

JB Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting

October 10, 2017, 6:30pm
JB Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria
501 Coalfield Rd, *Chesterfield, Virginia 23114*

President Leila Ward called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. In attendance were:

Officers:

Leila Ward, President
Carla Hagen, Treasurer
Amy Shutts, VP Committees
Laura Kurichh, VP Ways & Means
Auburn Stovall, VP Programs
Didi Cohen, Secretary

Shawn Ondrish, Assistant Principal
Karyn Andersen, Assistant Principal

Committee Chairs & Guests:

Debbie Roberts, Kim Johnson, Jenny Quarles, Kim McComb, Shannon Hoyland, Heather Fritz, Ann Marie Halstead, Sarah Simmons, Whitney Revell, Heather S. Parrish, Rebecca Williams.

All other committee chairs were absent.

Quorum Certification

A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the September 26, 2017 PTA General Membership Meeting have been posted to the JBW PTA Facebook page and website. Hard copies of the minutes were offered. There were no corrections and the minutes stand as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Carla Hagen

Copies of the report are available. Shows activities from the summer, everything we've spent year to date, and all that we've earned. If anyone has questions, feel free to contact Carla. Next month will be more exciting because it will show Pumpkin Lighting, Spirit Wear and DirectDonation Fundraiser monies. The monthly budgets are posted on the PTA website and Facebook page.

Officer Reports

President's Report: Leila Ward

President Leila Ward thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She thanked the volunteers who attended orientation and all three Back to School Nights including the volunteers for Membership, Spirit Wear, yearbook, Reflections, etc. September was a crazy month, but we made it!

Vice President - Committees Report: Amy Shutts

All PTA members are invited to learn more about opportunities to serve and how the process for officer election and committee chair selection works. We welcome any questions about the work we do and especially invite members who are interested in serving in leadership roles in the future to talk to us. The PTA board or officer positions are elected in the spring each year. We hold staggered elections, so we never have a new board of officers at the same time. This year we will elect a new vice President for ways and means and a new vice president for committees. Leila Ward will continue in her position as president, Auburn Stovall will continue in her position as vice president for programs, and Didi Cohen will continue as our Secretary.

In a few months, we will ask for volunteers to form a nominating committee that will identify potential candidates for PTA officer positions. Serving on

the nominating committee is a temporary commitment. If you are interested please let one of us know.

Once new officers are elected, the vice president of committees takes the lead in making sure that committee chair positions are filled. If current committee chairs would like to continue in their role, they are welcome to do that. If there are vacancies in the committee chair positions, we invite all PTA members to express an interest in filling them.

Vice President - Ways and Means Report: Laura Kurichh

Laura Kurichh announced that the Direct Donation fundraiser has raised \$8,643. We have two more days to fulfill our goal.

The carpool system is not happening this year. We will be reallocating \$6,000.

Kroger Community Rewards:

Go to kroger.com to link your Kroger plus card with JB Watkins and a portion of the Kroger rewards go to the school. It's an easy way to generate funds for the school and it doesn't cost you anything. You will continue to shop and use your card as usual.

Laura is passing the Kroger link and information to room parents so keep an eye out for an email in the coming weeks.

Vice President - Programs Report: Auburn Stovall

Auburn Stovall - Ann Marie Halstead was here and kids really enjoyed the Bucket Filling Fairy presentation. It was a big success.

Nov 20 —is the grade 3-5 Theater IV Apollo.

Nov. 30 —Steven Smith is the Author visit for 3rd-5th graders. It's about Jamestown. The 4th graders will be going on a field trip to Jamestown which makes this author visit especially special.

April 9 K-2 Theater IV Ugly Duckling.

April 24 K-2 Story Lady Ali Pfaultz will visit and read.

Committee Reports

Box Tops: Katie Berkman/ Erin Clippinger

Katie and Erin were not here. Amy reported final box top count was less than we hoped so keep clipping.

Chesterfield County Council: Kimberly Johnson

Kimberly Johnson discussed the Chesterfield County Council PTA Hot Topic meeting about safe guarding youth about suicide and mental health issues. She left resources and pamphlets about mental health and ways to talk to your kids about suicide. It may be more of a topic for older/teenage kids, but it's never too early to be aware and know the kinds of resources that are available through the county. More information is on the CCCPTA website. Kim also provided information about the county's comprehensive plan for public hearings and workshops for updates on what is happening in the county. For more information or to get updates about rezoning, new school construction etc. go to www.chesterfield.gov/compplanupdate.

Chess Club: Lauren Sos/ Angie Scranton

First chess club meeting is this Friday. Need volunteers who know chess. The moms who have already committed to volunteering are great organizers but we need more people who are chess players to help teach the beginners. This is a before school drop off program. No long term commitment required. \$2 per session includes the delicious baked goods. Training sets available for beginners. No experience required.

Lunch Buddies: Sara Sitkiewicz

The October signup still needs some spots filled. I talked with 3 local churches. 2 of them have circulated the signup to parishioners. I ask that room parents include the link to the current signup when sending emails out. Thank you to everyone that has volunteered or signed up to volunteer!

Pumpkin Lighting: Rebecca Williams

Pumpkin Lighting is our PTA sponsored Annual Fall event. It will be held October 20 5:30-8:00pm. That's next Friday!!! Food trucks are booked and games are built. Everything is coming together but we still need two parents per class for just an hour each during the event to help make this happen. Room parents should have emailed the sign up genius to the classes so please sign up. Rebecca will use Carla's light and sound system so she does not need \$150 of the budget she asked for. Carla will adjust the budget appropriately. The adult volunteers are needed to monitor the middle and high school volunteers who will be helping conduct the games.

Room Parents: we have been struggling with getting the list of people who are ok with getting emails to get permission. Amy Shutts suggested having the teacher send out an email to all parents that reads, "if they do NOT wish to have email notifications, please respond by...." This wording may allow for the parents who really do not wish to receive emails to respond, and the rest of us busy and forgetful ones to have the path of least resistance to getting the information we need to stay connected to these fun events and other happenings at our school.

Reflections: Rita Bond/ Kimberly Johnson

The Reflections Program is an Art competition. This year's theme is Within Reach. All students are encouraged to participate. Entry forms are due October 10 and can be submitted in the JBW front office. Entry forms are provided in the front office and online as well. There will be an award banquet for all participants on November 3rd. Contact Rita Bond or Kimberly Johnson for more information. Over 40 applications are in already. Keep applying and let your kiddos' creative sparks always remain "Within Reach."

Spirit Nights: Heather Fritz

The first K-2 Chick-fil-A Spirit Night is this Thursday October 12 from 5:30-8pm. We have a possible 2nd grade teacher 2 first grade teachers and 3 kindergarten teachers. If we don't have a teacher for the 3rd shift then the money earned during 7-8pm will just go directly to the PTA instead of that grade level. If a certain grade level's teacher repeats a shift, the money earned at the wheel will go to that grade level. It will be at the Westchester Commons Chick-fil-A location. Remember to mention you are part of the JB Watkins Spirit Night and a percentage of food purchases goes to the PTA. All money donated while the teacher is at The Prize Wheel is donated to that grade level.

Mark your calendars for November 13 Candelas Spirit Night. Students, families, friends and staff of all grades are welcome.

Staff Appreciation: Kat Kelly/ Divya Raman

Kat Kelly and Divya were not here tonight. The first Staff appreciation luncheon is next month. Wegman's is donating some food. We will ask parents for monetary donations to supplement food items for the teachers.

Spirit Wear: Auburn Stovall/Kristen Beazley

Spirit Wear is now for sale on the PTA website! Ragland shirts are almost all sold out. New items include: hoodies, athletic material camouflage blue and yellow tees, T-shirts in the simply southern style, and JBW stickers.

Spirit Wear will be for sale during Pumpkin Lighting. Flash sale next week will be available only for teachers and committee members to get first dibs on spirit wear. Wear it proud!

W.H.O. : Kristen Beazley/ Erin Bradenburg

W.H.O. (Watkins Helpers Organization) is a way to give back to our Midlothian community. The first meeting was a big success. Next W.H.O. meeting we will be making placemats with the Giving Heart for a Thanksgiving feast for our community and the homeless. There will be a food item and toiletry collection. Next meeting is October 23 from 6:30-8pm. The January meeting will include making Valentines bags for senior citizens. Please come out and give back.

Turkey Trot: Rachael Goodrich/ Kristen Beazley/ Laura Kurichh

Laura reported the Turkey Trot date will be Sunday Nov 19. One mile fun run will begin at 2:30pm with a 5K immediately following. Register by November 3rd to get a t-shirt and medal. Will need volunteers so look for the sign up genius to come.

WEP (Watkins Enrichment Programs)

Amy Shutts reported we have a few wonderful parent volunteers who have stepped up to keep this program going. It may be back in February. Watkins Enrichment Program is an after school program which in the past has offered structured programs such as: acting, music/singing, engineering, and cooking. We have a few local companies interested in participating.

Green Team Sara

This year we're working on recycling. We have three committee members already. Special thanks to Sarah Simmons, Whitney Revell, and April Lindmar. Mr. Ondrish is our recycling liaison. We thank him for helping move this project forward. The county will give us cardboard recycling bins for water bottles, cans, silly string cans, popcorn boxes etc for pumpkin lighting. Will need about 5-7 bins.

The biggest thing is trying to first get all the teachers in the classrooms and custodians to know what the new rules for county recycling are. Then we will work up to getting recycling in the cafeteria and getting Lunch Buddies up to date on the process. That is the big picture we hope will be accomplished in the future.

Yearbooks: Divya Raman/ Sara Armstrong

700 yearbooks have sold already so we are ahead of previous years' sales by this time of year. Sales close January 31. You can purchase yearbooks on the JBWPTA.com website.

Representative Reports

Assistant Principal's Report: Karyn Andersen/ Shawn Ondrish

Papa John's orders are doing well. Thank you for all the help from the PTA. Still need about one or two more drivers but we are ready to go. Over 200 orders and 23 teams delivering. Cannot guarantee that the teachers will be reaching all their particular kids homes. But they will do their best.

Mr. Ondrish thanked the PTA for all the amazing things we do for the school. He offered to help support us in any way.

Teacher Representative Report:

No teachers report today.

New Business

No new business

Announcements

- November 3 — 3 hour Early Release
- November 3 — Reflections Banquet
- November — 6 & 7 Student Holiday
- November 10 — Chess Club 8:05 am
- November 13 — Candela's Night (K-2, Preschool) 6-8pm
- November 14 — PTA meeting 6:30pm
- November 15 — Staff Appreciation Lunch
- November 20 — Apollo Theater IV Performance (grade 3-5)
- November 22-24 — Thanksgiving Holiday

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was motioned to adjourn by Amy Shutts and seconded by Carla Hagen. Meeting was adjourned at a possible record time of 6:56pm.

Authentication of the Minutes

Respectfully submitted to the Board for approval this October 22, 2017 by Didi Cohen.

