearts,” and tomorrow is

the teachers luncheon, where they will each be given a prepackaged and personalized lunch to enjoy.

### **Green Thumb**

- Thanks to Amanda Cesar from the Green Thumb committee our school has nice greenery in the planters.

### **Ms. Mitchell**

- We received a thank you letter from Ms. Mitchell. It was read aloud.

### **Field Day**

- Field day is happening. Mr. V will be sending out communication in the next few weeks. PTA will be providing snacks.

### **Committee Signups**

- For committee signups, we will be using google forms again, so be on the lookout in those Sunday emails for the link when it's ready, likely in June. We will reach out to current committee chairs to see if they want to continue.

### **Gifts**

- Retiring staff will receive gifts.
- End of year gift cards will go out as well.

### **PTA Voting**

- Formal voting took place for 21-22 PTA Board.
- Cindy Mehta and Nicole Skopak as Co-Presidents - 14 votes (majority)
- Ed Lavezzo as Vice President - 15 votes (majority)
- Farrah Carnahan and Danielle Roglieri - 14 votes (majority)

### **Car Line Volunteers**

- Thank you so much for volunteering your time and covering for each other.

### **Statement from Cindy Mehta**

- Parents - this HAS been a difficult year, but we still got a lot done. We invited Olympian Jack O'Callahan to Zoom with our student body, we made hearts for Ms. Mitchell to brighten her spirits, the students made

cards for Connor Barshay as well as collecting donations for his home renovations. We chalked the walk for our teachers, held a purse and playstation raffle, bottle and spirit wear sales and held our spring online auction. This is not an exhaustive list, but it's clear to see that we asked for a lot of support and YOU delivered.

- Because of your generosity, we have been able to provide masks, tents, disinfecting sprays and technology wipes to keep the school safe and clean.
- We are granting our teachers their annual wish lists as well as gifting them breakfast, lunch and gifts during Teacher Appreciation week. Still to come are Olympic T-Shirts and end of year gifts for the entire EFS staff.
- We couldn't have done any of this without you. Thank you so much for keeping the Essex Fells School spirit going.

### **Foundation Update**

- Great recent assemblies, look out for Aladdin. Cindy, we appreciate your collaboration with the foundation.

### **6th Grade Report**

- Second 6<sup>th</sup> grade car wash is Saturday May 15 9-12
- Thanks for all donations
- Possibly selling graduation signs if town approves
- Traditionally doing overnight trip, but school doing a day trip at Fairview Lakes

### **Mrs. Gadaleta's Report**

- Hoping September will be back to our regular school schedule. Masking for September will depend on local health department. Rules changing rapidly and takes time for NJ to update their rules. It's a process.
- Bureau doing traffic study to see if car line needs to change.
- Positive and hopeful September will be a more normal schedule.
- So thankful for the board to help with everything during the pandemic.
- We've had ups and downs, but we've gotten through and have come up with great ideas.
- Kindergarten having a drive-by ceremony and decorating cars

- Grade level field day, t-shirts, last Friday of full week of June will be the finale to field day week.
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade team building trip
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade poetry reading for the parents
- Thank you again for your support during these hard times
- Budget meeting tomorrow

### Q&A

- Gabrielle Steiner
  - Is move up day virtual?
  - Will be outside with teacher
- Comment: Nicole
  - Keeping staggered dismissal would helpful for pickup

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 am