

PTO Minutes
Thursday, October 1, 2015
6:00pm, St. Louis Public Library-Carpenter Branch

President: Meeting called to order at 6:06pm; September minutes were approved.

Guest Speaker: Tim Brown, Director of Instructional Technology, presented a talk titled *The Umbrella of Digital Citizenship: Internet Safety, Cyberbullying, & Digital Footprints*. Highlights included:

- Children <13 yrs should not have social media accounts; social media platforms require children to be 13 years old with parental permission.
- **Parents** should have all of their child(ren)'s account information (usernames/passwords) and should be their child(ren)'s "friend" on Facebook.
- Set up **charging stations** outside of bedrooms; start when kids are young so it is the norm.
- Your child's school-based **wgcloud account** becomes "live" when the student turns 13 years old.
- **Social media concern:** Parents should be cautious about posting pictures of their child(ren) on their own social media platforms with taglines that identify child(ren). Tim shared a story where he googled WG students and found an image of a WG student at a soccer game with a tagline that identified the child, park, and game information. This allows a predator to get information on a child. **Solution:** Switch default settings on social media to "private" to protect your children.
- **Snapchat caution:** Kids use their phone to take a picture of the snapchat picture, then post it to FB or other social media sites. Problems occur when these problems are inappropriate.
- **Calculator app caution:** This looks like a normal calculator, but students can enter a passcode to hide inappropriate pictures from parents. They can share their account with friends to share inappropriate photos.
- **Periscope app caution:** A live broadcast feed allows students to take video and share it. Students can use this during a test and share the test with others who have that teacher. A WG HS student was caught with this the other day.
- **Establish Internet Rules:** Start rules early, in elementary school! Establish rules about what children can share; learn about reporting options; help your kids set privacy options; help kids create strong passwords; talk about friends lists.
- **Cyberbullying:** Most cyberbullying happens between 8pm and 2am, when parents are asleep. Examples: Sending mean texts; photoshopping pictures; creating fake profiles; posting fight videos; spreading rumors and gossip; posting embarrassing pictures; sending threatening or harassing comments. **Think before you send something – someone else's reaction is on the other side.**
- **Support systems:** Have kids identify a support person at school, a support person (other than a teacher) in the classroom, and a support person at home.
- **Cyberbullying victim signs:** Child stops using technology, stops talking to parents/friends, starts losing weight.
- **Cyberbully signs:** Quickly switches screens or closes programs; on the computer at all hours; gets unusually upset if they can't use the computer; laughs excessively while online; avoids discussions about what they are doing; uses multiple online accounts.
- **Go Guardian:** All ERS kids' accounts are tied to this program. If a child searches something inappropriate, a warning is sent to several administrators and the desktop actions are recorded.

Tim will send a copy of his presentation to Dr. Wuch to send out to ERS families.

Vice Presidents:

- **PTO Facebook Page:** We have added 5 new members.
- **PTO Website:** Now live! Lauren will email "draft" minutes to Shelley to post. Shelley will create googledocs for event/volunteer sign-ups (e.g. Trunk or Treat).
- **Volunteers needed:** We are still seeking a teacher conference chair, end of the year fair chair, talent show, day at the ballpark, trivia night co-chairs.
- **Trivia Night** is booked for March 5 at St. Elizabeth of Hungary on Sappington Road in Crestwood. Amber request confirmation from Dr. Wuch that the date is okay.
- **Trunk-or-treat** registration form is out and up on the PTO website. Remind parents that non-food donations are also accepted.
- **Room parent coordinator** (Amy Gerlach) reported a good meeting.
- **Welcome signs:** Ashley Cade collected 57 welcome signs and asked Lisa to put out another call for them in the next Wed email.
- **PTO Storage Space:** Amber requested storage space at the school. It was also requested that forms that need to be returned to school go out via printed copies.
- **Googleforms:** Shelly will look into creating googleforms for signups when volunteers are needed.
- WG Foundation is sponsoring the Ivory Crockett run (10/17); info was in the Wed email.
- **Boxtop store:** Open in Nov, March, and May. The PTO needs to mention that labels for education are also accepted. Dr. Wuch will add it Sunday Scoop, and Lauren will send info to for Wed email.
- **Giving Studio:** Oct 19-Nov 20, all orders placed online with a display at teacher conferences.
- Melanie Sullivan from landscaping announced that Boy Scouts Pack 314 cleaned the courtyard.

Treasurer:

- The PTO paid the school \$3,900 for standard costs (printing, assemblies, field trips, Camp Wyman) and gave a grant to the new kindergarten teacher.
- An audit was done of the PTO books by Mel Johnson (who was not a board member for the time period audited), and all looks good
- The 990 tax form is due Oct 15.
- Donation-based fundraising forms are due tomorrow. However, if people still want to send info later, the donations will be accepted. Donations will be reviewed to set fundraising goals. Tax donation letters will be sent out.

Principal & Faculty Report: Dr. Wuch

- Kindergarten transition will be complete by 10/2. Denny Fuller (aide in the building) was hired two weeks ago, has been in Mr. Wilmering's classroom getting to know the children. On 10/2, the children will have a parade to leave Mr. Wilmering's classroom and go to their new room (old music room inside the cafeteria). This left 13 children in Mr. Wilmering's class. Six parents volunteered to move to Mr. Wilmering's room. Ms. D (18), Ms. Wilkes (18), Mr. Wilmering (20).
- The teacher's lounge (near the clinic) is the new music room. Mrs. Zimmer's room (3rd grade hall) is the new lounge. Mrs. Zimmer moved to the broadcast room, and the broadcast equipment was moved out (doing audio broadcast now).
- Dr. Wuch is interviewing to fill the aid position and hopes to have decisions made by next week.
- **Library update:** Mrs. Wright, Dr. Wuch, and parents visited 6 school libraries (New City School, Lindberg, etc.). Parents were asked to consider what could be done at ERS library. Mrs. Wright will present more updates at the Nov meeting.
- **Modified Lockdown Update:** Around 9am a call was received from the Central Office saying the

police reported a domestic dispute and recommended all schools go into a modified lockdown (continue teaching, all doors locked and monitored, no passage outside for any students). The three administrators told every adult in the building that there was an incident in the area and the school was on modified, then debriefed. As Dr. Wuch tried to get the blast out to parents, the HS put theirs out. The office was immediately inundated with calls, which slowed down the dissemination of information via the blast. As Mrs. DePung and Dr. Wuch were getting ready to escort children in the modulars to the bathrooms, the all clear was given. Dr. Wuch then tried to get the robocall out but couldn't get into the system, so she sent out a text.

- Lessons learned: Need to debrief staff via email and announce to the staff to check their email at this time. The District needs to send out a District blast when the entire District is affected so that schools don't send out messages at different times and start to alarm parents.
- If on full lockdown, students in the modular are immediately brought into the building. If on modified lockdown, the students continue with learning.
- Staff asked if someone from the PTO used to change the marquee once a month. A request will be put out on the FB page.
- Dr. Wuch suggested putting signs in the circle drive announcing PTO meeting reminders.
- Dr. Wuch is going to set up a blog, to be connected to her Twitter account, PTO Facebook page, the PTO website, and the ERS homepage.
- Crisis Nursery information was handed out.
- Dr. Wuch will work on getting parents to send confirmation/permission for students who are walking/biking home.

New Business:

- Jag Gear is coming soon; we are working on the logo. Amber will put out a request on FB asking for people to help design a new logo. Gear will be ordered in black/orange themes to be consistent with District colors.
- Presentation times set at 30 minutes.

Next Meeting – November 5, 2015

Thank you for coming!