

# **WES PTO May 6, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Kristin Kantner called the meeting to order at 6:04pm

## **Introductions**

Kristin Kantner  
Michelle Grunseich  
Sara Fritz  
Jennifer Lyons  
Karen Dougherty  
Michelle Hall  
Allison Karpyn  
Liz Orye  
Josh Peterkin  
Brigid Scolis

## **Secretary Report \_ Sara Fritz**

Meeting minutes from April 1st, 2014 approved.

## **Treasurer's Report – Jen Lyons**

Jennifer distributed the treasurers report. Highlights include spring book fair \$0.53 in favor of budget. The Foreign language club was noted, the PTO really just serves as a passthrough to pay the teachers for the classes. In April, the huge success of Wizards Fundraiser brought in \$4800. Estimated net in spending of around \$2000 expected through end of the year for 5th grade activities. It is estimated that the PTO will end the year \$10,000 in favor of budget.

In discussions about shade structure, it was brought to light that there are issues with poor ground quality, so there won't be a vote on spending tonight. There are issues that the building contractor needs to resolve. Since there was a change in timing of this meeting, the iPad vote to also be delayed until the June meeting.

Kristin spoke with Dr. Noonan about having Mr. Hardy, the facilities director, come to examine the WES grounds. Mr. Peterkin also spoke with Mr. Hardy about the grounds and learned that sod was placed initially and it was aerated and re-seeded again last year.

The grounds issue will likely not be resolved for a vote in June.

## **Committee Reports**

**Hospitality** – Kristin Kantner reported

Kristin reported that the teachers were very happy with the teacher appreciation breakfast last Friday. Thanks to Hope Thurlow and Erica Kauffman for leading and all of the parents that donated baskets or food items. There was lots of extra food. An idea was brought up about the difficulty of dropping off food by 7 am for many parents- perhaps a pick-up service could be instituted in the future.

**Dimensions in Science** – Tammy Mc Cauley

The raptor event is coming up on the 13th- it is a bird of prey demonstration for the entire school.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reps** –

Kristin reported they are working on the end of the year graduation and pool party.

**May Day** – Kristin reported

May Day is scheduled for Thursday, May 22nd and rain date is Friday, May 23rd. Volunteers are needed for set-up and clean-up.

**Nominating Committee** –

Kristin reported- the list will be in the newsletter and vote on the 20th at the meeting before the spring concert.

**Rita's Night-**

The event is scheduled for June 5th. She is asking teachers to help scoop. More details to come.

**WES Dig it-** Allison Karpyn

Lots of people dropped off plants that day and those plants were planted last weekend. A volunteer from the Media Garden Club helped and provided guidance and the idea for a garden club at the school. Three kids helped with the planting. Possibility of incorporating Citizenship. Idea of having a fall clean-up day to help maintain the gardens. Paul Fritz has volunteered to create a master plan for the school.

**Principals Report**

Earth Day was a success last month. Thanks to Russ Johnson for creating the lessons which can be built on in the future. Jump Rope for Heart and the First Chess Night took place last month. Mrs. Gaur's Lemonade stand raised \$1700 for Relay for Life. The last guest author, Stuart Gibbs, visited last week for 3rd-5th grades. Vicky Town, a story teller visited for K and 1st. Thanks to the PTO for providing for the water ice for completing the PSSA's. Yesterday, students went to Harrisburg for the PA Student Technology showcase, the students showed how they are learning and using Scratch and other technology.

Upcoming events include the Choral concert, Kindergarten trip to the Zoo. The 5th grade will be tie-dyeing on Friday and they visit the Middle School Monday. There is a 5th

grade Parents Orientation Wed night. The Instrumental concert is on the 20th with PTO vote prior to the concert. The 5th grade will be going to the Wilmington Blue Rocks game on May 21st to sing the national anthem.

Field Day and May Day are on the 22nd. The 2nd and 3rd grades will be putting on a play, 3rd grade musical. Young authors for first grade at the end of the month. The student survey on bullying has been completed. Other schools in the district are also surveying students and then will proceed in the Fall with targeting interventions and bringing in expertise. Parent survey will be coming out soon. The rain barrel has been set up, there is the possibility of installing a raised bed in the Fall. Planning is ongoing for the last week of school. Perhaps a "Bump-up" day where kids meet the teachers Tuesday afternoon- African Drum Group coming in. On the last half-day, there will be games and a whole school hoot with Mr. Sweeney.

Kristin said home room reps will be reaching out to each classroom kitty to fund last day snacks.

**PTO Vote :** vote to approve spending on two carts of Mini-Ipad's for used by the K-2 classrooms. This proposal was presented at the April PTO meeting by Mr. Peterkin and several of the K-2 teachers. Please note that all PTO officers and standing chairs (members of committees other than fundraising) are eligible to vote on spending proposals.

**Wellness Committee for the District-** Allison Karpyn

The Food Service contract was up and Aramark was the only contractor who bid, fortunately the food will be of higher quality. Guidelines in the contract, including meeting with kids and survey with the district. Accommodations of dietary needs is written in to the contract.

**Misc**

Spirit Fridays- request to include on WES Mail the Monday prior so parents can be aware in the event their child didn't remember.

Mr. Peterkin said that the summer forms will be online

There is a family in the school district, including kids at WES, who were displaced by a fire in their home. A request has gone to some classrooms with students for gift cards. Kristin reached out to Franny Reilly with the Foundation who suggested a sign-up genius to get the family the things they need. Mr. Mendell and Mrs. Dankanich are coordinating efforts to support the family.

Kristin to reach out to Mr. Mandel to explore a way to organize philanthropic efforts.

Mr. Fantozzi's father passed away and Mrs. Long also had a loss in her family. Donations were made to their families on behalf of the PTO.

**New Business-** None

Kristin adjourned at **Adjournment** at 7:01 pm.

Voting for PTO positions on May 20th.

**The Next PTO Meeting is Tuesday, June 3, 2014**