



Wheatland Elementary Parent Teacher Organization, Inc.
PTO General Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2022

Betsy Poland, PTO President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm in the Wheatland library. Present were Elton Armbrister, Whitney Beard, Elizabeth Buffalino, Jordan Boone, Michelle Dixon, Kelli Emrick, Erin Hughes, Samantha Jacob, Kortney Kittle, Karen Maskell, Angie Muether, Elizabeth Nance, Makala Navarro, Megan Perry, Megan Pierpoint, Betsy Poland, Cassie Price, Anjanette Riggin, Allison Roth, Laurel Russell, Kimberly Schaffer, Sarah Smith, Wei Xia (*not all attendees signed in, so there may be some names missing from this report)

Welcome: Betsy Poland

Ms. Poland welcomed the group and thanked everyone for being there. She introduced Cassie Price as the newest member of the Executive board. Ms. Price is serving as co-secretary this year. Introductions were made around the room for all in attendance.

Principal's Report: Elton Armbrister

Mr. Armbrister introduced himself and stated that he is excited for the new school year. Enrollment is currently at 431 and we are fully staffed, with the exception of needing to hire one additional para. Fifth graders began attending Star Base, which is a series of field trips at McConnell Air Force Base focusing on STEM learning. Mr. Armbrister also explained that fifth graders have the opportunity to participate in either band or orchestra this year. There was a bond passed to offer orchestra for the first time in several years. Mr. Armbrister also explained the redesign process and how the school is being purposeful in deciding what can be improved. There are three areas of focus for the redesign. The first is service learning, where students can participate in service projects. The next is crews, which combines kids from multiple grade levels to get together for activities. The final area is student showcase events, where students can showcase their work like when fourth grade has the Famous Kansas wax museum. More will be mentioned about the redesign in the September newsletter.

A motion to approve the minutes from the April PTO Meeting was moved and seconded. The minutes were approved without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Anjanette Riggin

Ms. Riggin presented the Treasurer's Report. She went over the budget from the previous school year and explained the various expenses and income from the school year. Due to the success of the Warrior Dash, the school was able to purchase new screens in the cafeteria for staff meetings.

Mr. Armbrister shared that these will be used for professional development and could possibly be used for family movie nights in the future.

Ms. Riggan went on to explain the proposed budget for the current school year. The budget was made after looking at the average of the previous three years as well as our current enrollment. There was a request to change the amount in the budget for the staff birthdays. This request was approved and changed.

A motion to approve the budget as presented with the changes made verbally was moved and seconded. The minutes were approved without objection.

Coordinator Reports

Lead Room Parents/Bulletin Board/Staff Doors: Angie Muether

A room parent meeting was held prior to the PTO meeting where details were shared about the responsibilities of room parents. An email will be sent out to room parents that highlights details from that meeting. A bulletin board has also been in the works and if anyone has things they would like to promote, they may contact Angie Muether.

AmazonSmile/Box Tops/Dillons Rewards: Haydee Miller/Rachel Viner/Sheila Wentz

These have all been rolled into one group this year. Amazon and Dillons both help raise a lot of money for our school.

Scrip Gift Cards: Laurel Russell

There are quite a variety of gift cards available through Scrip and the PTO gets a cut from sales. The Scrip order form will come home in time to receive gift cards before the holidays. There may possibly be an additional Scrip sale in the spring this year as well.

Holiday Hugs and Book Fair: Cassie Price

Holiday Hugs is a spreadsheet that will come out in future Weekly Warriors where teachers can list their favorite things. This is a great list to reference when buying gifts and special treats for our teachers.

The Book Fair will be October 6-13 and will be open during conferences and possibly during the Warrior Dash.

Family Fun Night: Kelli Emrick and Samantha Jacob

We have new coordinators for FFN this year. There will be meetings starting in December and will likely be separate from PTO meetings.

Warrior Dash: Brittany Youngers

Warrior Dash is October 7th. Brittany is coming up with ideas about what the final prize will be. In the past the final prize has been a movie theater ticket or admission to the Starlight Drive-in. More to come on this in upcoming weeks.

Student Directory and Yearbook: Karen Maskell

The directory is still being finalized and will be in the Weekly Warrior in upcoming weeks. The pictures that will be included in the yearbook are mostly taken by parents at parties and events. There will be a place to submit these pictures so please look for that at a later date.

Weekly Warrior: Jordan Boone

The Weekly Warrior goes out in an email every Wednesday morning. Ms. Boone asks that anything that needs to be included be sent to ptoweeklywarrior@gmail.com as early in the week as possible.

Staff Appreciation: Whitney Beard and Megan Perry

Ideas are being discussed as to how to best show our staff our appreciation. More details to come soon!

Staff Celebrations: Stefanie Beckman and Erin Hughes

Each month a spread of some kind is set out in the staff lounge to celebrate birthdays for the month.

Staff Meals: Marynell Popst

Mr. Armbrister stated that the staff meals have already been set for the year.

GAD Parade: Dana Klaassen

The GAD Parade will be October 1st. Look for more information to come on how to get involved! The Andover Y has agreed to not schedule games this day so more people will be able to attend! This coordinator position will be available next year since Dana is the parent of a fifth grader.

Popsicles on the Playground and Social Nights: Allison Roth

This was a fun event with a good turnout. Allison is working on planning social events for the school year. She suggested scheduling a skate night to coincide with a skate unit in PE.

Restaurant Nights: Lindsey Wilson

Our first restaurant night will be October 19th from 5-9pm at the Chipotle on Greenwich. They will also be offering online ordering and donating 33% of order totals to Wheatland! Please look for the flier in the Weekly Warrior over the next few weeks.

Marker Recycling: Makala Navarro

The Crayola recycling program has been discontinued so there are alternative options being considered for the markers that have been collected.

Spirit Wear: Ashley Purdum

The current spirit wear sale will be open until September 6th and anticipated to be delivered by the last week in September. Ashley has also been in contact with a local boutique who will make “future Trojan” shirts. More info will be available about this at a later date.

Yearbook: Jessica Pignataro

Karen Maskell spoke about the yearbook for this year. The pictures that will be included in the yearbook are mostly taken by parents at parties and events. There will be a place to submit these pictures so please look for that at a later date.

Internal Audit: Traci Ball

Ms. Ball will be performing the internal audit this year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s

Whitney Beard, Secretary