

Westfield PTO Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 2/7/2017

Call the meeting to order: Kari Whitlow

In Attendance: Kim Bauer, Kari Whitlow, Ed Rogers, Benjamin Young, Angie Roling, Michele Infanger, Amy Robertson, Kari Titus, Juli Wirtjus, Shari Kuchera, Tabitha Lightfoot, Sylvia Shannon, Kelsey Slay, Jackie Thierer, Melissa Tillotson, Kim Backen, Tara Dirks, Michelle Langston

January Meeting Minutes Review and Approval: The minutes were approved.

Principal Report: Ed Rogers

Introduction of Jess Corcoran our new School Facilitator

Thank you to the PTO the movie night was a success!

Roller-skating is going on right now and it is going well, students are loving it!

Last month we voted on the PTO to purchase more IPADS, we have them and they are being used, thank you from the teachers!

The Linn-Mar foundation came out with a spring grant and we are going to try for more IPADS.

Kindergarten Orientation is 2/9/2017

School Board will be visiting Westfield Friday 2/10

Report Cards will come out 2/24 the same night as Pancake and Bingo Night! Hope to see you all there!!

Conferences are 2/28-3/2

The Westfield Addition will be completed 3/1/2017. With the boundary change we will be adding between 110-120 students to our current student body (1 additional section to each grade). Current 4th Grade Echo Hill students who are impacted by the boundary change will have the option to stay at Echo Hill for their 5th grade year, and any siblings they have may stay for 1 additional year as well. We will not know the exact number of students coming to Westfield until sometime in April. Because second grade next year will already have 4 sections a decision will have to be made whether or not to add a fifth class depending on numbers. Decisions are still being made on changes that are going to be made with the specials rotation and lunch schedule to accommodate the additional section to each grade. Staff from Westfield

are visiting other elementary schools in the district to see how they work their schedules. Our parking lot will be updated this summer! We will be adding additional parking spaces (we currently have 89, we will up that number to 130) and another lane will be added so entering and exiting the parking lot will be easier for drop off and pick up.

Teacher update/Requests:

Teachers please submit your receipts by April 1st to the PTO for reimbursements

The Second grade team has submitted a request for their students to attend a fieldtrip at the Children's museum in Coralville. It will be on 3/20 and the subject matter is "Money Works" which fits in perfectly with their social studies curriculum. The request is for \$4.50 per child and it was approved.

Treasurer Report: Tabitha Lightfoot

Tabitha was not able to bring our current financials to the meeting in Angie Trenary's absence so we were not able to have an official update but no unexpected changes have occurred since last meeting. We were updated on the fact that roller-skating came in under budget this year.

Old Business:

Movie night recap- a great time was had by all, the pizza, water and popcorn were a success! A suggestion was made that before our next movie night we make an announcement about what families can bring (blankets to sit on, chairs etc.) There was concern that some students were using electronic devices during the show and it was distracting to others. Next time we plan to make an announcement (similar to a regular movie theater) about being considerate during the film and not creating distractions for others while they are watching.

New Business:

- As of today 120 Rough Riders tickets are sold!!
- Box top collection will be the week of 2-13-2/17. Extra recess will be given to the grade level that turns in the most. Boxes are in the hallway and the box tops are due 3/1.
- Read-A-Thon is 2/27-3/3
- Our blood drive is 3/9. We need to decide what to spend the proceeds we will receive from the blood drive if we have enough participation. One possible suggestion is new materials for the maker space or a gift card.
- Running club starts March 28th. Melissa Tillotson and Sylvia Shannon will be working on the sign up setup. Dates are 3/28, 4/4, 4/11 and 4/18 3:30-4:45.

Open Discussion:

Some topics were discussed that were brought up at the PTO advisory committee meeting with Dr. Shepard. The new budget for schools at 1% increase is concerning to all, it may not be enough to maintain current programs that the district offers. Dr. Shepard has a blog called Q's News that he is using to keep students/parents up to date with the goings on of the school district. He plans on including information about the upcoming bond vote so that people have all of the information going into September when the vote will occur.