



Minutes 11/25/19 Jewel PTO meeting

- 1) Call to Order at 6:30pm by Kathy Evans
- 2) Approval of October minutes – Motion: C. Dosch Second: L. Wand – motion carries
- 3) President's Report – Kathy Evans –
 - a) Halloween Bash went really well. Kids had a good time. I'm hoping that it continues to be an incentive for the teachers and for the students moving forward. We did have to turn a few students away on the night of, but in general it was a huge success. For next year, for the cleanup day, can we get additional help like we do for set-up so we can move it all at once? This dragged out to another day unfortunately. In the future, committee head has to stay in contact with WAHS for Student Ambassadors or NHS in advance to get the kids here for that day as well. Contact Mrs. Shepherd for NHS and whoever is with Mrs. Kegarise in Ambassadors. Thank you for everyone who did volunteer especially Jason and Chris.
 - b) FFN the following week was one of the most profitable nights we ever had!! Amazing to for everyone involved to do it the very next Friday night. Thank you to Mr. Lambert who got the karaoke machine back working together. He was a wizard with it.
 - c) Veterans' Assembly breakfast – more than enough food, too much actually, but we had 5 Vets that cancelled for various reasons. Bad weather on that day didn't help. Variety and quantity of food was good. The AFJROTC demonstration and drill was amazing. Anyone interested in their drills, there is a competition Jan 25th at WAHS.
 - d) Winter Carnival coming up in January and winter breakfast for the teachers is December 20th. Kathy will get the Sign-up Genius ready. Last year's breakfast was really good because we stopped asking for "casseroles" specifically and just put out the idea of "hot items". Sign-up will be posted by Monday December 2nd or 3rd.
- 4) Vice-President's Report – Jennifer Dosch
 - a) Nothing much to report – Will update new membership by next meeting. Still need to get a note out to all school about please plan on helping/volunteering for upcoming events.
- 5) Secretary's Report – Brian LoCicero
 - a) Brian will send calendar updates to Marianne and ensure FB blasts for December 9th Winter Carnival planning meeting (our regular meeting but with a focus)
- 6) Treasurer's Report – Laura Wand
 - a) Halloween bash came in under what we budgeted. Expected \$3000, \$2214.45 will be roughly the final pending some final receipts from Penny. Still, a fantastic turnout. We had about 50 less kids attend this year, but this is the trend in our student population and might be for a while, so we'll need to account for this in our future budgets. Need to correct the Halloween Bash presentation that Mr. Henkel had given at first half 6th Grade lunch. That presentation is an old one from Dr. Scalia and has lots of old information in there.
 - b) FFN#2 – We normally assume \$1100 net profit, and we brought in \$1600+ so that was great. 182 kids attended this one. This event had the benefit of lower costs due to concessions left over from Bash and other savings.
 - c) Spirit Wear – still have orders coming in, so we're over \$470 higher than where we thought we'd be at this point in the year for the budget.
 - d) WAHS concessions – Check has come in from that, so with tips, we made \$100. It's a small amount but this all adds up.



- e) Overall, we're at about \$5600 in revenue out of \$10,000 budgeted for the year. So, we're in a good place as of right now.
- 7) Committee Updates
- a) Fundraisers
 - i. Halloween Bash – update from 11/1 – was covered in President's and Treasurer's report.
 - ii. Spirit Wear –
 - iii. Friday Fun Night – update from 11/8 – was covered in President's and Treasurer's report
 - iv. Concessions / West High Booster – We received an email from the boosters at West with a list of open events that they still need help for. Exec Board needs to review it and bring list of dates that we'd want to target to the December 9th meeting.
 - b) Funded Activities
 - i. Hospitality – Veterans' Day Assembly Breakfast – recap – was covered in President's report
 - ii. Winter Carnival – January 24th, 2020 – Our December 9th PTO meeting will focus on planning for Winter Carnival. It basically is a FFN for Jewel kids, we just add more age appropriate activities to it. Bring all your good ideas and let's focus on what we can add.
 - 1) Last year we had a Neon Art party. Neon paints applied to canvases for kids to hang in their rooms at home, etc.
 - 2) In the past – snowball fight in the gym.
 - 3) Basketball and floor hockey,
 - 4) Cake Wars, if you're shopping and see trinkets that are fun and cheap please pick them up. What Cake Wars is, is that we provide kids with cakes and frosting. From there, they decorate them to whatever theme and style they want. They have items like sprinkles, army men, breakfast cereals, ribbons and small trinkets to decorate. Mr. Smith mentioned that Mrs. Freed was looking at having a baking club at the start of the year but abandoned it. He will ask her if she still had a group of students interested, if there a way to have them help crank out as many cakes as possible. They would just use the ovens here after school. Usually it's just Cake mix and soda. PTO will provide all supplies
 - 5) Karaoke,
 - 6) Could we turn each Pod into a mini-carnival games type area (sort of Fun Fair type things from the elementary schools)
- 8) Principal's Report – Mr. Smith
- a) Halloween Bash was amazing, thank you!
 - b) Veterans' Day Assembly was awesome, stinks that the weather had an overall impact, but the drill team was outstanding. They did the drill that won them a competition and if you get a chance to see them, do it.
 - c) SC (ET) Parent Night was well attended, we made the takeaways available for download, and we'll have another one in February.
 - d) Fall Play – Paranormal High School was outstanding and amazing that it was just about entirely student-ran, very little intervention from teachers/adults. What a creative bunch of kids.



- e) Band Recruitment is underway as our band visited our feeder schools and there's been a parent meeting as well. Even though 5th Grade band was stopped, the interest level and turn-out has everyone feeling the program is in good hands moving forward.
 - f) Q2 Midterms went home last Friday, please talk with your kids about their goals and keep them focused on improvement through end of Q2. Grades go home end of January.
 - g) We had the Blackhawks GOAL program out here last week. No actual players but the team sent some great folks to come out and talk to students. The nice thing is that we got some equipment for our school (sticks, goals, etc.) which we'll be using in the Fall Sports Assembly and then it'll be available for school events moving forward.
 - h) New sign – Between building funds (Dr. Scalia was quite good at finding a way to save money) combined with District funds, we're moving forward with replacing our existing sign with a fully electronic one in the new year. Along with that, there are plans coming together to replace all other signage around the school such as the Athletics Entrance sign and others. Stay tuned...
 - i) Follow up on the school fundraiser questions that were raised in our October meeting. \$20,000 of items were sold, of which, 40% comes back to Jewel to support the Spring Carnival and 8th Grade dance and promotion events. Some money has carried over as well from previous years. There was a question about the VIP Bulls Game passes. Brian thought that game was December 13th, but Mr. Smith believed it was in March 2020. He will check and respond.
 - j) The December 6th, 6th grade boys' basketball game is moving to December 11th due to building event conflict.
 - k) Fall Sports Assembly – really a great opportunity to recognize the various teams as well as anyone who has received 3 pins for their "got involved" t-shirts.
 - l) Important Dates:
 - i. 11/26- Jewel Fall Sports & Activities Assembly
 - ii. 12/9- PTO Winter Fest Meeting
 - iii. 12/11-12/19- City of Lights Basketball, Wrestling and Cheerleading Tournaments
 - iv. 12/23-1/3- Winter Break
 - v. 1/6- School Resumes
 - vi. Please follow us on Schoology, FB and Twitter @JewelJaguars and @AthleticsJewel
- 9) SCAC Report – Penny (given by Mr. Smith)
- a) District Improvement Plan - Superintendent Dr. Jeff Craig
 - i. Areas of focus: Framework for student achievement, Relationships, Finance, Positive Engagement Relationships
 - ii. Dr. Craig walked us through a detailed time line of the Language of Learning goal, areas of impact, how we get there, measuring the impact, point person for each area etc.
 - b) School Improvement Process (SIP)
 - i. building teams meet to discuss and align plans
 - ii. individual buildings meet and discuss plans
 - iii. meet w/ the Board (Mr. Smith to present to Board on January 6th)
 - c) Challenge Learning - Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Dr. Brent Raby
 - i. Challenge Learning - company from UK
 - ii. District 129 has been chosen as a flagship district for this company since our culture/goals match -intentional learning
 - iii. The Challenge Learning model will be slowly integrated into each school and classroom
 - 1) commitment to learning
 - 2) commitment to challenge
 - 3) commitment to dialogue
 - iv. Challenge Learning offers
 - 1) leadership workshops
 - 2) champion workshops



- 3) all staff workshops
- 4) parent sessions
- v. Well-rounded student/child
- d) If anyone has questions about these district initiatives, please send directly to Penny.
- e) There was a question on why Jewel wasn't in any press releases or newspaper articles talking about the State Assessments and levels (noted that Goodwin was high honors again). Mr. Smith said that he'd give an update on how it relates to Jewel in January. We've achieved the level of "Commendable".

10) Old Business

- a) Mr. Smith – At our last meeting it may have mentioned that we're still short on number of FFNs, and could we look at more dates. However, did we want to see if we wanted to run a Funway night or a bowling night? Could this be anything for our kids or the 4th and 5th graders? Herget just had one over there awhile ago. If it's an easy thing to put out there, and part of the money comes back to us.
 - i. Don't want to do this with the 4th and 5th graders as it's an outside of building event and our ability to manage that would be really difficult, but we could look at this for our own students
- b) We are still going to have March Madness as the incentive program. We need to look at a potential refresh of this as Mr. Smith is pretty blind about what it is other than it's his responsibility. Similar to how we're going to focus our December meeting on Winter Carnival, can we possibly look at the February meeting at doing the same for March Madness? Mr. Smith very open to any/all ideas and would love input since it historically hasn't been a PTO event but could be as it's not a "money maker". Is it possible to have a Teachers v Students event as well?

11) New Business

- a) None

12) Adjourn Meeting – 7:25pm moved by: C. Dosch, seconded by: J. Owens, the motion carries.