**MINUTES OF A MEETING**

**OF THE PTO FOR**

**WYDOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**AUGUST 20, 2018**

A meeting of the PTO for Wydown Middle School was held, as scheduled pursuant to due notice, on Monday, August 20, 2018, at 8:45 AM CT at the Wydown Middle School (WMS).

The following members of the Board were present at the meeting:

Allie Rossini, Co-President, Alison Hoette, Co-President, Missy McCormick, Treasurer, Tanya Hayden Co-Treasurer, Stephanie Gross, Secretary.

The following members were also present: Nadia Lee, Jeff Orgel, Jeffrey Lewis, Annie Sloane, Tanya Vedantham, Kristin Reddington, Julie Sandler, Stacy Siwak, Jillian Barnes, Kimberly Norful-Gaddy, Amy Wilson, Asa Wilde, Carlos Zemora, Robin Leonard, Suzy Ogé, Stephane Ogé, WeiLi Zhang, Katrina Morgan, Kim Eghtesady, P. Lee

Jamie Jordan, Doug Wehner, Tarita Rhimes WMS Principals, Shelia Powell-Walker, CSD Social Worker and Caroline Early, PTO Council Representative were also present.

Alison welcomed members of the PTO and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

**Approval of the Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2018 meeting, which was seconded and passed.

**Treasurer’s Report by Missy McCormick**

As of August 17, 2018 the WMS PTO has $51,255.54 in the bank.

Activity since last meeting:

· Missing invoices for the 7th and 8th grade class trips, as well as some end of year pizza for the 8th grade events.  This totals approximately $5,500 and is not reflected in current expenses.

·Collected an additional $2,640 in Funds for Excellence in May 2018 with our last push.  This left us about $4,000 from our target of $25,000.

**Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget:**

Attached is a draft of the FY19 Wydown PTO Budget.

Main changes from FY18 Budget:

·Took over money management of Wydown Extra fund. We have added a line item for each grade based on numbers from last year and the increase in price per student.

·Removed “Special Events Income and Expense.”  This was the Cardinals baseball game that we will no longer promote.

·Added an itemized line item under “PTO Community Events” for the Parent Night Out Event totaling $800.

·Added an itemized line item under “Afterschool Activities” to support the Student Council’s Winterfest.

·Added an increase of $1,500 in our Funds for Excellence goal to fund the budget.  We believe we can hit this target by spending more time promoting the campaign.

Alison discussed and explained Funds for Excellence to those in attendance and how it funds our operating budget. She also explained that the budget was trimmed and we have

transitioned to Sign Up Genius for food and in-kind donations instead of keeping it in the budget. She noted that there are many volunteer and donation opportunities for families to participate.

Budget approved.

**President’s Report by Alison Hoette & Allie Rossini**

Walk Through

We reviewed the revamped Walk Through format. Everyone agreed that this was a huge improvement from years past; especially separating the 6th graders. Principal Jordan welcomes additional feedback to improve the event even more next year.

Open Positions

Two open positions were filled at the meeting. Julie Sandler agreed to fill the 8th grade Wydown Extra Chair position and Carlos Zamora agreed to co-chair the Fall Family Fun Fest with Alison and Allie. There are additional volunteer opportunities. Emails will be sent publicizing them.

Upcoming Events:

Open House will be held Tuesday, August 28th at 7 PM at WMS.

Student Food Pantry

WMS Counselors work with families in need to supply them with food over the weekend and vacations. PTO volunteer coordinator is Tanya Vedantham. Drives will be held throughout the year. Personal care item drives will be held as well.

Fall Family Fun Fest

Event will be held Wednesday, October 24th from 6:30 – 8 PM. Volunteers and donations needed. Emails will be sent.

Funds for Excellence Campaign

Funds for Excellence is the only fundraising using by the PTO to generate an operating budget. It helps fund staff appreciation events, after school clubs, grade level events and end of the year activities, Fall Family Fun Fest, Black History celebration, student scholarship fund, staff requests, building, principal, and counselor funds. FFE received a lot of donations at the Walk Through. Emails will be going out. Brainstormed for other ideas to promote FFE and reminded people about corporate matching.

Parent Connection Events:

Encouraging Grade Chairs to plan events for families to get to know each other.

**Principal’s Report by Jamie Jordan**

Principal Jordan said the year is off to a great start and that communication between staff and family is important. She will send newsletters every weekend with basic information. One of the school’s goals is to examine how do we go deep with kids? How do students see themselves as learners? How do we harness that?

She also discussed safety getting to and from school.

WMS is open to parents helping with coaching, clubs, etc. Please contact the school if you are interested.

Discussed Pursuit Days. This year there will be a change to Pursuit Days. It will be announced in the August newsletter but it will possible be 2 fall/2 spring or 3 fall/3 spring with students opting to change classes at semester. The Pursuit Day opportunities will be streamlined and better explained. Staff still deciding what to do with the other early release days; possibly delving deeper into electives.

**New Business**

PTO meetings will alternate between mornings and evenings. All dates and times are on the WMS PTO website. Every family is a PTO member. Meeting notes posted on the website.

Adzick Field

The district has proposed a multi-purpose field (Shaw Park field #7) to host various CHS sports (baseball, softball, field hockey), Clayton Rec and Youth Leagues, Fontbonne games, etc. The Board of Education approved to redo the field in turf with additional improvements to lighting, fencing, seating, etc. Centene has a matching gift that runs through September 2018. $140,000 is still needed to reach the matching goal. Each PTO is asked to contribute toward this goal. WMS PTO voted to research a gift and its source further.

On September 5th there will be a shopping/dining event with a portion of the proceeds going toward the field.

**Conclusion**

Next PTO meeting will be Monday, September 17, 2018 at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie L. Gross, Secretary