**East Quogue Community PTA**

**6 Central Avenue**

**East Quogue, NY 11942**

**Dec 10, 2024**

**General Meeting**

In attendance:

PTA Board: Bria Spanbock, Jessica Schwinn, Cait Horstman, Briana Gladding, Tahlia Kouffman, Ann Rybak

PTA Members: Jessie Burns, Cindy Cagno, Jessi Carlson, Luz Garzon, Christine Grant, Jen Caruso Jones, Namrata Kadiwar

Administration / Faculty: Michael Miller, Danielle Davin

Call to Order:

Bria Spanbock Time: 9:16am

*Meeting was held in person and on Zoom*

Acceptance of Minutes:

1st Katie Back

2nd Briana Gladding

Principal’s Report and BOE Report: Michael Miller

* 12/16 BOE meeting
* Regionalization not yet submitted – what are other districts doing? Still having conversations
* Faculty Meeting on Monday
  + Lockdown on phones for teachers
  + Flag signs added – windows, doors, color coded
* Winter Concert on Tuesday
* Open Gym on Friday
* Parent Teacher conferences Wednesday 11-6pm

Teachers Report: Danielle Davin

*Kindergarten* December is a busy month in Kindergarten! We are wrapping up our ELA unit on mammals and will soon begin learning about birds and their features. Our students are also practicing new power words to help build their reading skills. In math, Kindergarteners are working on composing and decomposing numbers using number bonds. As we get into the holiday spirit, we’re exploring different winter holidays and traditions, while also discussing the importance of kindness during this time of year.

*1st grade* During the holiday season, our first graders are learning about generosity and are showing acts of kindness for our friends and family.  The first grade holiday party is this Thursday, 12/12 and we are all  are very excited! First graders have become excellent researchers on wild and endangered animals in writing and are continuting to strengthen their reading muscles every day. Our mathmeticians are also earning different ways to add and subtract in math. Wishing everyone a joyous holiday and Happy New Year!

*2nd grade* Second grade is immersed in our ELA bug unit. We will soon have entomologists among us. In math, we continue to practice subtraction within 100. Please continue to practice addition and subtraction facts at home. In Social Studies, classes are learning about different types of communities. All classes are in the holiday spirit. We wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!!

*3rd grade* December is a busy month! In math we are using our newly learned multiplication and division skills to solve multi-step word problems. In science we are continuing our study of forces and motion. We’ve began our study of weather and climate as it relates to informational reading and writing. We are identifying non-fiction text features and their importance for a reader. While doing so, we are researching different weather phenomena and synthesizing the information into a well developed writing piece. What a productive and fun month it is for us!

*4th grade* We are working diligently to complete our second unit, Animal Adaptations, in our ARC program.This has paired perfectly with our ecosystem unit in science.  Fourth graders have just finished our long division unit and will be moving on to factors and multiples. This will help prepare us for our fraction unit after the holidays. In social studies we are finishing our native american unit. We wish all the families a happy holiday.

*5th grade* Fifth grade is wrapping up their unit on ecosystems and creating Google Slideshows to present their research findings. In Social Studies, the fifth graders have completed their study of the American Revolution and are creating reenactments of important battles and events during this time period. During Math we are fully immersed in long division and are excited to solve real world problems using our new skills! The fifth grade is looking forward to celebrating the holidays with our Ugly Tee-Shirt Contest this month. The students are designing, creating, and writing persuasive essays to convince the judges that their shirt deserves to win! We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and a happy and healthy New Year!

*6th grade* In Math, the students are learning how Percents are used in the world and how to convert between fractions, decimals and percents. In Science, we are learning all about the different types of energy and applying this knowledge to our very own Rube Goldberg machines.  The sixth grade students have been busy planning holiday activities and are excited to share their ideas with the other students for Holiday Helpers on Thursday, December 19th.

*Spanish*

* 6th grade: Constructing questions and formulating answers on the topic of likes and dislikes in regards to common activities. (ex. I like to play sports)
* 5th grade  Listen to an Entertainment Tonight segments in Spanish.  Answer questions regarding the homes of famous Latinos.
* 4th grade: Listing, matching, recognizing numbers 10-20.Asking and answering, ¿Cuál es tu número favorito? (What is your favorite number?) Asking and answering ¿Cuántos años tienes tú? (How old are you?)
* 3rd grade: Identifying the four seasons of the year, connecting those seasons to months of the year.
* 2nd grade: Naming, matching, recalling a variety of fruits vocabulary. Asking and answering, ¿Te gusta?( Do you like it?)  Me gusta (I like it).
* 1st grade: Dancing to a variety of songs *( “Cabeza, Hombros Piernas, Pies*” y  *“Cuando un Amigo Baila”*)  while identifying parts of the body.
* Kindergarten: Identifying the letters of the Spanish alphabet, recognizing beginning sounds of words in Spanish.

*Art*

* Kindergarten and First Graders are learning about the element of art “Form” and creating small 3D paper sculptures
* Second Graders are continuing learning about architecture and designing and painting their own castles
* Third graders are learning about Medieval Times and symbolism while designing their own “Coat of Arms”
* Fourth graders are experimenting with drawing two dimensional shapes and using light and shadow to make their drawings look three dimensional.
* Fifth graders are doing a cut paper project called a “Notan.” They are focusing on balance between light and dark spaces in their art.
* Sixth graders are using stoneware clay to create small sarcophaguses in alignment with their Ancient Egypt unit in social studies. They are hand building and using slabs and coils to create their sarcophaguses.

*Garden*

The gardeners in all grades have finished prepping the garden for the winter,  While also observing the effects of the “first frost” on our garden.  This week we begin our annual “Night Tree” project and make edible ornaments for our East Quogue wildlife to decorate the evergreen tree in the Reading Garden.  All grade will participate by using cheerios, dried and fresh fruit and popcorn to make ornaments.  Students will also be learning about migration and hibernation as it relates to feeding our winter wildlife.

*STEAM*

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| Kindergarten is celebrating their first annual hour of Code by learning about sequential thinking an algorithms in online and offline Coding activities. |
| First Grade is celebrating the hour of Code by learning about sequential thinking an algorithms in online and offline Coding activities. |
| Second Graders are celebrating the Hour of Code by using loops and if/then statements in online and offline coding activities. |
| \Third Graders are celebrating the hour of Code by completing offline and online activities. They will round out the month by using our Dash Robots! |
| Fourth Graders are celebrating the hour of Code by using CS First for Google to create a playable computer game. |
| Fifth grade is celebrating the hour of Code by reverse engineering a train car using the LEGO Spike Essential kits and coding them to drive themselves. |
| Sixth Grade is celebrating the hour of Code by using CS first for Google and Tutorials to create a playable computer game. |

*Library*

This month in the library, students have been engaging in meaningful and festive learning experiences:

* Kindergarteners are practicing how to check out and return books responsibly by transporting them safely to and from their classrooms.
* First and second graders have enjoyed reading various versions of *The Gingerbread Man*, comparing the classic tale with creative new twists.
* Third and fourth graders have explored the heartwarming story of Rockefeller, an owl rescued from the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree, learning about wildlife rehabilitation and the value of kindness.
* Fifth graders are sharpening their research skills by learning to evaluate resources and understand the importance of using credible information.
* Sixth graders are connecting history with service through books like *The Carpenter’s Gift*, which shares the origins of the Rockefeller Christmas Tree tradition during the Great Depression and highlights how Habitat for Humanity repurposes its wood to help families in need.
* To round out the month, we’ll be continuing to celebrate diverse traditions by reading a variety of holiday stories before the long winter break.

*Physical Education*  
In PE this month K-1 students have been working on their hockey skills and the 2nd-6th graders have been playing in hockey games. Before the break we will also set up Winter Wonderland stations.  The kids love enjoy this every year we do it. This really is our favorite time of year.

Treasurer’s Report: Katie Back

* No material update

President’s Report: Bria Spanbock

*Old Business:*

* Submerge Storytelling (Jessica/ Bria)
* Book Fair – Week of 11/18 (Briana/ Tahlia) – highest grossing ever! Fund book vending machines (bday book and book fair book), also replaces books and add books
  + Can we get access to Middle School books for our 6th grade students? Will find out
  + Book trade in was not particularly successful
* December 3rd – School Pic Retakes. Reach out to Pixels directly if you still need to order
* Holiday Fair – 12/5 and 12/6
  + We supplemented $1500 in extra items
* Holiday on Main – 12/7
* 6th Grade Events:
  + Bingo Night – Nov 15th
  + Run to Boston – corporate sponsor Walten Britton;s
  + Made $1800 at Holiday on Main with the cupcake kits and Jenny’s ornaments
  + Squishmellow sale

*New Business*

* PTA will purchase a candy cane for all students
* Teachers opened Amazon Wish Lists
* Ms. Brady is running the Giving Tree again this year
* Laser Light Show – Jan 8th
* Open Gym Nights: Dec 13th, Jan 24th (may be moving to 1/10) and Feb 7th

Motion to Close:

Tahlia Kouffman

Jessica Schwinn