



Wheatland Elementary Parent Teacher Organization, Inc.
General PTO Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2015

PTO President, Shelly Stumpe, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the WES library. Present were Elton Armbrister, Robin Bauer, Caryn Bryant, Wendi Engle, Kelsey Lewis, Rachel James, Karen Labrum, Kara Larson, Carolyn Matthews, Janna McConnaughay, Cristy Philips, Laura Roddy, Melissa Schumacher, Shelly Stumpe, Theresa Walker, and Josh Wells.

Welcome: Shelly Stumpe

Ms. Stumpe welcomed the group and read the PTO's mission statement.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2015, General PTO Meeting. The motion was approved by voice vote without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Shelly Stumpe for Shellie Hulsey

Ms. Stumpe presented the Treasurer's Report.

We received \$931 as the first payment from Dillons under their new Community Rewards program. This is less than we received before. We need to increase the number of people who have registered their Dillons Plus Shopper's Cards to Wheatland.

Family Fun Night resulted in a net profit of \$8,772 (the budgeted profit was only \$4,700). We did not require wristbands for attendance this year, so did not have that revenue. In looking at expenses, the \$3,807 number is a little misleading, because about \$1,600 of those expenses were pass through for concessions (meaning the PTO was completely reimbursed for those costs). The actual expenses were about \$2 per student.

The box tops income is slightly above last year.

The PTO's \$500 donation to Andover Middle School for fifth graders goes to the AMS PTO. The reasoning is that the fifth graders do not get the benefits of all this year's fundraising, so this donation follows them.

We have now ordered 49 Chromebooks, a cart, and an access point. This is 19 more than in the original budget, due to additional funds being available. We should be able to get 5 more Chromebooks by the end of the year, which would put us just 6 Chromebooks short of a 3:1 student to device ratio. We also ordered two park benches for the school.

The yearbook orders are in. We ordered 14 extra yearbooks that are available to purchase.

Principal's Report: Elton Armbrister

Mr. Armbrister reported that staffing and the number of class sections will remain the same next year. There may be more students, but not enough to require additional sections.

Mr. Armbrister has asked for input from parents in Mrs. Sprague's fourth grade class about whether they would like to "loop" when Mrs. Sprague moves to fifth grade next year. Looping is a system under which students and teachers remain together in the same class for two or three years. This saves time from students and teachers getting to know each other each year.

Legislative Update: Laura Roddy

Ms. Roddy reported that a group went to Topeka for the Game On public education rally. An Andover High School teacher walked 60 miles in support.

The legislature has approved block grants to school districts, which will reduce the amount provided to U.S.D. 385 by about \$2 million over the next two years. The state's revenue reports are below projections. With education about half of the state's budget, the reductions may be greater. The block grant sets the funding level, regardless of any increase in students.

The Andover Advantage Foundation is sponsoring the Food and Brew Fest on Sunday, May 3, to benefit the foundation.

Andover School Budget: Josh Wells, school board member

Mr. Wells, Andover school board member, updated the group about the status of school funding. Mr. Armbrister provided a handout summarizing the budget modifications and proposed fee increases.

Since 2009, the district has reduced its budget by about \$5 million. The block grants in the next few years will result in less money overall to U.S.D. 385 than it currently receives. To address this, the district has reduced its budget by about \$1 million over the next two years. The district is looking at bulk buying, contracting services, and other efficiencies. The summer school reading program has been eliminated, but may return later. The district is not filling jobs as they come open by attrition. The district is passing some costs on to parents by increasing fees,

including enrollment and transportation fees. The district has some reserves, so it can pay staff if the state does not provide funds on time.

Scrip Update: Melissa Schumacher

Ms. Schumacher reported that the last Scrip gift card order of the school year is this week.

2015-2016 PTO Officers Elections: Shelly Stumpe

Ms. Stumpe presented the slate for 2015-2016 PTO Officers: President, Rachel James; Vice-President, Theresa Walker; Secretary, Carolyn Matthews; and Co-Treasurers, Shellie Hulsey and Shelly Stumpe. No additional nominations were received from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to approve the slate as presented. The motion was approved by voice vote without objection.

Set Old Board/New Board Transition Date: Shelly Stumpe

This item was removed from the general meeting agenda for discussion after the meeting.

2015-2016 Committee Chairs: Shelly Stumpe

Ms. Stumpe presented the list of open 2015-2016 Committee Chairs. Of immediate importance is filling the Spirit Wear position so that ordering can be done soon. If you are interested in a 2015-2016 Committee Chair position, contact us at ptowheatland@gmail.com.

New Business

The Allocations Committee meeting may be earlier next school year to allow for a budget vote prior to the Warrior Dash. If you have proposals for next year, email us at ptowheatland@gmail.com.

We thanked Ms. Stumpe for her two years of service to the PTO as president. She has done a wonderful job.

The next PTO General Meeting will be held at the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year, date to be announced.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Carolyn L. Matthews

Carolyn Matthews, Secretary