



## Clough PTO General Meeting Agenda Tuesday April 9, 2019 @ 6:30 pm in Clough Library

**Start time: 6:32**

1. Welcome - Kelly Lucier, President

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting were emailed by Myah Stone to members who attended the meeting for review and comment. A motion to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2019, meeting was made by Alanna Bodio. Minutes approved.

3. Principal's Update - Mrs. Gallagher

\* How can we educate the whole child? What do you want to learn about? What inspires you? Sending an email to parents, want to get the community involved, June 6th in the morning: 2, 45-minute sessions in the morning, grades k-4 and kids will be mixed, sessions about 10 students each; have a lot of ideas, will need parent volunteers, looking for parents with talents

- Voting on the name: maybe Clough Connects or Clough Soar

4. Guest Speaker - Dr. Joseph Maruszczak, Superintendent of Schools

- This year named an AP Honor District by the college board: amongst the top 7th in the Commonwealth
- Receiving less in state aid next year than this year, and we are up 40 students next year, **level services budget, keeping things the same**, \$750,00 from Mendon and about \$850,00 (?) from Upton, need an override, Our 2 communities are below target share, both communities have agreed to give the minimum increase \$500,00 Mendon and \$600,00 Upton, so about a \$400,000 deficit, things may look up:
  1. House releases budget in April - usually better than governor's budget from Dec
  2. Senate releases budget in May - usually still a little better
  3. renegotiating health costs
- Vision: No School Psychologist in district
- Vision: Dean of Students, Special Education Team Chairperson
- Vision: Additional Wellness Teacher at Miscoe
- 94% of tax revenues from homeowners, Imperial remaining, not a lot of businesses in this town, What are we doing to attract more businesses to town?
- Override: last one in 2015, rapidly coming upon another one - every 4-5 years is typical
- Town Meeting in Mendon on May 3rd; encouraged us to stay engaged

- Questions:

1. Lyndey N: Where are they cutting? Debt exclusion, money going to the police station  
Historically speaking, "Mendon drives the bus." 55% of the population from Mendon and 45% from Upton.
2. Kelly Lucier: Have we had our school water tested? We have our water tested every month b/c it's well water and tight regulations. "Super confident it's safe."
3. Kelly Lucier: Any idea about the Spanish Program for the upcoming years? Feels very strongly not going to uproot those kids. In a perfect world would be one at each school. Encouraged parents to help with recruiting. Enrollment is more robust in Upton.
4. Clare O: Why does the water taste so bad though? Reports show it's good.
5. Christine Q: We don't meet minimal contribution. So, how much do we get paid per student? Look at our website under the FY20 budget, \$20 per kid for the year ("hold harmless"), \$44,000 in state aid. We are spending 1.7 million on buses and only get back 1 million.
6. Mrs. G: If we *were* paying the minimal contribution how much would we get per student?
7. Beth: Are other regional school districts getting funding and if so how can we do what they are doing? They are having the same struggles (i.e. Wachusett) about 60% of communities in the same circumstances
8. Beth: Who should we be writing letters to? Rep Brian Murray in Milford and Senator is Ryan Fattman, both very supportive, this week signed off on 2 measures: \$100 per kids and transportation. Dr. M will email Clough PTO something generic for us to mail. In April contact Brian Murray and in May Ryan Fatman.
9. Kelly Lucier: How much are we getting from school choice? It costs \$15,153 per student for the current fiscal year. Foundation budget formula about \$9,700; We lose money on school choice students (we only get \$5500 from other town), need to be really prudent on how many school choice students  
Also, We spend \$2.1 million on students who are outplaced, about 30 students currently outplaced; Norfolk/Aggie: We have a small number of kids who do come from working farms and want that education, \$26k to send and 10k for transportation (5 students this year, 3 got in and 2 waitlisted)
10. Beth: How many students are we losing to BVT each year? 165/170 at BVT out of the district of 2,300

## 5. Financial Review YTD - Jason Caruso, Treasurer

- New Quickbooks Reporting/why the change?
  - Starting using Quickbooks this year: creates budget online, store all receipts online. Tracks gross revenue and expenses rather than net, for tax purposes
- Year-end expectations: \$2k under budget this year
- Mrs. G: Has \$900 for us and gave to Jason tonight. (Rockland Trust in Bellingham has a machine so you don't have to roll coins) - deposit back for school gifts for the \$1500 we paid for 4 paintings from school-wide CA

## 6. Past Events

- March box top winners - free DQ ice cream (donated)- Ms Smith PreK; Renee Wojdag
- March 15th: Schoolwide Cultural Arts event; Trish Cudmore; Amazing Hero Paint, Rob Surette
  - With donations from students, families, and staff, PTO was able to buy 4 paintings from the event as a school gift!
- March 6th: Cooks Night Off, Jenn Santuosso; Willowbrook, \$200
- March 22nd-29th: Spring Book Fair; Kelly Lucier, Jen Gorham
  - We had 30+ volunteers throughout the week
  - 30 staff members each received \$50 each worth of free books/classroom supplies.
  - Over \$600 worth of books were donated to our library.
  - Over \$300 worth of books were donated to our Good Neighbor program, guessing game and box top winners.
  - In total, \$2,400 was given back to our school!
- March 25th: 3rd-grade Poetry in Motion - Trish Cudmore
- March 30th - Family Fun Night Forekicks; Megan Collins(event cx due to low enrollment)  
**Auggie: Maybe do as a fundraiser and charge \$20/student, not in the Springtime though, maybe during December or February break**
- Feedback on spirit days - kindness week and crazy hair day  
**Kelly Lucier: Parent feedback, Some people felt left out on twin day**  
**Crazy hair day the following week was a lot. Mrs. G said was all her, already planned**

## 7. Upcoming Events

- Reminder - Green/Media Room donations wanted - Katie Jordan  
(items requested: Director's Chairs; children's movie posters - framed would be awesome; old Halloween costumes ages 7-11 such as police, fire, fairytale; medium size whiteboards to use as cue cards; additional props such as sunglasses, neckties, suit coats; toy microphone; hangers; 13x17 frames; storage baskets to hold props; any movie themes decos or wall hangings) **Liz Zych volunteered to paint the directors chair. Kelly will send out SUG on other items**
- April 22nd: Cultural Arts event for 2nd grade: Mad Science -Trish Cudmore
- April 22nd-May 6th: Shop with Scrip sale dates - Myah Stone  
**Laura Devenney said their previous town had a pile of Scrip cards in the office to buy - possible inventory on hand**
- April 24th: Cultural Arts event for Pre-K: Zoomobile - Trish Cudmore
- April box tops winners: an extra recess or PJ party - class vote - Renee Wojdag
- May 2nd: School-wide Information Night - "Safety Solutions to Dangerous Situations" - Officer Sinko **\*\* Changed to April 30th \*\***  
**Kelly Lucier: Is babysitting available? Mrs. G looking to see if babysitting available.**  
**Beth: Will it be videotaped? Mrs. G will find out.**
- May 17th: 3rd-grade trolley ride - Trish Cudmore
- May xx - Teacher Luncheon - Monique Dyson, Marina Claro **May 15th. Mrs. Gallagher will confirm the date with Monique Dyson**

- May 22nd: Memorial Day Concert 10:00 and 2:00 - PTO support needed?
- May 23rd: Outdoor Classroom Day - PTO support needed?
- May 29th: Cultural Arts event for 4th graders: Eyes on Owls - Trish Cudmore
- May 30th: CNO at Five Guys Burgers - Jenn Santuosso working on changing the date due to Specialist Night
- May/end of year box tops winner - ice cream party. Top submitter by grade - Urban Air passes (donated) - Renee Wojdag
- June 4th: Fourth Grade concert
- June 5th: Cultural Arts event for first grade: Subzero Nitrogen Ice Cream -Trish Cudmore
- June 11th: Field Day- Auggie DeBaggis, Alanna Bodio, Monique Dyson, Kelly Lomnicki  
Donation granted for the obstacle course and Go-Go Squeeze Applesauce. Working on donation for bandanas  
\* Auggie: 2 ½ gallon water (instead of water bottles), igloo coolers (going to move the water tent closer to school, eliminating paper cups, kids bring water bottles out)  
\* Monique to get Kelly list bc purchasing food in bulk for various events (field day, teacher luncheon, 4th-grade celebration)
- June 13th: KG Celebration - is it ok to be on the same day as 4th grade?  
Mrs. G said it's ok. Move up day in the morning too.
- June 13th: 4th-grade Celebration- Leila Leyvas, Lisa Dubowik, Kristin Golini - need pictures submitted of all 4th graders
- June 13th: Ice Cream Social at Dairy Queen Milford 6-9 - Jenn Santuosso
- June 14th: Last Day of School -half day
- September 20th: Golf Tournament at Shining Rock - Christine and Erick Brown - need committee- work to start soon
- Mrs. Barrows retirement gifts-Liz Zych/Jamie Fernandes
  - Gifts for each day last week of school
- Recruiting for 2019-2020 Committees and June PTO board elections

#### 8. Recycling - Clare Ovelman

Wants to start for next year. i.e. Remind kids to bring reusable bags for snack/lunch, reusable bags for the book fair, bring backpacks for the holiday shop, PTO will remind committees to think about reducing. Kelly will make comments in all committee descriptions and general committee description. Clare to possibly host a session for June 6th "whole child" day

#### 9. Open discussion/questions

\* Lyndsey N: Turkey Trot: Looking for additional volunteers. Renee W and Kelly Lomnicki had expressed some interest in it. Biggest sponsors: Acurdi Oil and Southwick Zoo; Dunkin Donuts donated coffee and the Muffin House donated too. Costs are minimal. Make sure we don't compete with golf sponsors

\* Monique: Teacher Appreciation week is May 6th-May 10th: can't be May 8th b/c of MCAS  
\*\* planning for May 15th \*\* (Math MCAS May 1st and 2nd) Instead of baskets ... asking room  
parents to collect 3, \$25 gift cards and in morning announcements a student picks a quote and  
a teacher's name

10. Attendance Raffle: Thanks for attending the meeting and supporting the Clough PTO!  
Lyndsey Nickerson - Brunch at 3 in Franklin

End time: 8:20pm