

WMS PTO Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 26, 2024, at 9:00 AM

In Attendance:

Zoom: Emily Zou, Tahnee Whitlock

In-Person: Betsy Meyland-Smith, Madeline Akins, Whitney Lorenz, Michelle Abounader, Joanna Dinsmore, Kami Waldman, Yang Yang, Yang Lyu, Gina Nelson, Preeta Juptan, Michael Perman, Martine Bejasa, Dell Villa, Jenny Abeles, Lori Hauslader

Principal's Report - Dr. Jamie Jordan:

- Last week went well with the start of school
- School Improvement Plan for every school in Missouri for Academic and Social/Emotional Checks went out following school surveys. Showed there was a need for increased communication. Middle school is a good time to get parents engaged and connected. Communications go out weekly through Dr. Jordan's newsletter and teachers are sending out weekly emails as well. The "Where Everyone Belongs" initiative has asked parents to be on the committee along with Wydown staff. Community Building Events coming up Sept 19th – 6th grade family movie night to help with engagement and have families meet each other
Wydown Night at football game will be Sept 6th – designed to be a family event, but had students show up in groups with one parent, intention was to help with monitoring students at the game, discussed roping off a section, have some sort of spirit wear table and potential items to wear per grade.
Open House will be this Thursday, August 29th, 7-9PM
Jeykll Island announcements are about to go out for 8th graders as well as for 6th grade camp.

President's Report - Betsy Meyland-Smith and Madeline Akins

- PTO Focus 24-25
"We Are Wydown" – series of events to build bonds between parents and students in the community, calendar of events on the Wydown PTO dashboard through the Clayton District website, examples include "Gab and Grub" that occurs 6 times a year, the goal is to get students outside with a snack, for social time during PACK at the end of the day. Thursday will be our first one, show up at 2:35 in Main Street area, sign up genius will go out for parent volunteers, need about 10.
"Where Everyone Belongs" – we want to make sure we are representing as PTO leadership to reflect our population and have as much input and perspective from everyone. Please help in recruiting more volunteers for our school.
- Volunteers Needed:
 - Grade Level Parent Coordinators – Parent Only party per grade, parents pay for themselves, the host is just helping to get invitation out and reserve the space, let us know if you want to help
 - Movie Night – 6th grade movie night, popcorn and/or candy will be sold by PTO
 - Funds for Excellence – this is one of our main fundraisers, on the PTO page you can view how these funds help support activities for the school, please donate if you can. You can donate through the Wydown PTO page, the link is also shared

by Dr. Jordan in her newsletter and will be promoted at Open House this week. Discussed having a suggested amount of \$125.00. The intention of the PTO asking for this is so that our parents are tasked once during the year instead of throughout the year.

- **Past Events**

- Staff Breakfast 8/12 – welcome back breakfast for the teachers, had donuts and coffee, this was a collaboration between the district and PTO, went well
- Walk Through 8/15 – went well overall, our goal was to make it less hectic, but it did get confusing, may put more of a gap between the 6th grade and 7/8th grades possibly by last name going forward and managed by adults at the front tables.

- **Upcoming Events**

- Gab & Grub 8/29
- Teacher Appreciation Dinner for Staff - 8/29 in afternoon around PACK– Pasta House and cookie trays, will encourage to-go containers so teachers and staff can take home
- Question came up about coffee availability – will investigate what is there and what we can do in the future for our teachers going forward.
- New Events: 6th Grade Movie Night 9/19 – may need 7/8th grade parent volunteers
- Spirit Wear – successful run at walk-through, if you have ideas on swag, please let us know, you can purchase more gear online through the Wydown PTO page.
- School Supply Kits – this year kits were here as soon as the school year ended last year, this makes up for them being late the year before so we will sign up again with this vendor going forward.

Treasurer's Report - Michelle Abounader

- Copies of the 2024-2025 Budget circulated (can be found on Wydown PTO page)
- Recent Highlights:
 - Teacher Appreciation funds increased to \$10,000!!!
 - Paid \$757.50 to STL Style for Spirit Wear. So excited that credit card sales combined with cash sales were at \$2,210.
 - Funds for Excellence donations were \$1,300 this month.
 - Current status as of 8/25/24
 - Budgeted Income: \$68,655.37
 - Budgeted Expenses: \$34,250.00
 - Budget Net: \$34,405.37
 - Projected bank balance if on budget \$34,405.37

Voting on Budget: Lori Hauslader motioned to approve the budget for the 2024-2025 school year, Gina Nelson seconded the motion, none opposed, budget approved.

Voting on Slate for 2024-2025 Slate of officers: Gina Nelson motioned to approve, Lori Hauslader seconded the motion, none opposed, slate approved.

PTO Council Update: Jenny Abeles

Back to School Bash was canceled due to weather and has been reconfigured to be a Homecoming Kick-off with donuts and coffee before the parade.

Next PTO Meeting Monday, September 16, 9AM in the library

2024-2025 Meetings (in-person and zoom option):

- 8/26, 9AM
- 9/16, 9AM
- 10/14, 9AM
- 11/11, 9AM
- 12/9, 9AM
- 1/13, 9AM
- 2/10, 9AM
- 3/10, 9AM
- 4/14, 9AM
- 5/12, 9AM

Meeting Adjourned at 10:01