

**PTO Minutes**  
**Thursday, Oct 5, 2017**  
**6:30pm, ERS Library**

**President:** Meeting brought to order at 6:33pm  
September minutes were approved.

**Treasurer**

- Balance \$13,755.51
- Donations received to date: \$1,155 (includes August and September)

**Guest Speaker:** Sara Luesse, Edgar Road School Counselor

- Mrs. Luesse opened with an overview of her background; she taught for 8 years before working as a counselor for 8 years. She provided handouts on her counseling philosophy and mission and uses data to drive services and programming. She is in each classroom every 3 weeks; the curriculum is starting out with a focus on PRIDE (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> session is on problem solving, 2<sup>nd</sup> lesson is on respectful behavior). She is also starting some small group meetings this fall (e.g. coping with divorce) and will send out permission slips soon. Individual appointments are scheduled on teacher referral or student request. Her ERS website contains a resource guide, lesson plans for classroom sessions, newsletters, etc. She has open office hours 8:15-9:00 every day and will also meet by appointment.
- Feedback needed: Mrs. Luesse distributed a needs assessment that she is requesting parents complete. She also would like to gauge parents' interest in a book club or parent discussion groups.

**Vice Presidents**

- **Septemberfest (Suzie Kisslinger, Chair)** – Long lines were due to a food truck cancellation at the last minute. Suggestions for next year are to have 3 food trucks (2 dinner, 1 dessert) plus Philly Pretzels and to have PTO sell water.
- **Trivia Night (Mel Johnson, Teresa Herrel, co-Chairs)** – First meeting is 10/26, 7pm at ERS Library
- **Enrichment (Elena Tetreteault, Chair)** – Enrichment classes are short classes held after school for about 45 min/session, January-March. They introduce students to new things (e.g. sewing, fishing, origami, website design, cheerleading, art, Spanish). Some are taught by local businesses, others are taught by parents. Anyone with a hobby is encouraged to set up a class. Volunteer teachers set limit on number of students, length of time, number of meetings, and cost; cost is based on price of supplies; most classes cost around \$5, although some are more. Anyone interested in teaching a class should contact Elena. The course catalog will be compiled in November and distributed with registration due before winter break. Dr. Wuch and the Equity Group are looking into scholarships and buddy rides home after class for students who take the bus or have working parents.
- **Foundation Liaison** – WGSD Foundation provides grants for small projects lead by staff, PTO, or parents; the application process is detailed on the website. The next fundraiser is the **Ivory Crockett Run on 10/21** (5K, 1 mile run/walk, 100-yard dash with a pancake breakfast afterwards).

- **Box Tops (Ruby, chair)** – Nov 1 is the deadline for winter submission. Mr. Keller’s class is in the lead; Mrs. Lawson’s class is 2<sup>nd</sup> and only 20-cents behind. The lead classroom at the end of the year wins a classroom reward.
- **Playground, Landscaping and Maintenance (Jessica Griffin, chair)** –Saturday, 10/7, 12-4pm will be a workday (weeding, etc.); the WGHS soccer team is mulching on 10/13 (9:30am). If it rains, event status will be posted on the PTO FB page. Jessica needs people to loan wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes, etc. for the mulching event; this can be dropped off during morning drop-off on 10/13.
- **Room Parent Coordinator (Jessica Griffin, chair)** – Almost every classroom has 4-5 room parents.
- **Coffee Committee** – Next event is 10/26, 8-9am
- **Social Chair** – No updates, event will be planned for December
- **Cardinals Calendar (Jackie Charlot, chair)** – Flyers will be distributed next week and sales are due Nov 9. Calendars are \$15, \$7 of which goes to the PTO.
- **Trunk or Treat (Teresa Herrel, Chair; 10/20, 6:30pm)** – Flyer will be distributed in backpack mail asking parents to volunteer to decorate cars and distribute candy. RSVP is not required but is appreciated to make sure enough candy is on hand.
- **Penny Drives (Elaine Wiley, Chair)** – Event will happen in Nov, more info will be coming soon.
- **Dinner & a Movie** – Event will happen in November, more information will be coming soon.
- **Scholastic Book Fair** – Book fair will be set up Nov 3; runs Nov 6-9.
- **Teacher Conference Dinners** – Main dishes will be ordered, committee will provide sides/desserts.

#### **New Business:**

- **Appreciation Chair** – Custodians were recognized this week. A possible Chair has been identified. The Chair position was voted on (per bylaws) and approved.
- **Schnucks fundraiser** – Schnucks chose ERS PTO as the November recipient. For each Giving bag sold during Nov at the WG Schnucks, ERS receives \$1.

#### **School Report**

- Second grade teachers in attendance were Amanda Lawson, Amy LeMieux, Susan Raymond, Andrea Metcalf (Aid), and Mrs. Berger. Two upcoming field trips are Blackburn Park and Botanical Gardens.
- **One Book One School program** was discussed. The program has three goals: 1) Everyone in the building will participate in the reflection board (dry erase board near nurse); 2) Discussion questions are being used in the classrooms; 3) All students will participate in acts of kindness. Currently, the whole school is reading *Wonder* (grade appropriate version). Three additional books are planned for the year. A WGSD Foundation major grant will be written in Oct/Nov to continue the program for the rest of the year; monies would be used to purchase books for classrooms, with the next book focused on equity. The discussion questions and future books will be announced via Paw Print.
- Mrs. Moppert discussed facilities changes. ERS needed to open a second SSD room, so the teacher’s lounge was repurposed, and the teacher’s lounge is now behind “movable walls” near the gym area. We are now officially out of space. The port-a-potty pad/wall will be done at the end of the month.

**Next Meeting:** October 5, 6:30pm