

West Point Elementary School

Community Council Minutes

September 19, 2017

Mr. Clark welcomed all members and explained that we are in need of one more parent to serve on the community council. He asked members to submit names of potential members, and also said that he would be sending out an email invitation to ask parents to consider joining the community council.

No minutes were read, as this was the first meeting of the current school year.

Mr. Clark asked Kyle Laws from West Point City to update the council on the construction schedule of the area to the north of the school. Mr. Laws explained that the West Point City Council is looking for construction bids in regards to leveling the mounds, final grading of the berms, installation of sprinklers and grass on both sides of the new parking lot. He also explained that the city is planning on installing chain link fence along the school property line with openings at specific locations to allow foot traffic to move to and from the school from the new parking lot. He said the earliest the construction could start is November 1st. The city is still planning on doing a splash pad, which will hopefully be completed by next summer. Mr. Laws asked if there were any further questions, and then asked to be excused to attend to other city business.

Mr. Clark shared some information regarding a new program for West Point Elementary called the STAR reading program. It will be led by Melissa DeLong, and will be housed in the small room in the front of the library. This program is focused on helping struggling readers through one-on-one tutoring. It requires a lot of volunteers. Mr. Clark asked council members to consider volunteering, or to recommend this opportunity to others in order to help this group of children to become more fluent readers.

Mr. Clark passed out the composite school plan and gave an update on school funds. The building fund currently has \$7,000, and it is planned to spend roughly \$2,000 on water bottle fillers, which will be installed in January. This will also include some brand new water fountains as well, as older models cannot be retrofitted to include a water bottle filler. The school is also planning on putting in a digital marquee. This will be paid for using building funds along with money earned from the school fundraiser. (Last year's fundraiser earned

about \$5,000) The remaining money will be used to pay for Mr. Johnson, the new SEM teacher.

Mr. Clark discussed the funds being spent from the last year's plan, and how they were being divided. He shared that through the increased money for SEM, the SEM groups are much smaller this year (8-12 students) with 2 teachers which allows more students to experience SEM. West Point Elementary has 10 TA's this year. Five are being funded through Trust land funds, while the other five are being funded through the district.

Mr. Clark talked about robots and programming opportunities for the students at West Point Elementary. The PTA purchased some of the robots with scholastic dollars, which allows the kindergarten students to be introduced to programming.

Mr. Clark gave an overview of what the PTA has planned for the upcoming ribbon week. This year, the PTA decided to do all of the ribbons in one week. Each day will concentrate on a different ribbon with its corresponding focus. One of the days is concerning internet safety. Mr. Clark asked the council if they knew of any apps for families to help keep kids safe on the internet. The Google Family Link app was mentioned, as it is a way to give parents more control over their children's digital interactions. Mr. Clark explained that the information given out to students would be age appropriate, but that there would also be more information sent home to parents encouraging them to continue the discussion at home with their students.

Mr. Clark asked if there were any other items that needed to be discussed. When no one brought up items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.