

**Sicomac PTO**  
**Meeting Minutes | February 7, 2024**

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**Wednesday, February 7, at 7:30pm held virtually on Zoom**  
**Meeting called to order by President Courtney Carrelha**

**Attendance:**

PTO Executive Board Members Present: President Courtney Carrelha, Vice President Lauren Westmark-Gonzalez, Fundraising Co-Chairs Alex Bottino & Allison Vartabedian, Secretary Danielle Brick, Treasurer Karen Sagot, Volunteer Co-Coordinator Lindsay Calhoun & Nicole Morin, Principal Mr. Raimo, Teacher Liaison Mrs. Mazie, Math Interventionist Ms. Moschella, parents and guardians of Sicomac students.

There were approximately 41 people in attendance.

**Officers' Reports:**

**Secretary: Danielle Brick**

- Tonight's meeting minutes will be posted on the PTO website

**Treasurer's Report: Karen Sagot**

- Reviewed current budget (attached below)
  - Incoming money includes items such as: Cards for a Cause, dinner fundraisers, holiday shopping events, Jibbitz, lunch orders, Sicomac Social, spirit wear, etc.
  - Outgoing money includes items such as: Lunches, 5th grade Birthday Books, art appreciation, Sicomac Social items, etc.
- Zeffy: We have saved over \$2,000 in credit card fees since switching!

**Fundraising Chair's Report: Alex Bottino & Allison Vartabedian**

- Sicomac Social: March 15, 2024
  - We have sold over 100 tickets so far
  - Tickets on sale for \$125 until Feb.16; price will increase \$10 a ticket after that date
  - Thank you to all those who have contributed baskets and auction items so far
  - Sponsorship/gift basket opportunities still available; please reach out to us!
- Harlem Wizards: April 4, 2024 at 7pm at Ramapo High School
  - All 4 elementary schools are participating
  - A fun night of staff from all the elementary schools vs. the Harlem Wizards!
  - Tickets go on sale end of February
  - There will also be a school assembly to get the kids excited about the event

### **President's Update: Courtney Carrelha**

- Read Across America Week - Planning has begun!
  - Reading Rocks Magic Show on March 1- Interactive and engaging assembly to excite the kids about Read Across America
  - On March 6 we will host an interactive experience where we will bring the multi-purpose room to life for students
  - We will also be holding a Sicomac Surprise that week

### **Math Interventionist Update: Ms. Moschella**

- Presentation How Can I Support My Child in Math (presentation linked [here](#))
  - Your attitude can impact your child's attitude towards math; watch your messaging and how you speak about math around your child
  - Their growth in math can be slow as long as it's incremental
  - When learning math it really helps to work with concrete items such as manipulative or pictorials
  - "Learning" and "mastering" facts are different; we want students to *master* them
  - Look for every day ways to count 1-100 (ex: guess the bill at dinner)
  - Games can help reinforce math facts in a fun and engaging way

### **Volunteer Co-Coordinator's Report: Lindsay Calhoun & Nicole Morin**

- Economy Shop update:
  - Thank you to all who volunteered for Sicomac Week in January; we didn't have to close!
  - The Economy Shop is in need of Spring and Easter decorations
  - Next Sicomac Weeks are: March 12-16 and May 14-18
- Science Fair: March 12, 2024 - Chair Vanessa Krumholtz discussed details
  - 6:30-7:30pm for 3rd through 5th graders
  - The PTO website has all the information and links to sign-up
  - Submit your idea through the sign-up page on the PTO website or reach out to Vanessa if you need help coming up with an idea
  - An info session will be held in school next week for the students
  - Groups of up to 4 people are permitted or you can enter a single experiment

### **Principal's Report: Mr. Raimo**

- Wyckoff passed NJQSAC, a monitoring and evaluation system for public schools
- Kid's Night was a great success and thank you to all who participated
- Kudos to the 5th grade musicians for a wonderful band concert
- A choral concert is coming up in March for K and 1st grade students
- 5th grade intramural are open every Wednesday and Thursday before school starts, taking place in the gym and supervised by our PE teachers; we encourage you to drop off your child - it's a great way to start the day by exerting some extra energy
- 1 week left to register online for Kindergarten for the 24-25 year; on February 14 the portal will close

- An email was sent out for before-school tutoring being offered by the district for grades 2-5; there was a huge response (over 80 requests) and we are in the process of scheduling; the tutoring will take place on Wednesday or Thursday mornings once a week and will run a total of 8 weeks
- We have a new staff member, Ms. Wright, who is the leave replacement for 4G
- NAEP testing is a system that measures student achievement across the nation; it is taking place in 4th grade next week for certain students who were randomly selected; we never see results - they are anonymously entered into a database to help calculate the nation's "report card"
- Next Monday is the 100th day of school so dress like you are 100 years old!
- Parking lot safety - Officer Rob used to be at the parking lot entrance to train everyone how to park safely; now he is up top at the building during dismissal to supervise the safety of our students; it's important that parents are accountable for parking lot safety so please put down your phone, back into your spot, and park in the marked spots only
- Data Team - We look at numbers and student assessment data 3x a year with a screening test; this is a system for checking the progress of every child in the building and then discussing it and making decisions to prioritize intervention if necessary; this is very important to help us meet the students' needs

### **Staff Report: Mrs. Mazie**

- Specialist Classes Update:
  - Library- Students are voting on their favorite books (similar to a sports bracket)
  - Music- K-1 are learning songs for their upcoming performance; grade 2 is learning about orchestral instruments; grade 3 has begun their recorder unit; grade 4 has begun their ukulele unit; grade 5 is practicing for their big musical
  - PE - Completed a bowling unit
  - Art - Presentation linked [here](#)
- Valentine's Day Community Outreach project: February 14
  - Pre-K is painting rocks to be placed by the Sicomac sign
  - K is collecting cereal boxes to donate to a local food pantry
  - 1st is collecting dental hygiene products for the homeless of Paterson
  - 2nd is making Valentine's Day artwork for the Christian Health Center
  - 3rd is collecting winter items for the homeless of Paterson
  - 4th is collecting towels, blankets, toys and food for the animals of RBARI
  - 5th is creating their own book to be donated to a local pediatrician's office
  - Our staff is also doing community outreach during their personal time, including Dean Laterra, our Outreach Hero, who volunteers weekly in Paterson giving out food, clothing and lending a listening ear
    - Please reach out to Dean Laterra if you or a business you know are interested in volunteering with him

**Additional Reminders and Announcements**

- February 8: Mom’s Night Out at The Brick House (7pm)
- February 12: Teacher Treats sponsored by Pre-K and K
- February 14: Valentine’s Day and Community Outreach project
- February 19-23: School closed (winter recess)
- March 1: Reading Rocks Magic Show assembly
- March 6: Read Across America at Sicomac
- March 11: Teacher Treats sponsored by 1st grade
- March 12: Sicomac Science Fair
- March 12: Sicomac Week at the Economy Shop
- March 13: Kindergarten and 1st grade chorus show for students
- March 14: Kindergarten and 1st grade chorus show for parents
- March 15: Sicomac Social
- April 4: Harlem Wizards game

**Next Meeting:** March 6, 2024 at 7:30pm VIRTUAL

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Minutes compiled by Danielle Brick, Secretary

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**Sicomac School PTO - January Treasurer's Report  
Wednesday, February 07, 2024**

<b>Checking Account</b>	
<b>Register Balance as of 01/01/24</b>	<b>100,201.07</b>
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>	
5th Grade - Medieval Times Tickets	640.00
5th Grade - T-shirts	125.00
Bagel Lunch	176.00
Box Tops	20.50
Cards for all Occasions	741.00
Dinner Fundraisers - No-Cook Nights	50.00
Holiday Shopping - Tons of Toys/Tons of Treasures	382.08
Jersey Mike's	229.95
Jibbitz	450.00
Membership Dues	19.12
Mom's Night Out	2,100.00
Nicholas Market	110.02
Pizza Lunch	214.50
Sicomac Social	7,985.00
Spirit Wear	735.00
Interest	4.44
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>13,982.61</b>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>	
5th Grade - Birthday Books	888.72
Art Appreciation	135.81
Bagel Lunch	1,718.00
Jersey Mike's Lunch	3,689.80
Pizza Lunch	3,615.00
Sicomac Social - Deposit on Band	100.00
Sicomac Social - Gaming License	80.00
Supplemental School Supplies	2,140.83
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>12,368.16</b>
<b>Register Balance as of 01/31/24</b>	<b>101,815.52</b>
<b>Deposits in Transit as of 01/31/24</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Outstanding Checks as of 01/31/24</b>	<b>3,938.00</b>
<b>Bank Balance as of 01/31/24</b>	<b>105,753.52</b>

<b>Available Balance 01/31/23:</b>	<b>101,815.52</b>
Safeguard Lunch Money	(39,741.75)
Safeguard Funds Collected for Mom's Night in Feb	(1,700.00)
Safeguard Funds Collected for Sicomac Social in March	(6,747.50)
<b>Adjusted Available Balance for Remaining Year Budget</b>	<b>53,626.27</b>