

PTO Meeting Minutes: September 3, 2019

Attendees:

Kim Albers, Kristie Mattson, Ed Rogers, Jami Demuth, Tabitha Lightfoot, Morgan Yarker, Helen Royer, Heidi Hora, Michelle Langston, Bird Gengler, Hollie Trenary, Michelle Bovinet, Jayson Kramer, Judy Stoffel, Christina Hunt, Dawn Wonick, Lisa Sherard, Melanie Boutwell

Meeting called to order by Hollie Trenary.

Introductions:

May PTO meeting minutes approved.

Motion to approve by Kristie Mattson, seconded by Dawn Wonick.

Back to School Bash:

Hollie reported on the Back 2 School Bash. There will be 2 inflatables, Kona ice, pizza, drinks, some new games and face painting. A volunteer link will be sent out. The treasurer will be there to pay for pizza and inflatables. Heidi will post the Back 2 School Bash event and volunteer link on Facebook.

Principal's Report:

Ed thanked all the volunteers who helped with the start of school. There are 609 students at Westfield: 26 sections of classrooms, 5 kindergarten, and 5 third grade classrooms. 80 students qualified for ELL services. There will be 2 full-time ELL teachers and one associate. Westfield welcomed several new teachers and associates this year. District kick-off this year focused on the social-emotional learning of students. This year will see the inclusion of Math talks a problem-solving program and as a result of last year's FAST tests, there will be a greater emphasis on Phonics.

Officer's Report:

The "Write One for Westfield" campaign has brought in \$8,015 so far this year. The main part of the campaign will conclude on September 13th at the Back 2 School Bash. Discussion included having another push for "Write One" donations at other points in the school year. For next year, it was suggested that there be a Write One" chairperson. Collins Aerospace matching forms are online. Discussion considered providing a list of matching companies to parents. This year as in past years, Westfield processed their own donations which saved the PTO \$150. There was discussion about having the Linn-Mar Foundation process donations next year.

Old Business:

Open House had the best turnout this year. There was discussion from those that liked the morning timeframe better than having an evening Open House.

Upcoming event dates were discussed including the Back 2 School Bash on September 13th. Stride for Pride will be on September 20th with a backup date of September 27th. The homecoming parade will be October 10th.

Chairpersons who were not at tonight's meeting need to confirm their event dates and their availability. There was discussion regarding hosting a Westfield Blood Drive and promoting it at Learning Night. There was also discussion about promoting a district blood drive at Learning Night but not having a blood drive at Westfield.

Kristie Mattson talked about Kernel's Night and if 200 tickets are purchased, Westfield receives a \$200 check. There was discussion about changing the date this year from May to later in April to coincide with the end of Chorus. Last year 189 tickets were purchased. Kristie will not chair Kernel's Night next year so we need a volunteer to step forward who is willing to take it over next year and they can shadow Kristie this year.

There will be no school directory this year.

Fun Fit Club needs a chairperson. There was discussion about whether to change it to before school or stick with the after-school time or to do both morning and after school.

Judy Stoffel would like help with planning conference meals for teachers which is done twice a year. This year conferences will be November 14th and 21st and March 5th and 12th.

New Business:

Hollie asked if anyone was interested in posting events and updates on Facebook for PTO.

The Homecoming parade will be on October 10th. We will line up at 5:30pm at the high school parking lot.

Stride for Pride needs 106 volunteers. A volunteer link will be sent out.

Box Tops has changed to a new app where you can record your tops without having to turn in the physical box top. You just need to download the app and add Westfield.

Hy-Vee receipts: There will be two collections this year, one in the fall and one in the spring. Tabitha asked if parents could tally their receipts. Receipts must be from a Cedar Rapids or Marion Hy-Vee dated April 1st, 2019-March 31st, 2020.

Sylvia Shannon has volunteered to update the PTO website this year. Thank you, Sylvia! This is her last year updating the website, so we are looking for a volunteer for next school year.

Open Discussion:

There was discussion about having a volunteer who would coordinate community outreach such as managing events that Westfield has supported in the past such as a book drive, food drive, Angel tree, and crayon drive.

Volunteers are needed for PTO executive positions for the 2020-2021 school year as many members of the executive board's children will be moving on to the intermediate school next year.

The next PTO meeting will be held in the Westfield media center on October 1st at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

Meeting Adjourned.