



SWR SEPTA MEETING MINUTES FOR Monday 1/7/26, 7:00pm Wading River School

Members in Attendance: Lara Gutheil, Dan McGuire, Deborah Aiello, Tara Gosman, Jessica Sztabnik, Tracy Von Eschen, and Laura Riekert.

- I. Call the meeting to order – Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. PTA Mission and SEPTA Mission Statements**
- III. District Updates:** Tracy Von Eschen, Director of Special Education & PPS. CSE dates have been set, look for yours in the mail or via Frontline soon.
- IV. President's Report – Deborah Aiello**
 - a. Old Business:**
 - 1. 11/24 Meeting Speaker: Kim Nau, OGA/F – Dyslexia and the Orton-Gillingham Approach. Very informative, dyslexia has nothing to do with intelligence. We learned a lot about the brain and reading.
 - 2. Carleton T-shirt Fundraiser Ended 12/3, we made \$430 profit
 - 3. Cookie Dough Fundraiser: delivered in December, \$18 profit
 - 4. Sensory Santa 12/5 @Wading River School, over 100 attendees, very successful and so much fun in a very safe space. The volunteers were amazing too. Thank you to all of our volunteers, the SWR Fire Department, Willow & Bloom, and Santa!
 - b. New Business:**
 - 1. Parent Square Group: sign up at SWR website
 - 2. Scholarship Committee forming
 - 3. Teacher Grants Presentation: We are giving out 6 teacher grants this year for our students.
 - 4. Parents' Night Out: Thurs, 4/23 6pm-9pm@The Backyard Middle Island
 - 5. Sibshops Groups Forming @Miller Ave
 - 6. Advocacy ideas/feedback welcome via email
 - 7. Unity Ball: Fri 5/15 @Wading River School
- V. Approval of 11/24/25 Meeting Minutes:** Laura Riekert
- VI. Treasurer's Report:** Deborah Aiello (for Erin Saunders-Morano)

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SWR SEPTA

<https://swrsepta.com/>

FB: SWR SEPTA

INSTAGRAM: @swr_septa

VII. Guest Speaker: Dodie Daniels, Parent to Parent NYS: Understanding Supports and Services Administered by the OPWDD. She was excellent. Very informative, keep going with the process and don't give up. It's worth it for your child. Any questions contact Parent to Parent NYS.

VIII. Announcements/Discussion Items:

- a. Door Prize Raffle Drawing
- b. Next Meeting: To be determined in February @High School Library
Topic: Teacher Grant Presentation

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SWR SEPTA

<https://swrsepta.com/>

FB: SWR SEPTA

INSTAGRAM: @swr_septa