

# PAW MEETING NOTES

October 3, 2022

**PAW OFFICERS: Melissa Feeney (President), Amber Rud (Treasurer), Heidi Ness (Secretary)**

Attendees: Melissa Feeney, Amanda Lengyel, Molly Penk, Lyndsey Olsen, Jen Och, Derek Branton, Heidi Ness, Amber Rud, Sara Martini

1. Introduction
2. Title One Presentation
  - a. Sara Martini Media Specialist gave a presentation to introduce Title One
  - b. Title One School Wide – Westwood has over 40% of children qualifying for free and reduced lunch so funds can be used for all students and all families (not just low income/low achieving kids)
    - i. Funding - Title budget for family engagement + portion from free and reduced lunch
  - c. 3 main goals at Westwood
    - i. Create positive climate and culture
      1. PBIS, student of the month, morning meetings in classes, SEL (social emotional lessons) to make everyone feel welcome
    - ii. Engaging students through instruction that is rigorous, relevant, and focused on individual growth
    - iii. Family and community engagement
      1. Pack Rat reading program
      2. Pat Cat – preschool and pilot in kindergarten
      3. Activities throughout school year
  - d. Advantages of being schoolwide program
    - i. Can base on needs of our students and families
    - ii. Follows MN state standards for Language Arts and math
  - e. Curriculum
    - i. Math curriculum called My Math
    - ii. Reading is Wonders curriculum
  - f. Goals – increase MCA reading scores from 50 to 57 percent, and Math 53-59 percent.
    - i. What does this percentage mean?
      1. Number of kids who meet or exceed state standards
      2. Proficiency levels – does not meet, partially proficient, proficient, exceeds
    - ii. Westwood is on higher end of scores across district, but we want all children to grow no matter where they are at
    - iii. COVID put some kids behind, we are still trying to make up lost ground. Goals used to be around 70%
    - iv. Data driven - STAR assessment, MCA, and other assessments help tailor learning to meet the needs of each child
    - v. Additional help available if needed – reading corps and ADSIS
    - vi. Talent development – more challenging material for high achievement kids
  - g. Schoolwide strives to connect family school and community

- h. Parent involvement has positive impact
    - i. Reading with kids at night
    - ii. Helping with homework
    - iii. Checking Seesaw messages
    - iv. Communication with teachers
    - v. Additional strategies for things to do at home with kids can be found in compact for achievement
  - i. Conferences
    - i. Tuesday Oct 18 and Thursday Oct 27
    - ii. Spring conferences will be in Feb
  - j. Family events
    - i. Math and reading activities
      - 1. PAKRAT started on 10/3/2022
      - 2. Oct 27<sup>th</sup> drop in math activities
    - ii. Hour of code in December, virtual event and in school
    - iii. Reading celebration on Read Across America day March 2
    - iv. One district one book – K-5 gets same book to read
    - v. STEAM night 5/2 – science technology engineering art and math
    - vi. Packrat Book Bus
3. Walk A Thon
- a. Events
    - i. Bounce House and Slide
    - ii. Rich will drag cords out so they will be ready to set up early Wednesday
      - 1. Plug in garage and outside of Door 5
      - 2. Can not prop door open this year
    - iii. Sidewalk Chalk – in PAW closet
    - iv. Trevor will provide supplies
      - 1. Hoola Hoops
      - 2. Soccer or football
      - 3. Scoops and balls
    - v. Ice pops
  - b. Volunteers
    - i. Ryan Olson and Beau Penk will be there to help set up and get groups going
    - ii. Student volunteers
      - 1. Morning shift, 4 NHS students
      - 2. Afternoon shift, 9 NHS students
    - iii. K-12 parent volunteers
      - 1. Morning Pre K - 2 parents
      - 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade - 8 parents
      - 3. 1<sup>st</sup> grade - 6 parents
      - 4. 4<sup>th</sup> grade - 4 parents
      - 5. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - 4 parents
      - 6. 5<sup>th</sup> grade - 4 parents
      - 7. Afternoon pre K - 2 parents
    - iv. More parent volunteers in morning but more students in afternoon
    - v. Student volunteers can handle sports activities and parents monitor bounce houses
    - vi. Melissa will help coordinate volunteers
  - c. Prizes
    - i. Amber purchased scooters, balls, and other games for top earners
    - ii. Huse orthodontics donated water bottles and cinch bags

- iii. Bowling passes from Great River Bowl
    - iv. Will have table for handling out water bottles or bags, and freeze pops
    - v. Melissa will pick names and distribute prizes
  - d. Envelopes
    - i. Send reminder after school tomorrow
    - ii. Amber and Melissa tally up earnings on Wednesday after event
  - e. Sponsors
    - i. Would be good to put together a formal sponsorship package for next year explaining sponsorship levels, how funds are used, etc.
- 4. Teacher request for funds
  - a. \$125 classroom supplies – 4<sup>th</sup> grade
    - i. Each grade level has a pre-approved amount of money intended for field trips. If field trips do not happen this year due to transportation shortage, PAW funds may be available to reimburse classroom supply purchases. However, would require consent from all teachers in the grade level.
    - ii. PAW will hang on to receipts and determine if there is enough money left at end of year to reimburse.
  - b. \$1,600 for Mystery Science curriculum – fun, hands on videos to support concepts, provides opportunities for students to be digitally connected.
    - i. Free during pandemic, district will not purchase because they are encouraging more hands-on learning and there will be a new science curriculum next year.
    - ii. On sale until end of October, usually \$2,000.
      - 1. Look into possibility of locking in low rate for future years.
    - iii. Would be a school license and could be used building-wide across all grade levels
    - iv. See if Annette or Pam can do a tutorial for all teachers to promote usage
    - v. PAW will purchase this year because we are likely not going to have field trips (due to transportation shortage). Will reassess after this year to see if PAW will fund next year.
      - 1. Can take funds from fall party and technology budget.
- 5. Fields trip alternatives
  - a. If we don't do field trips, we can still bring experiences to Westwood
    - i. Kindergarten pumpkin patch
    - ii. Hemker Zoo - penguins
    - iii. Motivational speaker – spoke at Sauk Rapids and Sartell
    - iv. Science Museum assembly
    - v. Raptor center
    - vi. Magician
    - vii. Planetarium
- 6. Apparel Fund Raiser
  - a. Is PAW going to do apparel fundraiser this year?
  - b. Felicia is doing staff apparel sale and will open it up to students and parents also
  - c. T-shirts run around \$18
  - d. Molly will confirm details with Derek
- 7. Trunk or Treat
  - a. Tuesday October 25 from 6-7
  - b. Send out sign-up on 10/13 Thursday
  - c. Jen will do a social media post
  - d. Include note for those donating candy: drop off or send in candy over the next two weeks

- e. Trunks encouraged to bring their own candy but can be supplemented with donations
8. Teacher conference meal
- a. Typically, PAW will fund one meal and school will fund another
  - b. School wondering if PAW will fund one since Chick Fil A is sponsoring the other
    - i. No, we did not put in the budget this fall because a PAW parent secured the Chick Fil A sponsorship and that is our contribution
9. PAW Pop
- a. No vending machine at Westwood – teachers were wondering if PAW would stock lounge fridges with beverages like water and pop
  - b. If we charged 50 cents per can/bottle, the stock would fund itself
  - c. Will start this after conferences so any left-over beverages from teacher conference meal can be used up first.
10. Tending for Cause
- a. PAW gets proceeds from sales (\$1 per pint and \$3 per growler) plus all tips
  - b. Check cut in 6-8 weeks