

PTA Meeting 10/4/2017

Attendance: Lynn Crooks, Michele Lansinger, Erin Cheikh, Molly Chacko, Jenn Stokes-Reichert, Holly Henson, Peter Grose, Maryann Khan, Esther Winikoff, Gosia Baker, Ginny Gallagher, Julia Carroll, Kathy Osborn, Samantha Apel, Meredith Dobrosielski, Stephanie Hemm, Matthew Piercy, Nate Atkinson, Julie Trumbauer, Shelly Bray, Suzan Wren, Sue Hershfeld, Pamela Crocell

President's Welcome and Introductions

Thanks for coming. Need some new people. Pressure friends to fill spots. Social event was a great time and a huge turnout. Thank you!

Vice President's Report

Nothing

Treasurer's Report

Not the budget people were hoping for. There was some disappointment because we had such a surplus from last years. See budget attached.

Yearbook – over budget \$4000; not sure what the issue was; may have to charge more

If there are revisions to the budgets, please review and submit

Budget proposals were calculated by what was utilized last year

Principal's Report

Smooth opening; always transportation blips: last year was a new transportation system and was problematic, this year was better, but some issues were still worked out at the beginning of the year.

Kids are well into schedules and into learning and their good response

Reported at back to school night strong scores from last year

This is just one of the sources of data for assessing students: guided reading: above the level - challenging them more; below the level - working them up

Teacher report card comments will be twice a year

Parent handbook out on back to school night and every child to have a copy as well

PTA membership forms in Parent handbook, newsletter, and in teacher's mailboxes

American Education week: November 13-17 (Mon-Wed visitation for families); Generation's Day Thursday 16 (Theme "celebrating learning then and now"); Conference day 11/17

Ridge Ruxton getting new roof; maybe a little stinky; there will be some equipment; parking may be impacted, encourage the use of Greenwood parking lot

What is a STAT teacher (we have two at WTES): each half time teacher; instructional support help most with teacher, may have some teacher contact with students; plan with the teachers, and may cover a class here and there; one STAT teacher with K, 1st and 2nd graders, another STAT with 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders

Vice Principal's Report

Bus drivers' breakfast - very much appreciated!

Hopefully the pink and orange bus change has helped out to make the kids more comfortable

MAP testing make up will be the next few weeks

Student handbook meetings with each grade level; the students may come home with questions and talking about the student handbook

Teacher's Report

Mrs. Crooks:

MAP testing information:

No MAP for K students in fall; one in winter, one in spring

MAP testing is "Measures of Academic Progress"; test that measures the skills of the student based on their skills; correct answers will elevate a student to a higher level questions, and incorrect answer may drop it to a level to meet their skills to assess the student's skills; younger students are tested audibly; nationally and state normed; just a piece of the evaluation of the students

Two perspectives: national norms and looks at a child's growth between assessments

Also, there is projected growth for each student

Math and Reading

Given in homeroom on two separate days

Information on scores will be sent home

Thank you to gold folder stuffers

Thanks for new pencil sharpener and new books

Request for refreshments for generations day

Mr. Ruth: drum set for Jazz band \$600-700

Teachers request a new microwave for teacher room

Charles Gummer (sp?) email to Ms. Lansinger and Ms. Trumbauer: Kudos for the Green roof! Maryland agricultural foundation association; commended for the green room effort and presentation to the PTA

Committee/Liaison Reports

Box Tops: Shelly Bray & Megan LePore - contest - bring it back! (Molly volunteers to donate a trophy); was not originally a teacher work room staffing part

Cultural Arts: Budget for cultural arts 5th grade project \$1000; Kevin O'Malley \$2200; Westie Wags: El Salvador Project (looking for the project for this year) - nothing in the budget yet projected (last year was \$500); would like to have a budget of about \$6000 to have more assemblies for the students throughout the year

Treasurer: need to calculations of donations and memberships to have a full count of current budget and family donations

Possible box top contributions to supplement the Cultural Arts budget

Environmental: Julie Trumbauer: some upcycling programs continuing: used crayons collection (will be somewhere in the rotunda); also collecting cereal bags and broken binders; chip bags; collected items will be sent to Mom's Organic Market
Waste free Wednesdays to continue during lunch

Clothing to cash truck October 28 and April 28 9a - 2p (all textiles, rugs, shoes, purses, etc.) made almost \$800 last year

Generations Day: see Mrs. Crook American Education week

Health and Wellness: Weber's here at the school last week for Farm to Fresh (free apples to all the kids);

Taste off will be 11/10 (need volunteers);

Spring March 26 "Fit Week"

Mrs. Vanderwal needs some donations of clothes for the health suite; all sizes

Patriots & Defenders: needs a \$1500 budget (medals, banners) (there was a donation last year of 1500)

Social: cafeteria volunteer signup genius on PTA website; greatest need in the Kindergarten lunches; there is a folder in the office and will give you information

Great time at back to school social

Movie night October 13 6:30 p.m.; popcorn and hot chocolate; vote for the movie Facebook page and in the classrooms

Mrs. Lansinger: send email website, facebook, twitter pages to room parents

Yearbook: need a coordinator

New Business:

Pres: Need PTA button on website; we will attempt to continue all of the programs but we need to make sure the budget is secured before we grant all of the budget requests; we need to encourage all families to continue to the donation; last year for the current officers

Mrs. Crooks: suggested that different memberships levels; possibly seek out advice from other schools and how they do it; from personal experience, there are something events that were still charged

Other fundraisers: craft fair; pizza; wrapping paper; raffles 50/50 at events

PTA donation or PTA membership: what is the value of the of the membership

Suggestion that a breakdown of the budget per student; or provide more information as to what the money/donation goes to

Electronic donations? Possibility

Sign up genius on the PTA website; new members we love you! Please join in where you have a desire!