

J.B. Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting

November 15, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

J.B. Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria

President Kristen Beazley called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. In attendance were:

Officers:

Kristen Beazley, President

Auburn Stovall, Secretary

Divya Raman, Vice President, Programs

Amy Shutts, Vice President, Committees

Laura Kurichh, Vice President, Ways and Means

Emily Stein, Treasurer

Laura Marshall, Administrative Assistant

Karyn Andersen, Assistant Principal

Committee Chairs, General PTA Members and Guests:

Lauren Kern, Irene Delcamp, Katie Berkman, Tonya Austen, Paula Stocks, Melody Bergman, Didi Cohen, Rebecca Williams

Kristen welcomed everyone to the meeting. She said a special thank you to the lunch buddies at our school. The lunch buddies are an example of Watkin's amazing volunteers.

This is our last meeting until January. Kristen has been talking with an artist that will be adding Tyson Kalafatis and Joe Armstead to the mural scene in the cafeteria. The plan is to paint Joe's image near the Cafeteria line side of the room and Tyson's image of him "running home" on the side of the Cafeteria near the windows. We are still waiting to hear about the placement of possible trailers outside before we make a decision about a baseball field dedication for Tyson.

Quorum Certification

A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October 11, 2016 General Membership Meeting were presented. There were no corrections and they will stand as presented.

Officer Reports

Treasurer's Report: Emily Stein

Emily presented everyone with the monthly treasurer's report dated November 15, 2016. The final amount that we have on hand from our APEX fun run is \$41,624.19. This final amount is about \$3,000 less than our final amount from last year. We voted to change the amount of

income line item for the budget. All approved to increase the budget to adjust to the actual amount collected.

Emily filed the 990 Form so we are now current with the VAPTA. Emily set up a Amazon business account for us to use for approved PTA purchases. Kristen and Emily are the only people authorized to use the account at this time. Any purchases that need to be made should be approved by Emily. This account will alleviate the need for reimbursement for PTA purchases as PTA purchases can be made with the Amazon account.

There was a vote taken to increase the budget for the Yearbook to accommodate the need to purchase more yearbooks this year. All voted Yes to amend the budget.

Vice President's Report: Amy Shutts

Amy reported that all of the committees are doing well! There is a vacancy for the Chick-fil-A co-chair position. There is a hand out available with information on this position. If you are interested, please contact Amy Shutts, vpcommittees@jbwpta.com.

Vice President's Report: Laura Kurrich

Laura reported that on November 28 at 11:15 she will meet with Dr. Lane to discuss updates on the possibility of trailers on the Watkins' campus. If the County is planning on placing an extra trailer outside then she will discuss the possibility of the County providing covered walkways as well. Replacing sink faucets is also still an option for a project as well. Laura Marshall said that she would try and be available for this meeting. We are trying to figure out the school budget and the County budget to figure out what money is earmarked for school projects and repairs such as the faucets before we spend PTA money. Didi Cohen said that she spoke with Javaid Siddiqi, our School Board member, about the concern about Watkins' school repairs.

The PTA members present voted Yes to give permission to the PTA Board to make financial decisions from now until the January meeting if needed.

Vice President's Report: Divya Raman

Steven Smith is an author coming on Monday, November 21 for grades 3-5. Divya is waiting on dates from Mrs. Andersen for January for a possible author visit then. Anne Marie Pace and Mo O'Hara are the next authors that we hope to have visit our school. There is also a local story teller that Divya is interested in getting possibly during February for Black History month.

Committee Reports

Box Tops: Katie Berkman/Erin Clippinger

The last Box Tops collection brought in \$1,351. Katie would like to put a refresher on Facebook, the app has slowed down a bit. December 9 is the next collection.

Pumpkin Lighting: Rebecca Williams

Rebecca recapped the event and thanked her great team. She had 769 preorders and sold 450 more at the door. They have estimated that there were 1290 kids present, not including parents. The food trucks were great this year. The change of moving the entrance to the hayride proved to be a great change. She sold 763 cans of silly string. Next year we plan to explain very clearly that all pumpkins are donations and need to be picked up by the end of the

evening if you wish to keep your pumpkin. This will hopefully clear up any confusions about pumpkins.

Chick-fil-A Nights: Kim Young/ Sarah Orr

We are currently looking for a new Chick-fil-A rep. We are looking for a rep that would be interested in visiting the teachers on the actual Chick-fil-A night and helping get information out monthly. Sarah Orr is still helping with this position, she is still in charge of handing out the stickers.

Denim Drive: Tracey Malkie

We won the 2nd place award for denim for elementary schools again this year with over 800 pieces. Our goal for next year needs to be closer to 1000 to get back to the top prize. It was a close race once again. The bin will remain out all year and the empty bins have been stored behind the stage curtains for easier access and transport. A live check from Rouse Properties should be coming to the school. Tracey has been leaving messages for the coordinator at the mall to confirm this.

Bingo Night: Kristen Beazley

Kristen reported that the last Bingo night was a great night! The snow machine was a big hit! There will be another Bingo night in February.

Chess Club: Lesley Brocato/ Michele Sexton

Last month's meeting was another huge meeting with 74 attending! Chess Club hopes the excitement carries through December (12/2) and the new year (1/6).

W.H.O: Erin Brandenburg/ Kat Kelly/ Jaya Baker

The last meeting was a Virtual Meeting making Thanksgiving cards to give to the Ronald McDonald House.

County Council Rep: Kristen Beazley/ Didi Cohen

Didi attended the last County Council meeting. They talked about an upcoming election for the County Council. Most of the meeting was centered around the topic of the change of school start times. Most people seem to want a change and the County is still listening to opinions from surveys about this. The County has assured everyone that student teacher ratios and salaries will not be effected. The YMCA has been involved with working on after school programs to accommodate changes in child care that many families will experience. The CEO of YMCA is submitting a proposal for the County. The schedule change will be decided in January. Didi talked to members of the Council about changes and needs at Watkins including the issue of the lack of resource staff with a school of our size especially with the possibility of more trailers.

Directory: Kathleen Grattini

The directory is in progress.

Green Team: Irene Delcamp

Irene talked about having more defined, low maintenance flower beds by the library. Auburn Stovall's Girl Scout troop and Irene will work together in the Spring to plant easy to take care of options. The members present voted Yes on a \$2,200 Green Team Budget which will include 4

new tables with benches for the Library courtyard. Irene is working with Admin and Staff to get a plan together for the school's recycling program.

Hospitality Committee: Leila Ward

The first staff luncheon is Wednesday, November 16. All K-2 classes have signed up to bring food and all volunteer slots for that day have been filled. It's a sandwich, salad, and dessert lunch. Signs reminding the Staff went up on Monday. There will be some FUN prizes up for grabs.

Turkey Trot: Erin Brandenburg/ Jaya Baker

There are currently 158 registered for the Turkey Trot.

Candela's Night: Michele Sexton

Stickers will still be handed out for Candela's night. There will not be a wheel, just family dinners that will benefit the school and Candela's. The next Candela's night is December 1.

Skyzone: Katie Berkman

Our next Skyzone night is Monday, December 5 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The whole facility is rented out just for our school for the evening. There are only spaces for 171 people. Tickets are \$14 and this includes pizza, drinks and two hours of jumping. Handouts will go out tomorrow.

Talent Show: Sidney Newton/Divya Raman

Talent Show handouts will go out this week. Tryouts are December 12th and 13th. Divya and Sidney ask that all participants have music cut to size and is brought to them during tryouts.

Yearbook: Sara Armstrong/Divya Raman

Divya reported that there have been 735 yearbooks sold to this date. The price goes up to \$25 soon.

Lunch Buddies: Carla Hagan

We plan to put the new sign up for the lunch buddies on Facebook as soon as Carla adds new slots.

School Representative Reports

Principal's Report:

Karyn reported that all report cards go out on Friday. The school is all set for ParentVue. The Administration said they are so proud of our 2nd place in the Denim Drive. Make up picture day is this Friday. Career day is next Monday.

Karyn explained the new cafeteria bubble screen. As the children's voices get louder in the cafeteria the bubbles on the screen get higher and higher. There is a thermometer for each grade and a competition going on within the grade levels. Prizes for winning include extra recess time or Smart Card points for 5th graders. The children seem responsive to this new program! Rebecca Williams has been hired as a third lunch room paid position.

New Business

Internet Safety

Melody Bergan spoke to the present members about her interest in the Internet Safety Meeting that she attended provided by the County. The County has purchased an Internet Safety software that can be accessed by students and teachers and parents. The company is commonsensemedia.com that is providing the product.

Melody plans to talk with the school counselors and then hopefully spread the news about Internet Safety and the new software at our school.

New President and Secretary Elections 2017

Amy brought up the fact that a nominating committee needs to come together to choose new candidates for the President and Secretary roles that will be available for the 2017 election. Please contact Amy Shutts if you are interested on being on the nominating committee or if you are interested in the President position or the Secretary position for 2017-2019.

Announcements

- November 16th, Staff Luncheon hosted by K-2
- November 19th, Turkey Trot
- November 23-25th, No School
- December 1st, Candela's Night, 6-8:00 p.m.
- December 2nd, Chess Club, 8:05 a.m.
- December 5th, W.H.O. Virtual Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- December 5th, Skyzone Night, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- December 9th, BoxTops Collection
- December 12th and 13th, Talent Show Try Outs, 4-6:00 p.m.
- December 15th, Chick-fil-A hosted by 3rd Grade, 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- December 19th- January 1st, Winter Break
- January 6th, Chess Club, 8:05 a.m.
- January 10th, PTA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm with a motion made by Amy Shutts with a unanimous vote.

_____ Minutes Approved as Written

_____ Minutes Not Approved

_____ Date _____