

J.B. Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting

November 10, 2015 6:30 p.m.

J.B. Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria

President Kristen Beazley called the meeting to order at **6:31 p.m.** In attendance were:

Officers:

Kristen Beazley, President
Auburn Stovall, Secretary
Shelley Neofotistos, Treasurer

Kimberly Cousins, Principal
Karyn Anderson, Assistant Principal
Karen Snidow, Administrative Assistant

Committee Chairs, General PTA Members and Guests:

Beth Losego, Amy Shutts, Katie Berkman, Jessica Saunders, Lily Jones, Heather Fritz, Sherry Tremper, Christan Martin, Dana Gates, Mary Patterson, Carla Hagan, Annette Bashensky, Lesley Brocato, Erin Brandenburg, Kelley Marlin, Laura Kurichh

President Kristen Beazley opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming. Kristen started off the meeting with a big thank you to Annette Bashensky and all of the volunteers that made the recent Pumpkin Lighting a huge success.

Quorum Certification

A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October 13, 2015 General Membership Meeting were presented. There were no corrections and they will stand as presented.

Officer Reports

Treasurer's Report: Shelley Neofotistos

Shelley provided everyone with a November Monthly Treasurers Report and an APEX Summary Handout.

Shelley gave some of the Treasurer's income highlights since last month's meeting, for example Candela's brought in \$172.85 and Skyzone will have money coming in after ticket sales are finalized. The final amount brought in from the APEX fundraiser was \$43,451.50 to date. Any additional proceeds that come in from APEX stay directly with the school. ThredUp was also another surprise income check of approximately \$109.00. The Pumpkin Lighting had a net profit of approximately \$1,200.

Shelley explained some of the new expense highlights from her Treasurer's report. There are WEP payments due to vendors in the next week. The PTA had due's this month for National

and State in the amounts of \$25.00 and \$1,875.00. Teacher supply reimbursements have totaled in \$4,000 to date with 46 teachers that have been reimbursed for supplies. Kimberly Cousins will send another reminder to teachers to turn in supply receipts. Mrs. Losego thanked Shelley for the quick turnaround of the reimbursement checks.

Shelley went through the APEX summary handout. The total pledged to APEX was \$80,000 with a \$73,000 collected. Watkins received \$44,000 from the 60%/40% split. The school was given an immediate 10% split of PTA proceeds to be used by teachers for supplies. These funds are divided up by grade level. This equates to \$4,400 directly to the school. The PTA originally budgeted for an income of \$25,000 with an actual income of \$44,000 with a surplus difference of \$19,000.

The PTA budgeted for \$15,000 for wish list items and has already paid for a \$1,800 Brain Pop renewal and an immediate 10% of funds which was \$4,400. This leaves a remaining budgeted wish list amount of \$9,800. Funding for wish list expenses of \$6,200 will be taken from the surplus income of \$19,000 leaving a remaining surplus of \$12,800.

All submitted school wish list, which the exception of a few items, will be supported via the APEX Fundraising Income and the PTA will still have an additional \$10,000-\$13,000 to use for a "Big Ticket Item", additional programs and/or other expenses to help the school. Ideas are encouraged and are being solicited now as to how to best utilize these extra funds.

Vice President's Report: Brittany Krebs

Kristen spoke for Brittany. The Va. Opera House will present the third through the fifth grade with a Trickster Trilogy on December 2, at 10 a.m. The upcoming author visit with Pamela Edwards is being planned by Mrs. Jester for the Spring.

Secretary's Report: Auburn Stovall

Auburn asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the October meeting. The meeting minutes were approved.

Committee Reports

Copy Room: Divya Raman/ Auburn Stovall

Auburn reported that Divya and herself recently picked up the monthly donation of four boxes of paper from Office Max. Auburn explained that when a collection is picked up, the copy room committee makes sure that each grade is given an equal amount of paper for their copy room extra stash. Mrs. Losego thanked the committee for all of the help that they are providing for the school.

Health & Safety: Erin Brandenburg

Erin explained that the Turkey Trot has 160 plus runners signed up at this date. Her plan is to go on Friday and go through the exact route of the run. The mile run may be a little more of a "cross country" feel this year. The 5K is planned to be similar to the route in the past. Erin asked if anyone had a turkey costume to borrow and Sherry Tremper offered one that she has at home that has never been worn. A Sign Up Genius is going out soon for volunteers for the day of the race. Volunteers will be needed especially from the times of 9-11 a.m. Erin is also working on the planning of a community service project for the kids to make placemats for a food bank.

Pumpkin Lighting: Annette Bashensky

Annette thanked everyone for all of their help and support with this event. She reported that the food trucks that served at this event were very happy and pleased and will hopefully come back for the Spring Carnival. She mentioned that the Polio fundraiser collected \$214 and saved 428 lives! It would be nice to see more kid-run fundraisers like this at the Pumpkin Lighting in the future. Annette also expressed how thankful she was for the help of the Watchdogs, they did a great job helping the night of the event. This event brought in about \$1,200.

Candela's Night: Brittany Krebs

Kristen spoke for Brittany. We raised \$172.85 from the recent Candela's night.

Reflections: Christan Martin

Christan said that there were a total of 54 amazing entries for this year's Reflections contest. There will be a celebration for all of those that entered on December 3. She is checking with the availability of this date with administration.

Student Directory: Kathleen Grattini

Kristen spoke for Kathleen. Kathleen has said that the student directory is almost finished and wanted to see if we wanted it available on-line. After much discussion, the present board members and PTA members voted tonight at the meeting to only do a hard copy this year. We will vote again in May to decide if we will offer the Student Directory on-line for the 2016-2017 school year.

Yearbook: Amy Shutts/Sherry Tremper

Amy reported that there are 327 yearbook orders right now. We are currently under contract for 800. The yearbook committee has offered ordering dates and deadline dates on the school website, PTA Facebook page and the PTA website. The deadline for ordering is December 18. Administration offered to do school announcements for the upcoming deadline around the Thanksgiving holiday. The call for 5th grade shout outs will be coming soon!

Boxtops: Katie Berkman/Erin Clippinger

Katie said that Watkins raised \$687 from the last Boxtops collection. December 4 is the next collection and there will be a clip-in that morning.

Skyzone: Katie Berkman

The first Skyzone night is scheduled for this Thursday evening (11/12). There are 88 tickets sold as of now. Watkins will make \$3 per ticket sold.

County Council: Auburn Stovall/Kristen Beazley

Kristen reported that they announced at the last County Council meeting that the County is searching for a new Superintendent. The County is also talking about redistricting the county school lines, there will be a meeting soon discussing this.

Membership: Dana Gates

Dana reported that our PTA currently has 671 members and is only missing 7 teachers from our membership. Our goal for membership is still 800. Dana would like to do a membership drive in January. Dana did a draw of PTA members for a \$10 Gift Card and the name picked was Tanesha Ervin. A PTA Member's name will be picked at every PTA meeting to win a Gift Card.

Chick-Fil-A: Kim Young/Sarah Orr

Our next Chick-fil-A night is November 19th at the Westchester Commons location. The times are 5:30-8 p.m. and this night will be sponsored by the 4th Grade.

Lunch Buddies: Carla Hagan

Carla said that the Lunch Buddy committee has had a great sign up, she just wants to make sure that volunteers are showing up at their actual sign up time. Lunch Buddies will need some extra help around Thanksgiving and after that, Mr. Wood will not be in the lunch room for an undetermined time period. Sherry Tremper raised concern that she had gone into the lunch room and it seemed that there was not a Watkins Instructional Assistant in the lunchroom during that shift. Administration said that they would follow up on this.

Room Parent: Lara Jones/ Laura Kurichh/ Amy Shutts

Amy said that the room parents have done a great job collecting information and sharing class information. The next big event sponsored by the classes is the K-2 Sponsored Luncheon coming up on November 18. Please send any room parent questions to Lara Jones, Amy Shutts or Laura Kurichh.

Staff Appreciation: Leila Ward/Lindsay Spears

Kristen spoke for the committee. Lindsay put Halloween Candy out for the staff on October 1st. The staff luncheon is next Wednesday, November 18 and all volunteer positions are filled for that day.

School Representative Reports

Principal's Report: Kimberly Cousins

Kimberly thanked the PTA for their continued support and for all of Watkin's great volunteers. She mentioned new report cards coming out at the end of the week. Kimberly also brought up the fact that next year is Watkin's 50th anniversary and she would like to work with the PTA and the Watkin's community to start thinking about a celebration. We would also like to find out if there is a time capsule in the library. Mrs. Cousins is going to speak with Mrs. Jester in the library about the location of a time capsule.

Program Report

APEX Fundraiser Summary: Kristen Beazley

Kristen explained that the APEX special meeting minutes are finalized and will be posted on the PTA website. At the special Apex informational meeting persons with alternate ideas to the program were given an opportunity to create a presentation to share at the PTA meeting. At this time Kristen opened the floor for any alternate programs to Apex and no programs were presented. At this point the survey and general discussions of Apex were closed. Mrs. Saunders said at this time she has decided to hold off on a proposal for an alternate fundraiser.

New Business

Kristen asked that all committee chairs that are not planning on returning to their role next year please let us know as soon as possible. If you are interested in taking over a role for next year,

please reach out to the PTA so that you can work with the current Committee Chair while they are still in their position.

The PTA Board is also looking for a Treasurer for the next term of two years. If you are interested in this position please contact Shelley or Kristen. Shelley said that this position takes about 15-20 hours a week during the heavy season but is a very rewarding experience. During regular time, not during the busier times, this position takes more of an average of 10 hours a week. The Board will also have the position of Vice President available next year. Kristen talked about a possibility of two Vice Presidents in the future. Please let us know if you are interested.

Per our audit last year, any change in our budget within \$300 has to be voted on. The Spirit Wear committee is in need of an increase of their budget in order to cover costs. The present PTA members voted unanimously to increase the Spirit Wear budget to \$6,000.00 for this year.

The PTA has approximately \$10,000 in extra funds from the APEX fundraiser. Possible projects that were suggested and need to be priced: painting the gym, third grade field trips, finishing the track, "STEAM Roller cart" for each grade level (STEAM themed cart that would go from classroom to classroom with STEAM activities for students), covered bus loop walkway.

Announcements

- Skyzone Night November 12, 6-8p.
- November 13th report cards
- November 18th staff luncheon sponsored by K-2
- November 19th Chick-fil-A night hosted by 4th grade
- November 21st Turkey Trot
- November 25-27 Thanksgiving break
- December 3rd Reflections Awards Ceremony 6:30-7:30
- December 4th Chess Club 8:05-9:00, Box Tops due and clip-in 9:30 am-11:00 am
- December 16th and 17th Talent Show Practice run 4:00-6:00pm
- December 17th Chick-fil-A night 5:30-8:00pm hosted by 1st grade
- December 18th last day to order yearbooks
- December 21st-January 1st Winter Break
- January 8th Chess Club 8:05-9:00 am
- January 12th PTA meeting 6:30-8:00pm

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm with a motion made by Amy Shutts with a unanimous vote.

_____ Minutes Approved as Written

_____ Minutes Not Approved

_____ Date _____