



**Wheatland Elementary Parent Teacher Organization, Inc.
PTO General Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2018**

Traci Swindler, PTO President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Wheatland Elementary School library. Present were Marcy Ashley, Katie Back, Monica Dobbins, Kelly Edgar, Raven Genreux, Christina Klaus, Bree Greer, Karen Maskell, Carolyn Matthews, Janna McConnaughay, Sarah Merrill, Makala Navarro, Cara Payne, Betsy Poland, Kristi Purser, Carolyn Ruggles, Traci Swindler, Angela Tofteland, Rachel Viner, Amy Voegeli, Michelle Wallace, Megan Wiedenmann, Anna Wiseman, Brittany Youngers, Julie Yost, and Kristin Zerger.

Welcome: Traci Swindler

Ms. Swindler welcomed the group. The 2018-2019 PTO Executive Board introduced themselves: Traci Swindler, President; Karen Maskell, Vice President; Cara Payne, Treasurer; and Carolyn Matthews, Secretary.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2018, General PTO Meeting. The motion was approved by voice vote without objection.

Andover High School Booster Club: Cindy Laub

Ms. Laub noted that the AHS Booster Club supports teachers and all student activities, not just sports. She updated the group on several upcoming activities for Wheatland students:

September 17-21. Youth Cheer Clinic, time TBA (after school); students will perform at the September 21 football game.

October 12. Trojans in Training, Wheatland Night at AHS Football Game. Students get in free (parents pay their own admission); there is a designated section for Wheatland families, and the students get to make the tunnel for the football players to run through.

November 3. Trojan Round Up fundraiser for AHS Booster Club at Murfin Stables; adults only; DJ, dinner, dancing, and silent and live auctions.

TBA. Youth dance clinic during basketball season.

Principal's Report: Traci Swindler for Elton Armbrister

Wheatland staff attended Capturing Kid's Hearts training, focusing on reducing social anxiety, developing a social contract that empowers students, affirming those around us, and engaging with one another. Soon students and staff will develop a social contract for the lunchroom.

The bond work is nearly complete at Wheatland. The entry is more secure, the cafeteria expanded, the playground upgraded with a rubber fall surface, and a new classroom hallway added. Mrs. Loeck will be repainting the Wheatland Warrior on a wall in the lobby.

If you come to eat lunch with your student, please follow your student into the cafeteria and follow his or her regular routine. You may only eat with your own child; other children cannot move to eat with you.

The required drills for the year have changed to include four fire drills, three tornado drills, and nine crisis drills. See the September school newsletter for details.

The building going on across Flutter Lane will be 14 duplexes.

Treasurer's Report: Cara Payne

Ms. Payne presented the proposed 2018-2019 budget. After paying for school expenses including field trips, assemblies, art room stipend, and potential author visit, the PTO has budgeted \$13,000 to allocate to additional requests. It was moved and seconded to approve the proposed 2018-2019 budget as presented. The motion was approved by voice vote without objection.

The Allocations Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheatland Library to review funding requests. Contact Ms. Payne if you are interested in serving on the committee.

Ms. Payne reminded coordinators of the PTO's reimbursement policy. Coordinators must complete the reimbursement form and submit it with receipts. Copies of the reimbursement form are available on the PTO's webpage and in the PTO Coordinator's Facebook Group.

Coordinator Reports

Spirit Wear: Traci Swindler for Jena Chacko

We are using Gear for You for spirit wear again this year. Ordering is completely online with an ordering window; orders are then delivered to school. New designs are available this year. The first ordering window ends August 31; there will be another ordering opportunity in November. Watch the *Weekly Warrior* and PTO Facebook Group for information. Anyone with ideas on items to include in the Spirit Wear store can contact Ms. Chacko.

Spirit wear sales are a fundraiser for PTO. Fridays are Spirit Day. The Warrior Spirit Trophy goes to the class each week with the largest percentage of students wearing spirit wear (Wheatland shirts or the school colors of royal blue and/or yellow). There was general discussion about providing a less expensive shirt option, perhaps one of the basic design shirts. There was also discussion about having a system in which parents could donate or sell outgrown Wheatland shirts.

Greater Andover Days Parade: Raven Genereux

The Greater Andover Days Parade is Saturday, September 29. Wheatland has had a great turnout the last two years. This year's theme is Mad about GAD. Mrs. Loeck is making a beaker for the middle of the float, which will have bubbles coming out of it. Kids and families are encouraged to dress like mad scientists – lab coats or aprons, rubber gloves, safety goggles, crazy hair, etc. Or, wear your Wheatland shirt or school colors. More information on how to participate will be in the *Weekly Warrior*. A parent needs to walk with his or her child.

signup.com: Carolyn Matthews

The PTO continues to have a group signup.com account, which allows all PTO-related signups to be in one place. Instructions on how to use it have been sent to coordinators. Everyone should watch the *Weekly Warrior* for volunteer opportunities.

Staff Celebrations: Michelle Wallace

Ms. Wallace is looking for food donations or discounted rates for monthly staff celebrations. Please let her know if you have contacts or ideas.

Supply Needs: Carolyn Ruggles

Teachers can contact the PTO about smaller classroom supply needs, which we put on signup.com for parents to help. Ms. Ruggles is waiting on responses from teachers, and will update the list soon. To check what is needed throughout the year, go to <http://signup.com/go/WheatlandSupplyNeeds>

Weekly Warrior: Amy Voegeli

The *Weekly Warrior* email newsletter is sent out on Wednesdays. Items for inclusion in the *Warrior* need to be submitted to Ms. Voegeli by Monday of the week in which it is to run. Email submissions to PTOWeeklyWarrior@gmail.com.

Family Directory: Karen Maskell

Out of 452 students, we have contact information confirmed for 406 students. Ms. Maskell is contacting those who have not yet confirmed their information. The directory will be sent out in the *Weekly Warrior*.

Box Tops: Megan Wiedenmann

The PTO collects General Mills Box Tops and Tyson Project A+ Labels. We raised over \$2,000 last year. Check the PTO webpage or the PTO Facebook Group for instructions on using the Box Tops App for bonuses.

Students who bring in 200 Box Tops and Labels during the school year get a pizza party with the principal; there are two pizza parties during the year (bring in 400 Box Tops to attend both). To turn in Box Tops or Tyson A+ Labels, put them on a Box Tops collection sheet (sent home throughout the year or available on the PTO's webpage) labeled with your student's name, grade, and teacher, or in a plastic bag with that information on a piece of paper. Drop them off in the collection containers outside the office and east doors.

Dillon's Card/Scrip/Amazon: Traci Swindler for Melissa Schumacher

The Dillons Community Rewards program donates money to Wheatland based on spending measured by your Dillons Plus Shopper's Card. All you have to do is register your Shopper's Card on the Dillons website (you no longer have to re-register every year):

1. Sign in at www.dillons.com/communityrewards. If you don't have an online account, create one first (creating an account also allows you to access online store coupons).
2. Click on "Enroll Now".

3. Enter code EI304 and search. Select Wheatland Elementary PTO (in Wichita, not Valley Center) and click on “Enroll”.

We participate in the Scrip program twice a year. You can order gift cards through the PTO to a number of stores, restaurants, and online shopping sites. You pay the face value of the card and the PTO earns a percentage of that amount.

The PTO has joined the Amazon Smile program, which donates .5% of eligible purchases to charities when the purchaser goes through the smile.amazon.com website, and the Amazon Affiliate program, which generally pays between 4%-10% of eligible purchases. You must use the PTO’s specific link each time you order: <http://smile.amazon.com/?tag=whpt0e-20> (you can bookmark the link, it is in the PTO Family Handbook, and it is available on the PTO’s website). The first time you go to smile.amazon, you will be prompted to select your charity – choose “Wheatland Elementary Parent Teacher Organization”.

Wheatland PTO is a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for sites to earn advertising fees by advertising and linking to smile.amazon.com. Third parties (including Amazon and other advertisers) may serve content and advertisements, collect information directly from visitors, and place or recognize cookies on visitors’ browsers.

Warrior Dash: Janna McConnaughay and Traci Swindler

The Warrior Dash is Friday, October 5; it is the PTO’s largest fundraiser. We do not have fundraising sales, such as selling wrapping paper or cookie dough. Two weeks before the Warrior Dash, a donation packet will go home for students to raise money. On the day of the Dash, each grade has a set time to run through the halls and outside doing fitness activities. All students participate the day of the Dash, regardless of fundraising participation.

Kids get prizes for various fundraising levels, there is a classroom competition for the top three classes based on percentage of fundraising participation, and there is a grand prize drawing from those who bring in any donation. Many volunteers are needed. Look for information in the *Weekly Warrior*; signups will be on signup.com.

Ms. McConnaughay and Ms. Swindler are looking for others to work with them on the Warrior Dash next year with the plan of those volunteers taking over the next year. Contact us if you are interested.

Book Fair: Amy Voegeli

The Scholastic book fair is October 11-18. Proceeds go to the library. Kids can purchase books during their library time; there are also book fair hours after school and during parent-teacher conferences. Volunteers are needed to help set up on October 10 and to work during the Book Fair. A signup will be available on signup.com. Watch the *Weekly Warrior* for more details.

Room Parents: Angela Tofteland

Ms. Tofteland has sent emails to all Lead Room Parents. Lead Room Parents organize teacher gifts, classroom parties, and decorating classroom doors in the fall before parent-teacher conferences.

Holiday Hugs: Traci Swindler for Rachel James

Teachers fill out information about their favorite things to help with those who wish to give gifts. Ms. James will be compiling this information soon. A link to the lists will be available in the *Weekly Warrior*.

Restaurant Nights: Traci Swindler for Kara Hegg

Wheatland Restaurant Nights allow us to have a social event for families and raise money for the PTO at the same time. We typically have one Restaurant Night in the fall and one in the spring. We are working on dates and locations.

Social Nights: Bree Greer

We are working on scheduling Wheatland Social Nights and are considering skate nights at Carousel Skate Center, Aviate, and other locations. Watch the *Weekly Warrior* and PTO Facebook group for updates.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s Carolyn L. Matthews

Carolyn Matthews, Secretary