**Ashford Parent Teacher Organization**

**Meeting Minutes**

**September 9, 2019**

1. **Called to order** at 7:04. In attendance were: Michelle Nemeth, Chonte Fields, Heather Lewis, Troy Hopkins, Karin Anderson, Carly Imhoff, Lisa Centola, Ashlee Smith, Amanda Cantrell, Lisa Hassett.
2. **Communications**:
	1. **Guest Speakers**: none
	2. **Correspondence**: none
	3. **Principle’s report**:
		1. Welcome to the new school year
		2. Homework guidelines have been revised, the Wolf Den (study/research/ reading period) has been implemented, Grades 3-8 are writing Paws a paragraph every week.
		3. A German exchange teacher Vanessa Jordan-Heinrich will be starting soon and staying through most of the school year.
		4. Ashford School is on social media. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ashfordschoolct and on Twitter @ashfordschoolct
		5. After school clubs will be starting next week. Info to be sent home soon
		6. Open Houses will be on Wed, Sept 25th 6:30-7:30pm for grades 5-8 and on Thurs, Sept 26th 6:30-7:30pm for grades 1-4.
3. **Committee chair planning reports:**
	1. **Big Y** (Chonte): table
	2. **Birthday books** (Paula Boyles): The first distribution for the new school year went smoothly.
	3. **Book Fair** (Heather Lewis): Wholesale shopping was done over the summer and we got some great deals for birthday books. The fall book fair will be Nov 25-27 with set up on Nov 22nd. The spring book fair will be May 11-14th.
	4. **Box Tops** (Heather L.): The next Box tops collection will be during October. Don’t forget to look for digital box tops and scan your receipt on the Box Top app
	5. **Career Fair** (Michelle N.): tabled
	6. **Cultural Arts** (Lisa Centola): some exciting events have already been planned
	7. **Learning Courtyard Gardens** (Michelle N.): table
	8. **Leveled Reading Program: (**Ms. Makuch) table
	9. **Publicity** (Kim Johnston): table
	10. **Science Workshops** (Carly Imhoff/Gina Burnham/Dory Moore/Kelly Knotts): There are two upcoming STEM field trips. The 4th and 7th graders will be going to MIT for a German and Science workshop. The 8th grade will be going to NYC.
	11. **Spring Jamboree:**  monthly meetings will be starting in October to plan this event. Many volunteers are needed.
	12. **Stop and Shop** (Chonte): table.
4. **Old Business:** none
5. **New Business:**
	1. **Treasurer’s Report:** The proposed budget for the current school year was reviewed. Motion to accept Lisa H, seconded by Ashlee, motion passed
	2. **Upcoming Events:**
		1. Family Fun Day is Sept 15th and the PTO will be supplying the bouncy house again
		2. The ice cream social will be Friday Sept 20th 6-7:30pm
		3. The next PTO Today Expo will be Sept 26th in Hartford.
	3. Request for the funding for the 7th and 8th grade science workshops to go to the 8th grade NYC field trip. Lisa H. motion, Carly seconded, motion passed.
6. **Items from the floor:**
	1. The Believe fall fundraiser has started
	2. The suggestion was made to donate the extra teacher appreciation merchandise from past years. Motion by Heather, Lisa H. seconded, motion passed.
7. **Meeting Adjourned:** 8:51pm
8. **Next Meeting:** October 4th, refreshments: Karin Anderson