

October 13, 2015

Exec Minutes:

Committee Needs

- Co-chair for Blacktop Ball - Sally Kilbride volunteered to co-chair with Andrea Berin
- Teacher Appreciation Dinner, Wednesday Nov. 11 Amanda Winnick is chairing this committee – volunteers needed to send in food for the teachers. A Sign-up Genius link will added to the PTO website and will be sent out in All Star News next week.
- Volunteers for Fall Book Fair needed. A sign-up genius will be sent out via All Star News, Facebook, and is currently on the PTO website.

Webster Rock Hill Ministries

- We agreed to invite Betsy Wacker to the November meeting to tell parents about what Webster Rock Hill Ministries does and discuss the group's expansion and fundraising drive. Christy will check in with the Auction committee about assisting in WRHM fundraising drive in some way during the auction (possible silent auction item/getting some proceeds of the 50/50 raffle etc)..

The general meeting was called to order by President, Tim Halls

- The Spirit Wear online shop is open again until this Sunday, October 18th. Johnny Mac's gives us 10% from sales. We've earned over \$400 so far.

Principal's Report – Dr. Winkler

- Speaker Leaders explained the 7 habits and how they use them.
- MSBA Conference student speaker leaders did a great job!
- Halloween parade route will be the same as last year.
- Fall Festival went well, some issues with light on the playground. The playground was blocked off for safety.
- Tim Brown will be coming to the Nov. meeting to talk about Cyber Safety.

We'd like to welcome Mr. Ball the new teacher liaison. Thank you Mr. Ball!

Financial Review – Toni Walters

- Fall festival unofficially made more than expected, about \$6000 profit. Final numbers are not in yet.
- PTO buy-out at about 40% participation and over \$7000 raised. 152 families contributed.
- Suggestion to promote it again on Giving Tuesday, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving.
- Suggestion to push for the buy-out earlier next year. Next year there will not be a paver campaign and Fall Festival raffle ticket sales at the same time.

- There was also a suggestion to provide new Avery parents an orientation packet that includes information about the PTO, sets expectations for volunteerism, and sets expectation for financial contributions to the PTO.
- Suggestion to promote corporate matching of PTO gifts more next year.

Upcoming PTO Activities:

- 10/17 Ivory Crockett Run which raises money for the Webster School District Foundation. You can register online. A link was sent through the All Star News. You can also register at Webster High School 3-6 pm on Friday afternoon, or register at the start of the race at 8 am on Saturday.
- 10/29 Halloween Parade at 1:30 and parties at 2:00.
- 11/6 First Fun Friday Coffee at 8 am on the front lawn. The ribbon cutting for the front lawn will also take place. The next round of pavers and 5 benches will be in place by the ribbon cutting.
- Next PTO meeting is Tuesday, November 10th in the gym. Tim Brown from the administrative center will talk about digital citizenship, cyber-bullying, and internet safety and Betsy Wacker will discuss Webster/Rock Hill ministries.

Superintendent Search

- The Board of Education is soliciting input in the Superintendent selection process. Consultants from McPherson & Jacobson L.L.C. would like your input. Please fill out the survey below.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/webstergroveschooldistrict>

Update on Front Yard Facelift

- Annie Holder reviewed the financial status of the project, indicating that funds raised are roughly \$5,000 greater than the estimated total costs of completing Phase 1.
- Next round of engraving will be finished with the ribbon cutting on Nov. 6th.
- Phase I includes 5 stone benches: 4 will circle the "A" on the center walk and one will be adjacent to the new teacher memorial bricks. But to take full advantage of outdoor classroom opportunities, the plan calls for an additional 14 benches. They cost \$1500-\$1600 apiece. The next push for fundraising will be for purchasing benches. The teachers and staff are working to accumulate enough to purchase their own engraved bench. In addition, Becky Allen and Callie Halls led a discussion on the merits of having each class raise money to buy their own engraved bench. The idea is to have these 6 grade-level engraved benches be the ones that will surround the central walk "A," with a bench to honor each grade level. The grade levels could compete to raise money for their bench, and when the grade level raises enough for a bench they can have a celebration and picture of their class around their specific bench.
- There was much support for this idea, and it was agreed that the best process for accomplishing this was to work through the room parents. Becky and Callie were encouraged to work through Nancy Roling and Toni Walters on coordinating the program.

Allocation of PTO dues and fundraisers

- About \$12,000 (\$5,000 from the budget and \$7,000 from the Fundraiser Buy-Out) will be allocated to the teachers. A committee including 6 teachers, Dr. Arnold, Dr. Winkler and the Board will decide how this money will be allocated.

John Simpson, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, presented on the new report cards. Use the following link to the progress report web site for an overview of the changes being piloted. There is also a link to grade level curriculum and a form parents can complete to get a portal login which will be more relevant for second trimester.

http://www.webster.k12.mo.us/pages/WGSD/Departments/Curriculum/Curric/SideNav/Elementary_Progress_Report

The next PTO meeting is Tuesday, November 10th in the Avery Gym. Tim Brown will be presenting on digital citizenship.