

WMS PTO Minutes  
Monday, December 12th, 2022

**Introductions:** Amber , Emily, Lili Schleisler, Liz McCandless, Joanna Dinsmore, Kristiana, Amy, Jenny Abeles, Laura Deutsch, Cara Downs, Jamie Jordan.

Nov 14th meeting minutes: Jenny Abeles with motion to approve minutes, Kristiana J. seconds, all in favor.

**Winter Fun Fest** was a big hit. Kudos to Frankie Synovac for planning and executing such a successful event. Almost 400 kids attended and feedback was positive. Kids liked having the variety of options for fun - gym, food, hot chocolate, dj and photobooth.

**Sweatshirt** sales are off to a good start. Sweatshirts are in and can be ordered online then picked up at the Wydown office. So far we have sold 51 out of 100, skewing largely to the smaller sizes. We are already sold out of XS and Small and might want to consider reordering more of those sizes.

**8th Grade Yearbook ads** can start being sold. Jamie sending email to confirm when sales need to start. Will put date and sale info in Sunday newsletter.

**Treasurers report: Amber K.** We received another \$1,000 in Funds for Excellence Donations, making the total donated this school year \$16.5 k , which while not at our goal is almost double what we have received in years passed. Correction made to last months report that \$35 was amount spent allocated to teacher luncheon, not \$350.

Brought up the need to Change the name of Funds for Excellence. Confusing because it is different at each school. Need to sort it out so that all schools are on the same page.

**Principals report.** Fun Fest had 385 students, which is over 2/3 of the school. Out of all those kids being here, we had very few discipline problems. We couldn't have done it without the PTO and parents, there were 29 parents there to help. 15 Teachers also, couldn't have don't it without the staff and custodians. A great team effort.

December is a busy month with a lot of good things going on. Theater works performance is tonight, that is the new name for integrated arts class. Tomorrow night is the band night at 560 Music Center in the Loop. All bands perform, middle school and high school. Thursday is STEAM night. challenger learning center from Wash U.

One issue we are seeing is micro aggressions kids are saying together but in a joking way. Going to try talking about micro aggressions as a school , education of kids with letters to home to parents. The biggest concern is that kids are fearful of reporting these micro aggressions because of fear of retaliation. We are going to be holding town hall meetings with kids, put info in the newsletter and working with parents as teachers. Goal is to teach empathy and how do we reinvent the importance of being kind to each other?

**Upcoming events:**

Staff Luncheon on Dec 20th. Pasta salads and gluten free options and desserts and infused water. being catered by Chartwells. Chartwells sets it up and provides staffing. No need for parent vounteers.

**8th Grade party** - Parents have voiced need for something special for 8th graders since much of their middle school career was spent during cover and they missed out on a lot. Idea to have

a graduation party/mixer or have a social in Stubbier Gym. Possibly January 27th if the High school commons or gym is available. Laura Deutsch checking with Lori Rainwater on January on space rental. Will follow up if that date works.

**Middle School Night at Bball Game Jan 6th.**

Trying to think of ways to involve the kids in this event. Jamie sent e-mail to Nick Ervin - choir director to see if Wydown choir can sing national anthem. Gift cards given out as prizes for half time games - half court shot, free throws, etc.

**Jeckyl Island Fundariser**

Committee is planning and it is going well. Looking for corporate sponsors now. Sending letter to outline cost of trip and goal dollar amount to raise. There will also be a silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle. Cost will be \$280 a table that sits 8, 30 tables. Music trivia, at the Heights.

Listening Session with Lili Schliessler of Clayton All In Coalition

All in Clayton Coalition, prevents underage substance abuse through the district.