

Meeting Minutes



October 17, 2017 @ 7:01 pm Meeting called to order by Cindy Clefisch

In Attendance

Cindy Clefisch, Jenny Schmidt, Kelley Haaland, Emily Krantz, Michelle Capouch, Marissa Lincoln, Kelsey Uhl, Nicole Stokes, Rachel Ackerman, Amy Matzen, Carissa Dopheide, Jennifer Glandon, Stephanie Reding, Kelly Amenson, Erin Mullenix, Elizabeth Lyons, Hannah Robertson, Lori Vanderleest, Ann Mills, Stacy Bacon, Holly Hunter, Kristin Davis, Nicki Weiser, Brandy Whitehead, Teresa Gymer, Kristin Blessman, Jessica Bormann

Welcome & Introductions

Cindy welcomed everyone and then we played a short game where people stood to show commonalities.

Spotlights

- **First Grade (Mrs. Weiser):** For the past few years, Mrs. Weiser and Mrs. Leigh have been piloting new reading and writing materials. They decided to adopt the Lucy Calkins program, which consists of a mini lesson and application time. Next week many teachers are going to a conference in Des Moines to hear Lucy Calkins and her co-author present. **(Mrs. Leigh):** PTA has bought lots of books for the book rooms and teachers really appreciate that. With this new program, 1st graders have to read for 20 minutes independently, so classrooms need a lot of books. They are seeing great growth with this program. **(Mrs. Blessman):** Tying in with literacy, the 1st graders will be going to Charlotte's Web at Stephens Auditorium in February. Teachers very much appreciate that the PTA supports these kinds of field trips and the arts. **(Mrs. Dopheide):** In addition to the February field trip, 1st graders will also go to the Blank Park Zoo and Historical Building in May. This field trip ties in with their science and social studies curriculum.
- **Special Education (Mrs. Geimer):** Mrs. Geimer is new and is learning a lot! She has heard great things about West PTA. She has been working with students on behavior expectations. **(Mrs. Whitehead):** Mrs. Whitehead is also new. She is working with students on social skills and reading interventions. She uses the book room a lot and appreciates the PTA's donations.

Principal Perspective

Mrs. Mills talked about PBIS, which stands for Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports. The 3 school-wide expectations that they are working on are 1) be safe, 2) be respectful, and 3) be responsible. They recently had a PBIS Expo, where the students traveled around to different areas of the building (lunchroom, restroom, hallway, etc.) and learned about the expectations. There is new signage throughout the building with these expectations and reminders.

The building construction is progressing. Walls are going up!

Minutes

(Emily Krantz) The September minutes were emailed to members last week, and also routed to all in attendance. Erin Mullenix made a motion to approve the minutes; Michelle Capouch seconded the motion.

Budget

(Kelley Halaand) There have been a couple of requests for field trips, which we will approve.

Old Business

- **New Kindergarten/New Family bags (Stacy Bacon and Kristin Davis):** 94 kindergarten and 25 new student bags went out the first week of October.
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New Business

- **Fall FUNdraiser (Kelley Haaland, Emily Krantz, Holly Hunter):** The FUNdraising fliers went out last Friday, October 13. We had a very short kick-off in the gym that morning – we showed students a 44 second video and then told them a little bit about the fundraiser, prizes, and festival. So far we have raised just over \$1000, so we encourage all West families to get their donations in. If every child can raise \$35, we can reach our goal of \$16,000! We have numerous business sponsors that either donated prizes for the festival, or cash for supplies. Copy Cat Printing did the 500 color copies of the fliers that went home. Every child that turns in a donation will be eligible to win a prize. We will draw for the prizes on October 27th, and then slip prizes into backpacks. At the festival there will be seven stations: an obstacle course (Mr. Jungmann is helping with this), Half Price Books Book walk, P&M Show Your Spirit Dance Party, (Unnamed Sponsor) Brain & Body station (roll the dice, add the numbers, do that # of jumping jacks, etc), Papa's Pizzeria Tasty Toss (ring toss), Warrior Lanes bowling, Copy Cat bookmarks, and Sands sack race. There will be prizes for most of the stations, and each student will receive a paper bag to keep their prizes in. More volunteers are needed for the Fall Festival.
- **Book Fair (Jenny Schmidt reporting for Anna Moeckly):** The library is already decorated with the Wild West theme, and looks great! The book fair dates are November 4-17, and this year they will be doing 2 different book orders. They still need volunteers for the book fair.
- **Box Tops (Kelsey Uhl):** The deadline for Box Tops is October 25. Please send your box tops because so far our numbers are very low!
- **Round Up at Fareway (Kristin Davis):** Fareway now has official forms that we need to fill out. Kristin plans to request that the Round Up take place December 2-16. We still need an artistic PTA member that can help create small signs to place at the cash registers.
- **Teacher Wish Lists (Kelley Haaland reporting for Michelle Bequeath):** This website (teacherlists.com) is like a registry for teachers to specify needed items. So far there are 11 teachers registered; please check the site to see if your child's teacher is one of those.
- **Conference Meals (Kristin Davis):** Conference meals will be provided for teachers the evenings of November 14 and 16. We will also provide a lunch for preschool teachers. Mrs. Leigh was asked for feedback and said everything we've done is great, but that soup can be difficult to eat quickly. We decided to do a taco bar one night, and then cater from Papa's Pizzeria the other night.
- **Wrestling Concessions (Jenny Schmidt):** This event will take place November 18. Sarah Bond won't be able to attend, so Jenny is looking for someone to help her oversee the event – manage donations, run errands, oversee volunteers, etc. You can sign up to work that day and there will also be a bake sale that you can contribute to.

- **Merchandise/Apparel (Emily Krantz, Holly Hunter):** We are working with Central PTA again this year to offer NP merchandise and apparel for our families. We gave ideas to P&M and they recently got back to us with their designs and prices. A suggestion was made to include baseball caps; another member suggested beanies. Because it will be an online order form this year, we will check with P&M to see how we can make pick-up easier for working families. The order will run the first two weeks of November. Items will be done before Christmas break.
- **November Family Event (Jenny Schmidt):** Members were asked if they wished to continue doing Movie Night (as in the past), or if there were new ideas. Lori Vanderleest told us about a Bingo night they do at the school where she teaches. Lori, Michelle Capouch, Elizabeth Lyons, and Michelle Capouch will proceed with this idea and organize the Bingo event.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Next Meeting

November 28, 2017, West Elementary Library