

PTO Public Meeting Minutes
Western Avenue School - Zoom
Tuesday, November 17, 2020
7:00 pm

Executive Board:

Mr. Zeman - Principal

Kim Sumrak - President

Lyndsay Gruetzmacher & Jill Johnson - Co-Vice Presidents

Kristi Kusak - Treasurer

Melissa Steuart - Assistant Treasurer

Amber Bennett – Secretary

- I. Call to Order & Welcome
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Introductions of all Present: PTO Board, Mr. Zeman, Mrs. Croy, Ms. Lauria, Ms. Vahldick, Mr. Potsic, Elizabeth Nguyen, Leticia LaVoy, Dana Christensen, Stephanie Christensen
- IV. Changes to PTO Executive Board
 - a. Sarah Traven (Co-President) & Kristin Flannery (Assistant Treasurer) stepped down from PTO Board
 - b. Melissa Steuart - new Assistant Treasurer
- V. Approval of September 2020 minutes
 - a. 1st – Lindsay Gruetzmacher
 - b. 2nd – Jill Johnson
- VI. Principal's Report (see details below)
- VII. Old Business/New Business
 - a. School Calendar Changes (Kim Sumrak)
 - i. Remote learning half-days effective beginning on 10/31 and continuing on 11/13 through January 30th. This was approved on 10/13.
 - ii. Beginning on Monday, 11/30 all District 304 students will transition to full remote instruction through at least Friday, 12/4. This was approved on 11/16.
 - b. PTO Committees & Fundraising – PTO working with committee heads on calendar to prioritize efforts throughout the year. Calendar to be published on WAS PTO site. (Kim Sumrak)
 - i. Morale Committee Initiatives (Stephanie Christensen, Morale Committee Chair & Kim Sumrak)
 1. Classroom craft – Morale Committee will work with Room Parents to carry out the holiday craft this year.
 2. Decorating ducks outside of school will continue during remote learning.
 3. Light Fight (more details below)
 - c. Fundraising Initiatives

- i. WAS Pumpkin Patch (Dana Christensen, chair GUAG)
 - 1. The Fall Fest had a high participation rate despite the different format.
 - 2. The event raised \$1200, which will be donated to the PTO general fund, because the garden has already purchased seeds for the Spring.
 - 3. Highschool Horticulture Club cleaned out the garden.
 - 4. Many herbs are still available in the garden.
 - ii. 4th Grade Outdoor Ed coffee cakes & coffee to raise funds for 5th grade Outdoor Ed (Kristi Kusak and Kim Sumrak)
 - 1. Coffee Cakes delivered soon.
 - iii. Other fundraisers at WAS include: Market Day, Minted.com, AmazonSmile
 - 1. Kristi Kusak will summarize fundraisers and send it home with students and include it on the online backpack.
 - iv. Restaurant nights – Doughocracy, Nancy’s will continue
- d. Virtual Book Fair to support WAS library
 - i. Mr. Zeman will ask Mrs. Fuller about the sales.
 - e. WAS November Spirit Days
 - i. They were held from 11/9 through 11/16 on Monday – Thursdays for A & B days.
 - f. PTC Conferences
 - i. Conferences will be held Monday, November 23rd and Tuesday, November 24th virtually.
 - g. WAS Kids Care Initiatives (Kim Sumrak & Kristi Kusak)
 - i. 2nd Grade Service Project wrapped up Nov. 9th.
 - 1. 471 pounds of goods/candy donated to troops
 - ii. Anderson Animal Shelter project to begin on 11/30 (Jill Johnson)
 - 1. Initiative will continue remotely.
 - 2. Items for the shelter may be dropped off in the WAS Foyer. Exact dates for this collection will go out soon.
 - iii. Salvation Army Bell Ringing (Kim Sumrak & Kristi Kusak)
 - 1. Planned for the 2nd week of December.
 - 2. WAS will be at State & 3rd Street in Geneva
 - 3. Two households may sign up to ring together- 6 feet apart.
 - h. Geneva Giving Tree at Geneva History Museum –
 - i. WAS PTO will design/decorate a tree at Café & Barr. (Lyndsay Gruetzmacher)
 - ii. There will be a QR code to scan and vote for the tree. \$5 = 5 votes.
 - i. Western Avenue School Holiday Light Fight (Jill Johnson)
 - i. Families can decorate houses and be added to the WAS Light Fight map.
 - ii. The map will be available for WAS families.
 - iii. “Toys for Tots” boxes will be at Jill Johnson and Lindsay Gruetzmacher’s houses if WAS families would like to donate toys. These locations will be on the Light Fight Map.

VIII. Treasurer’s Report – Kristi Kusak

IX. Open Discussion to the Floor

- a. Mr. Zeman noted that the kids and parents have shown a lot of resiliency this year. He also thanked the parents for keeping the children's spirits up and planning fun activities during this year. The parents and kids' positive attitudes have helped him to stay positive during this difficult time.

X. Motion to Adjourn

- a. 1st – Jill Johnson
- b. 2nd – Lindsay Gruetzmacher

PTO Meeting – November 17, 2020 Principal's Report

WHAT Have We Been Doing?

- 10/6 – ROE Inspection
- 10/7 – 10/8 – International Walk to School Day
- October 16 - Pumpkin Sale
- October 21 & 22 – Virtual Helmet Assemblies for Grade 1
- 10/26 & 10/27 – Brain Presentation to 5th Grade
- 10/28 & 10/29 – Halloween Parties
- 10/29 & 11/11 – Law Enforcement Drills
- 11/11 – Captain Mason's Video for Veteran's Day
- November – 2nd Grade Service Project – OSOT
- 11/2 – 11/12 – Virtual Book Fair
- Student Council Elections for 2nd – 5th grade taking place this week

Teachers Teaching & Learning

- ✓ OOL Teachers Eryn Shannon and Nicole McCloud to present tips and tricks to staff
- ✓ District Next Semester Planning Committee – Me, Cathy Fuller, Madeline Lauria, and Nico Teti-Teal
- ✓ District Pandemic Planning Committee – Me, Cathy Fuller

HOW Have We Been Doing?

- Students continue to do a great job with protocols
- Teachers continue to provide great environment
- The Morale Committee has been very helpful – craft for Halloween parties, duck dressing, etc.
- Spirit Days have been fun

Upcoming Dates

- 11/20 – Half day Off-Sight learning day
- 11/23 & 11/24 – P/T Conferences

- 11/25 – 11/27 – Thanksgiving Break
- 11/30 – Mutual Ground Meeting with MG Staff
- 12/2 & 12/3 – Mutual Ground presentations to K-5 students via Teams.
- 12/14 – PTO Executive Board Meeting
- Early December – 1st Grade Community Service Project – Anderson’s Animal Shelter
- 12/19 – 1/3 – Winter Break