

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PTO FOR
WYDOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL
February 10, 2020**

A meeting of the PTO for Wydown Middle School was held, as scheduled pursuant to due notice, on February 10, 2020, at 6:00 PM CT at the Wydown Middle School (WMS) Main Street.

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

Allie Rossini, Co-President, Alison Hoette, Co-President, Stephanie Gross, Secretary & Communications Chair.

The following members were also present: Gary Pierson, CSD School Board Member, Kim Hurst, Amy Wilson.

David Gulick, CSD School Board Candidate, was also present.

Jamie Jordan, WMS Principal, was 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 January 13, 2020 meeting, which was seconded and passed.

Clayton School Board Candidates Kim Hurst and David Gulick spoke briefly about their backgrounds and qualifications. Candidate Gary Pierson plans to do so at the March 9 WMS PTO meeting. Five individuals are running for three spots. Gary Pierson is the only incumbent.

Treasurer's Report by Tanya Hayden (see attached)

Notable financial activity this month:

As of February 8, 2020, the Wydown PTO has \$56,744.79 in the bank.

Notable financial activity since January meeting:

- Revenue:
 - \$500 donation received from Arch Orthodontics and Dale Avenue Pediatrics (sponsorship for parents' night out on January 10)
 - \$50 employer match from MasterCard
 - \$15.84 from Schnucks eScrip program
- Expenses:
 - \$407.77 to restock food pantry (paid with donations earmarked for the food pantry)

Other Treasurer activities:

- Tax letters have been sent to all parents and other donors for contributions made in 2019. Parents who haven't seen their tax letters should check their email account (as listed in the Buzz Book) for a message from wydownpto@gmail.com.
- Wydown PTO financial records for FY19 have been submitted to the District for PTO Council tax preparation purposes.

A motion was made to approve the report, which was seconded and passed.

President's Report by Alison Hoette & Allie Rossini

- a. Email Communications Issues/Phishing
There have been several phishing emails sent that appear to be from PTO members. Please disregard them and/or forward them to Chris Tennill at christennill@claytonschools.net.
- b. Middle School Athletics
Interested parents are researching boosting athletics. More to follow.
- c. Staff Appreciation Events Recap
All staff appreciation events have been well supported and received.
- d. Upcoming Events
 - i. District Wide Speaker Series
Remaining dates are February 13th at the District Admin Building and April 14th in the CHS Auditorium. Series led by Dr. Tim Bono, Washington University faculty member, author and expert on psychological health and happiness. He will discuss resilience as a life skill, misconceptions about self-esteem and practical strategies you can use to help your child develop resilience in the face of adversity.
 - ii. Insight Night
Insight Night will be held February 20th from 6-8 PM at WMS. There will be 11 rooms with 11 different topics. Facilitators will host 3 30-minute sessions. Choose what topic(s) appeals to you. Topics include grade level transitions, a parent educator to discuss communicating with your teen, NCADA on teen drug/alcohol use, a parent perspective room, an ER doctor to discuss vaping, discussion on teen stress/anxiety management, technology management. Additionally, WMS Character Council and Wydown Welcome Wagon will be present. It is an intimate setting where parents can feel comfortable asking questions and listening to others.
 - iii. Clayton High Dance Marathon
CHS is hosting a Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon. Its members have spent the last 5 months raising funds and awareness for local children's pediatric hospitals and have put on a series of mini events to work towards their goal of \$20,000. 100% of the donations directly benefit St. Louis Children's Hospital and SSM Cardinal

Glennon. Last year, they exceeded their goal by \$8,000 and would love to do it again! The culminating four-hour long Dance Marathon will be in the CHS Stuber Gym on a February 28th (6pm-10pm). The event will include dancing, games, raffles, catered food, and stories from patients and their families. You can contribute directly via- <https://events.dancemarathon.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=3717>

All donations are tax-deductible. Visit <https://claytondancemarathon.weebly.com> to learn more.

iv. End of the Year Events

We are starting to plan for the end of the year so that we can make the transition to the next grade level an exciting experience. Each grade level has at least one end-of-year event. 8th grade will have more with its graduation.

Principal's Report by Jamie Jordan

Principal Jordan just returned from a visit to San Diego to visit High Tech High and two design thinking schools. These schools are teaching creativity and problem solving. Principal Jordan met with subject managers to learn more about their project-based learning philosophies.

WMS currently has 680 students enrolled. The 8th grade is the largest grade but will be moving on in May. Incoming classes not expected to be as large.

There will be a Black History Assembly on February 29th in the CHS Auditorium. The event will be put on by the CHs and WMS Black Student Union.

Effective 2020-2021 school year, WMS school colors will change from purple to orange and blue to better align with the high school.

Next PTO meeting will be Monday, March 9, 2020 at 8:45 AM at WMS.

Conclusion

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie L. Gross, Secretary