



Thoreau Elementary School

[29 Prairie Street Concord, MA 01742](#) - [Thoreau Elementary School - 978-318-1300](#)

Justin M Sparks

Principal



School Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday October 18th

8-8:45 AM

Principal's Office

Members in Attendance: Justin Sparks, Kara Barr, Colleen Bixby, Liz Morrison-Howe, Lorie Ogilvie, Joyce Carter, Julie Basler, Johanna Ellis, Ben Xia

- 1). Call to Order
- 2). Approval of Minutes from August 17th
- 3). Celebrations
- 4). Co-Chair - Colleen Bixby
- 5). Administrative Items
- 6). Principal's Report
- 7). SIP Update
- 8). P/T Conferences
- 9). PTG Update
- 10). Member items
- 11). RPR
- 12). Adjournment

Approved Minutes from August 17th

Colleen Bixby will be Co-Chair of Committee

Celebrations-

- Wonderful Walk/Bike to School event
- PTG coffee, small group but effective conversations. Any input on a better time for all welcome.
- Last week of Crayons to Cradle Service Drive. Students had message on drive during lunch
- This afternoon, CFA, will present feasibility study assessment of entire grounds, including parents, staffs, maintenance and custodians to gather recommendations to present to stakeholders then school committee. Questions about funding purpose...intent to identify opportunities for grounds, what can go where.
- Received \$200,000 from former teacher dedicated to teaching students about West Concord history

Administrative Items

- Student generated ideas for playground list discussed. Erin will put this out to community, they can select what they would like to give.
 - Storage is a separate purchase. PTG will provide. Management of items...whose responsibility is it?
 - Idea to be purposeful...
 - label grade levels by color, ie. orange tape on Kindergarten,
 - Have a "class job" of pick up things after playground use
 - Discuss and include student council
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- Henry the Husky in hallway. Parents like Instagram on Thoreau Arts.
- Freckle-usage, implementation, adaptive practice, fact practice, financial literacy
 - Log in from home. No need, please promote independence.
 - Lower grades may have a slower roll out
 - Lexia also available, used in grade 1 and 2
 - Potential opportunity for login info at parent conferences
- Parent Teacher Conferences, largely encouraged to be in person
 - Parents appreciate zoom options, due to work obligations to be back in office

PTG Questions

- Cradle to crayons-students had speaker during lunch
- Thanksgiving Open Table
 - specific list of items
 - Provide a video or speaker to promote Open Table
 - Will work with Mike re: table set up, banana boxes, etc.

Teacher report out

- Mrs. Ogilvie's class will be planting daffodil's tomorrow

Thoreau Strategic Initiatives

1.2 using screeners to identify struggling students, and provide intervention

Appreciate note

Staff professional development, RC and RP

2.4 Convene a task force to check staff well-being...would like to have a more substantive conversation about this next time.

Any issues to be prioritized for next meeting, please send to Justin