September 3, 2026

Whitney Elementary PTA Meeting

1. Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance

a. Called to order at 5:35 pm

b. Ethics/Code of Conduct Policy read and adopted by Molly Sunkle

2. Secretary- Amanda Williams

a. Approval of minutes from April 2026

- Summary: reviewed budget and committee updates, reviewed book fair sales and voted to set money aside to determine how to use it at a later date, discussed EOY parties and 5th grade recognition, reviewed read-a-thon sales and voted for the 2026/2027 PTA board.

b. Motion to approve by Carol Boyd, second by Desiree Causivec

c. Discussed logging volunteer hours during PTA events: Chairs, please encourage volunteers to log immediately to improve accuracy.

3. **Principal's Report**- Mrs. Hawk

a. Kids are very excited about therapy dog, Kiska, who is here Tues/Wed/Thurs. She'll begin to come into classrooms soon.

b. Whitney sidekicks has started again, partnering younger kids with older, meet bi-monthly to form relationships.

c. Parent Square- parents feel it's user friendly so far, improving communication. **d.** District looking to improve writing, purchased writing revolution, strategies to build into instruction they're already using in CKLA. State report cards should be out within the next couple of weeks.

e. First two weeks spent talking about PRIDE to students, encourage at home. **f.** Friday 9/11 Whitney night at SHS-combined with Surrarrer this year. Tailgate beforehand at 5:30 pm.

g. Next week students will have lunch with an athlete and a Pep rally on Friday. 4. **Teacher Representatives**- Mrs. Bova

a. Staff thankful for welcome back dinner at open house.

5. **President's Report**- Molly Sunkle

a. Switch board members (Bethany Bixler-Treasurer, Laurel Rich- Council Delegate). Motion to approve by Carol Boyd, second by Shalini Baijal

b. National PTA was audited by IRS recently. After the treasurer does report we'll need someone to review and sign off at each meeting (in addition to our monthly and annual audits). Amie Bullard completed during meeting.

c. A new company will be taking over pictures; new policies in place. The principal and PTA president will now need to sign off on yearbooks before they are printed. Seems to be a very thorough company.

d. 9/9 at 7pm at SMS "For Strongsville" meeting.

6. **Vice President Report**- Carol Boyd

a. Nothing to report at this time. Working on the holiday party, TBD.

7. **Treasurer's Report**- Molly Sunkle

a. Audit conducted for 2025-2026 by Carol Boyd, Amie Bullard and Jackie Steffy. Audit found everything in standing order with no unusual findings. Motion to approve audit: Shalini Baijal, second by Leslie Petiya

b. Vote on Scholastic dollar use: $734.37; voted to split three ways between the

vending machine, Mrs. Hawk's birthday book club and PTA's birthday book club.
Motion to approve by Shalini Baijal, second by Megan Kay

c. Review of current 2026-2027 Budget; Council asking for $100 donation for administrative/transportation appreciation, Dare asking for $100 donation to take role models out to eat. Carrying over at least $7,000.
Motion to approve by Desiree Causivec, second by Shalini Baijal

8. **Council Delegate Report**- Carol Boyd Filled in today for Laurel Rich
   - **a.** DARE Halloween Party 10/3 at SMS, same day: 5th 4-6PM, 6-8th 7:30-9:30PM, tickets on sale now. $15 early bird, $20 after 9/27.
   - **b.** Ice skating 11/24, 630-830 pm, grades 5th-8th
   - **c.** Officer Aaron expressed gratitude for cards for the loss of his father.
   - **d.** School Board heavily focused on passing levy, come to meeting 9/9, help support in any way you can. Superintendent spoke of major cuts if we cannot pass levy. 6.7-million-dollar levy, paying less on property taxes if passed than in 2024. 070 account being dissolved, only buying the district one year. Even with financial uncertainty trying to maintain excellent education and positivity.
   - **e.** Casino Night for SEF 11/21
   - **f.** Next Reflections Meeting on 9/24
   - **g.** Inclusivity meeting with a focus on neurodivergent children- 9/23 at 6pm @ Market District. Wanting to include children in the parade as well. Considering a sensory slot for Greet & Treat.

9. **<u>Committee Reports:</u>**
   - a. **Kindergarten Orientation:** Amanda Williams & Laurel Rich
     - add in snack/water next year.
     - possibly make lanyards with their ID # for meals
   - b. **PTA Membership:** Amanda Williams
     - up to 182 as of today, encourage all family to sign up
   - c. **Room Parents:** Meredith DeGuire & Amanda Williams
     - all classes have head room parents except Mr. Lett
   - d. **PBIS Initiative Support:** Molly Sunkle
   - e. **School Assemblies:** NEED CHAIR
     - working on fall with Cavs, need spring still
     - Jessyka Swisher agreed to Chair position
   - f. **Book Fair:** Laurel Rich & Debbie Tomoff
     - Will be held Oct 5-8, open during all day conferences
     - Clothing swap 10/8: winter clothing, Whitney gear, etc. (set up morning of). Anything left will go to nurse and local foster care
   - g. **Birthday Book Club:** Laurel Rich & CO-CHAIR NEEDED
     - send out by trimester, hoping that will allow more participants
   - h. **Family Events:** Want to have monthly, can use pavilion and pop-up tent.
     1. Sept 11: Whitney Night @ SHS Varsity Football Game, tailgate at 5:30 2. Sept 18: Fall Fest: Amanda Williams, Debbie Tomoff & Michele Molls 3. Oct 7: Homecoming Parade: Laura Van Vechten & Jackie Steffy
        - Whitney had most kids show to meeting, let kids vote on theme of float, "Camp Whitney" was chosen.
     4. Oct (?): Greet and Treat: Jackie Steffy
     5. Dec (?): Cavs night for Choir: Molly Sunkle

6. Jan 22: Carnival: Mattie Rudd, Laura Van Vechten & Jackie Steffy
    - Will be held at SMS again

10. **Fifth Grade Recognition:** Julie Montemarano & Mary Ann Durkalski
11. **Staff Appreciation Week:** Laurel Rich & Shalini Baijal
12. **Hospitality:** Shalini Baijal & NEED CO-CHAIR
    - Conferences Oct 8th & Oct 14th(Aaron Burke to donate one)
13. **Fundraising:**
    1. Restaurant Nights: Desiree Causivec & Molly Sunkle
        a. 9/22 Texas Roadhouse (North Olmsted location, 3-10pm)
        b. Coordinating with McAlister's or ChickFilA for October
        c. 11/18 & 11/19- Marco's white box night
        d. Made over $200 from Chipotle night in August 2026
    2. Spirit Wear: Jackie Steffy
        a. 11 items sold as of 8/31/26, earned $36.04
    3. Parents Night Out: NEED CHAIR; considering a holiday movie night at the school or Chuck E Cheese location
        a. Dec 11th: 5:30-8:30 pm; $25/kid (?)
            a. May need to change: staff party and scout hockey night
    4. Readathon: NEED CHAIR
        a. March 2-6
        b. Megan Kay agreed to be chair
14. **Grants:** Carol Boyd
    a. Council PTA to give us updates and guidelines.
15. **Newsletter:** Desiree Causivec
    a. If you need to add anything, send to whitneyptanewsletter@gmail.com Going to try bi-weekly updates.
16. **Yearbook/Historian:** Desiree Causivec & Julie Montemarano
    a. New company, 2-hour training session was required and completed
    b. Yearbooks will be given in May
    c. Can add additional pages for EOY activities
    d. No minimum purchase required
    e. Feb 1-Mar 15 purchase dates, $25-$27 per book
17. **Unfinished Business:** none
18. **New Business:** none
19. **Announcements:** none
20. **Adjournment:** 7:01 pm