

Westview PTO Meeting Minutes

The Westview PTO is committed to providing the best educational and social experience for Westview students and their families. We exist to provide financial and volunteer support, bring the community together through events, build morale with staff appreciation, and enhance the quality of Westview students' learning experiences.

Monday, 05.20.24, 6-7:15 pm, Westview Library

Topic	Presenter
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1. Welcome

Becky

Becky welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Summer Learning / Activities

Rebecca

- Rebecca will be sharing a list with summer learning and activity opportunities. It will be shared either in the Bulldog Bulletin or via email. The list will also include information on summer Dine and Donate events.

5. Events & Activities Recap

Carnival (Becky)
Dine and Donate (Michelle D.)
Box Tops update (Lindsay H.)
Overall 2023/24

- Carnival (Becky)- The carnival earned a similar amount to prior years (\$8,800). Food truck money is still to come in so that will increase the total. Carnival winners will be shared soon.
- Dine and Donate (Michelle D.) - The Dine and Donate events have brought in about \$800 this year. There are three more coming up this summer: Raising Canes on May 30, Famous Dave's on June 20, and Davanni's in Burnsville on July 23. The office will still send out an email reminders for these.
- Box Tops update (Lindsay H.) - Box Tops now has the capability to link to your Walmart.com account. Once you link the accounts (you can do this through the Box Tops app), box tops will automatically be earned with no scanning needed (just by shopping at walmart.com or using the payment method registered in your Walmart account).
- Overall 2023/2024 - Becky will be working on a recap of all the things that have happened this year with the PTO.

Upcoming Events

School Beautification (Beth G.)
Outdoor Furniture (Becky)
End of Year Activities (Becky)
WV Scholarship (Becky)
Garage Sale (Rebecca)
Kindergarten Mentorship (Becky)
New Position Leads for 2024-2024 (Becky)

- School Beautification (Beth) - Soil has been installed in the raised beds in front of the school. Steph N will get them planted. There will be an upcoming sign-up to volunteer to care for the plants over the summer. For next year, \$300 is requested for more fertilizer, seeds, etc. There will be work starting on the side garden with another raised bed, taking out the fence and shed, and installing mulch around the bed. There is a fire water hookup in the fenced area that likely needs open access. Voted all in favor of the \$300 budget for next year and removing the fence,

none opposed. **Motion passed.**

- Outdoor Furniture - Becky will be asking for help refinishing the furniture in the coming weeks.
- End of Year Activities:
 - 5th Grade Celebration - not much PTO involvement for this
 - Fun Run - PTO is buying freeze pops for after the run
- WV Scholarship - Vivian Chen from AVHS is the 2024 recipient.
- Garage Sale - Be on the lookout for an email to sign up to help sort, set up, donate, staff it. The sale will be on August 28-29th, times TBD
- Kindergarten Mentorship - We will have the office send out sign-up form to Kindergarten families over the summer, and will ask again at any Kindergarten events closer to the school year. At this point, no Kindergarten families have signed up, but we have several volunteers to be mentors.
- Charleston Wrap for next year - if we sign up now to do it again next year (fall), we get a \$200 signing bonus. The group discussed and decided we will sign up to keep the fall fundraising event consistent next year since we are changing up Apex to read-a-thon in the spring.
- New Position Leads for 2024-2025 - Becky shared a list of where we have needs for next year. Some need leads, some need shadow for next year.
 - Art Adventure
 - Yearbook - It's a blended role between school and PTO.
 - Bulldog Bulletin - have a template but need someone to take it on
 - Bulletin Board
 - Spring Carnival
 - WV Scholarship
 - Staff Potlucks
 - 1st grade and 5th grade - will determine at the beginning of next year
 - Meeting technology - new role. Looking for someone to set up technology for PTO meetings, including potentially a tool to do live translation, closed captioning, etc.
 - Discussed some translation options, more research is needed. Becky and Renee will look into this.

Other Business

Budget for 2024 – 2025 (Maggie M.) Individual Committee Discussions

- Budget for 2024 – 2025 (Maggie M.) - The 24/25 budget is similar to this year's budget. With how the carnival performed and with fundraisers performing slightly better this year we have about \$10,000 in additional funding that can be allocated to school support this year. Even with shifting this additional funding to the school it still leaves the 6 months of running expenses for the PTO. This money supports the school in a few ways (e.g. helping the art teacher move from a .6 to a .8 FTE). Use of any additional funding from the PTO will depend on other carryovers that the school has which will be finalized in July. Funding could be used for support of new curriculum needs (supplies are unknown at this point), replacement of Spheros (round robots) used in the coding curriculum, support for keeping class sizes lower
- Dine and donate will be separate check (\$800) for technology needs.
- There was a motion to approve additional funding to the school. All were in favor, none opposed. **Motion passed.**
- General Discussion:
 - n/a

Principal Updates

Tami

- Lots of changes are coming for the 2024/25 school year.
 - Significant curriculum changes (discussed in prior meetings)
 - The (smaller) Title 1 budget will be used for behavioral support role. As the curriculum is changing, they are working to change the support in the school.
 - There is an expectation that every school in the district goes through PBIS training and the school may change the existing "Bulldog STRONG" as a result. It's important that what we do now is aligned with the teachers we have now (Bulldog Strong was developed when many current teachers weren't here).
 - Three buildings will share math and literacy coaches (Thomas Lake and Red Pine are the schools we will share with). WV won't have someone onsite to do daily interventions as we have in prior years.
 - Teachers are still providing a lot of emotional support for students (post-COVID), every class has students that need extra support. The school is working on getting teachers back to teaching and finding other ways to support other student needs. Food security is figured out (free breakfast/lunch provided now), classrooms have been equipped to be safe and comfortable, etc. Now there needs to be movement back to codes of conduct and creating an environment where teachers can focus on teaching.
 - Some support spaces will be changing/moving. For example, the center-based learning is moving to a full sized classroom.
 - Overall there will be changes to where energy is spent. Several extra staff that were available in prior years are going to be gone. Two changes of note are:
 - There will not be Bulldog Breakfasts next year.
 - With everyone having access to lunch and breakfast, there will not be snack time in classrooms. This will alleviate problems with allergies, unhealthy food that comes in as snacks, some students not having snacks (equity concerns), teachers spending their own money on student snacks, food waste, ants in classrooms, and lost instruction time in the classroom. They may revisit the decision, but will try it out to start the year.
- Question to the PTO - several people have noted a significant number of thistles in the prairie/learning area behind the school. Tami will reach out to Melissa W to ask if we have a contact from the original installation. There's concern about the plants spreading.
- Tami is In the process of completing hiring. Long term second grade position and behavior support person are interviewing this week.
- Teachers will be doing a lot of learning over the summer for the new curriculum.
- Tami would like to send out PTO meeting notes to the staff in future to continue to support communication.
- We are all in this together. Change is hard, but can also be good. We will get through all the newness together.

Closing

Becky

Becky closed the meeting by thanking everyone for coming. Will be doing an end of year feedback survey.

Next Meeting: September 23, 2024



**Westview
Elementary**

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