

# PTA Agenda

## May 20, 2025

### Welcome & Intro of Current Board Members - (2024-2025)

Meeting called to order by Steph Billingsley at 6:30 p.m.

### VOTING on PTA BOARD (2025-2026)

- |                         |                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ➤ Stephanie Billingsley | Nominated for President              |
| ➤ Tanya Bishop          | Nominated for Vice President         |
| ➤ Andrea Sankovich      | Nominated for Treasurer              |
| ➤ Bailey Trahan         | Nominated for Assistant Treasurer    |
| ➤ Heidi Mader           | Nominated for Secretary              |
| ➤ Jennifer Aldredge     | Nominated for Membership Coordinator |
| ➤ Amanda Martinelli     | Appointed to stay Social Media Chair |

Update: Jen nominated Steph for president. Andrea seconded. All in favor. Jen nominated Tanya for Vice President. Heid seconded. All in favor. Jen nominated Andrea for treasurer. Bailey seconded. All in favor. Jen nominated Bailey for assistant treasurer. Steph seconded. All in favor. Jen nominated Heidi for secretary. Steph seconded. All in favor. Steph nominated Jen for membership coordinator. Tanya seconded. All in favor. **New Board officially voted in.**

### Financial Report - Andrea Sankovich

- Review 2024-2025 Profits (as available)
- Proposed to increase 24/25 8th-Grade Gift Line to \$975.00 (increase by \$175)
  - Bring to a Vote
- Propose 2024-2025 Budget
  - See attached budget with highlighted proposed changes
  - Bring to a Vote

Update: We already paid for Missoula Theatre for next Fall in advance. Need to bring to a vote an increase for the 8th-grade gift of \$175.00. We are getting them T-shirts. This allows us to pay the whole invoice upfront.

*\*\*\*MOTION to increase the 8th-grade gift line item to \$175.00 to \$975.00 by Andrea. Seconded by Tanya. All in favor. PASSED.\*\*\**

Highlighted items in yellow for the 2025-2026 budget are new. The gift line item is increased. Missoula is increased by \$2K to cover AirBnB for directors. We propose to reduce the convention and training line item, but we only attend a local training for a few hours in Derry. Project Safeguard was canceled for last year and we will not be doing it again per Dr. Collins.

This program is specific to 7th grade and allows parents and students to come together and learn life risks, how to have open discussions as to how to handle pressures. The program is typically heavy on social media, scamming, drugs, etc. We should remove that line item. Dr. Collins said she will provide an update if anything changes. The budget is a living document, so we can always change it depending on need.

Dr. Collins inquired about how to garner better attendance by parents to school events. Busy schedules make attendance difficult. Jen suggested a Google document to access resources that way. Andrea noted the Wellness Fair (middle school), but that is only held every other year. Unclear how many parents attend. Dr. Collins said she can bring this up with the Wellness Committee. A cooperative school in Exeter has a wellness day, but we need to actually connect with parents.

The PTA scholarship has been removed. Reflections/luncheon have been combined. We removed the cash calendar and will try to remove a Fall fundraiser. The calendar did not do well this year. The hope is to give parents a bit of a break, while offering programs that work best for all. We also took out the Merry and Bright light competition due to low sign-up. Student Appreciation has also been reduced, as we have never come close to the \$2500. Though not highlighted, Barnes & Noble line item has also been increased (should be good per Tanya). We depleted our B&N gift card, which usually doesn't happen. We had used the remainder of it to purchase gift cards for Teacher Appreciation. So, increasing the cash baskets allow us to replenish and have funds for raffle baskets. Adventure Lore was added back into the school budget, so we can remove this.

*\*\*\*MOTION by Steph to approve the 2025-2026 budget. Seconded by Tanya. All in favor. PASSED.\*\*\**

### **2025-2026 Proposed Event Calendar - Stephanie Billingsley**

- Propose we reduce number of individual fundraisers for a year - we have funds in account to spend - our events make money - summer camp keeps growing - people are stretched thin with donating to multiple organizations
  - No Fall Fundraiser
  - No Cash Calendar

Update: None of the dates are set in stone because we need to do facility request forms. We don't really vote on the calendar, but we want to provide a heads-up. PTA dues will be collected at the beginning of the next school year, as the state PTA does not want us to collect any earlier. Requests for volunteers for some events, i.e. Spooky Walk, will likely be sent in advance due to issues recruiting as the school year continues.

### **Teacher Appreciation - Tanya Bishop**

- Thank you to all those who donated items and/or their time!

- New this Year - option to donate \$\$ rather than just items through CheddarUP - was successful - raised an additional \$705 and were able to purchase \$10 Barnes and Nobles gift cards for every staff member!
- Allie Broom - Key Realty - donated Dunkin Coffee - Tuesday w/ Cookie Bar
- Gifts this year - AVS Mugs, AVS bookmarks, AVS canvas tote filled with swag gift card, candy, chapstick, hand lotion, etc...)
- Monday - Food Truck for Breakfast - Just the Sip - really well received
- Friday - Squeeze the Day Lemonade Trailer - always a hit!

Update: Based on feedback, it was very well-received. As a Board, we felt like we may not have been doing as much as we usually do. However, it was good for teachers (and us!) and it took into account the testing week, keeping things more mellow. We had sent out an email for donations, as well as a monetary option, which was a huge help. We had some very generous donations that allowed us to contribute more to teacher swag bags. The posters of the teachers/books were a big hit! They were given to Mrs. O'Neil, as well as the light-up signs from the breakroom and each day's book (per the book theme).

#### **Summer Camps - Jennifer Anderson**

- Camp Registration is officially CLOSED
- Camps not running - campers have been switched and/or refunded
- Final rosters created and being sent to camp instructors

Update: Jen Anderson is getting rosters out this week. Parents should be getting welcome emails from the instructors with rules, etc. by the week of June 6th. We have over 640 campers registered over the course of three weeks. Every year is bigger. We did have some camps that did not reach minimum student levels, requiring refunds and registration in other camp sessions.

#### **Additional Events - Andrea Sankovich & Tanya Bishop**

- STUDENT APPRECIATION- Friday, June 6th
  - Refreshers in a Reusable AVS Cup with straw and lid
- BACK TO SCHOOL BASH - Tuesday, August 26th (Night before school)
  - 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM to allow for teachers to attend (during contracted hours) and to finish and get home to be ready for school the next day
  - Feedback last year - not good for working parents - but if we started later - teachers wouldn't be there - thoughts?

Update: June 6, 2025 has been identified as the date for Student Appreciation. We opted to do refreshers, made by the PTA. All kids will get their own AVS cup and straw, and we won't hold up lunch lines! This allows us to do something the kids really like, but also keep things moving.

The Back to School Bash has been something where we've thought a lot about timing. The current time allows new families that are visiting the school to partake, as well as teachers. We have committees and programs that participate. The next day is also the first day of school, so

being able to wrap early is appreciated all around. The returning students also have an understanding of what we do and what is offered. A member said, as a new family coming into the school, that they really enjoyed the event last year. Dr. Collins said to remind her to have the landscapers mow! Maybe the Monday before ...?

### **Admin Update - Dr. Collins, Mrs. Murray or Mrs. Barnhill**

Update: Per Dr. Collins, many thanks for the Teacher Appreciation week and support from the PTA generally. If the executive board wishes to meet with Dr. Collins, she is happy to do so. Dr. Collins inquired as to the number of pop-up tents, particularly for the Back to School Bash. She may order more depending on available funds. PTA said to alert us if this is something for which we could provide support.

Tomorrow (5/21) is Earth day. Memorial Day celebration is supposed to be Friday, but will likely be postponed to Tuesday (5/27). First grade has its outdoor classroom on 5/28. Kindergarten screening 6/3. June 3rd is also Field Day and lead celebration. Third-5th grade field day is 6/4. June 5th is field day for K. The Wax Museum is 6/6. June 11, the school is taking 8th-grade to Canobie Lake. This is a first! Market Day is also upcoming June 10th. June 12th is the 8th grade dinner dance at The Derryfield. Field day/BBQ for 8th-grade is 6/13 and 8th-grade graduation is 6/16. Dr. Collins is seeking volunteers to decorate for the dinner dance and for the BBQ.

AVS is moving a few teachers around for next year. They budgeted for four teachers per grade level, except for two grades. They do have a small class now in 5th grade (only 3 teachers). So they need to move someone out of 6th to 5th. Siobhan Bergeron is moving to 5th grade. The school is also bringing second grade to three sections. First grade will go from 17 in a class to 23 in a class (no aides). That extra teacher will go 4th (Emily Seidell). Sara Nusbaum will go to 3rd. It is difficult to justify another teacher for student numbers below 25.

If we get new families moving into town, Dr. Collins will go back to the school board to try and find balance, another teacher, etc. Room is an issue. Can either go for aides or another teacher.

Donna Aubin is retiring. June 5th is her retirement party - open to anyone who would like to come. It is at Great North Aleworks on East Industrial Drive. Melissa Prunier is in charge. Ms. Strabone will forward the invite to the PTA.

### **School Board Update - Anthony Piascik**

Update: Anthony is on the School Board's PTA committee, so he will likely attend meetings moving forward. The start time for Pinkerton was just punted. Many of the surrounding communities were against it. They are to reevaluate through more meetings to determine a path forward and timeline. The results from the survey/surrounding towns was a resounding "no." There are talks about consolidating school buses from all communities, so this will be added to the overall discussion, e.g. how to reap savings, logistics, for Pinkerton busing. We are under contract until 2028, and we are withholding money from the company due to missed start times.

This has caused a rift in the relationship with the bus company, and the contract is being challenged by them. More to come in the next month or two. Other options are slim. Derek Berger has been elected as new School Board chair. Janice is VP.

Per membership, tracking and updates were much better with the buses. The general consensus is that it is an improvement from the prior company.

PTA alerted the School Board/Anthony that our first meeting of the new school year always has the biggest turnout. Many members again inquired as to virtual attendance at School Board meetings. This is an easy way to ensure transparency. Per Anthony, an out-of-state school was just sued because of lack of translation in the streaming services and failure to follow federal requirements for open hearings. He mentioned an "owl" for desks and thinks we can do this successfully. Michelle is leading that communication committee and possibility. All acknowledged that this is a hot topic.

A member asks if any cuts made were coming back this year. The answer is no, as the School Board depleted resources. Finishing out the school year, there was about \$530K fund balance. The Town voted on \$150K to go into the reserves. One of Anthony's requests of Dr. Collins was to prioritize issues/funding, e.g. safety, scoreboard, etc. Now they also have to think of ways to give back to the Town, given the 10% increase in the budget. In short, the School Board wants a solid understanding of what AVS needs. On 6/6, the School Board will be at the fire station, and is hoping folks come with their wishlists. The hope is to earmark remaining dollars. Steph mentioned the leaking school roof. Anthony will look into this.

**Thank you to all of our loyal PTA  
Members & Volunteers  
for another wonderful school  
year! We look forward to making  
our 2025 - 2026 school year just  
as successful!**

**ATTENDEES:**

Stephanie Billingsley  
Heidi Mader  
Bailey Trahan  
Andrea Sankovich  
Jen Alldredge  
Tanya Bishop  
Jen Strabone  
Fran Anthony Piascik  
Lori Collins  
Alyssa Stanton  
Mike Mason  
Mark Therrian (virtually)

**Meeting concluded at 7:29 p.m.**