

## **J.B. Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting**

September 13, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

J.B. Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria

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President Kristen Beazley called the meeting to order at 6:30 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

Kimberly Cousins, Principal

Karyn Andersen, Assistant Principal

### Committee Chairs, General PTA Members and Guests:

Beth Losego, Lauren Kern, Amanda Bracey, Nikki Word, Kelly Barry, Kat Kelly, Katie Berkman, Irene Delcamp, Tracey Malkie, Ashley Petet, Sara Armstrong, Rebecca Williams, Jaya Baker, Erin Brandenburg, Sara Sitkiewicz, Gretchen Burch, Carla Hagan, Linne Dilorio, Jaimie Anderson, Didi Cohen, Erin Clippinger, Lesley Brocato, Kate Railsback, Katie Sloan, Bianca Hawkins, Laura Schachman, Leila Ward, Marian Millikan, Emily Iniguez, Lara Jones, Julia Trebour

Kristen welcomed everyone to the meeting and said a thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers. She said a big thank you especially to those that helped with back to school packet stuffing and with back to school orientation day. She loved to see all of the positive, helpful faces that the PTA had to offer on the day of orientation!

### **Quorum Certification**

A quorum was established.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the June 14, 2016 General Membership Meeting were presented. There were no corrections and they will stand as presented.

### **Officer Reports**

#### Treasurer's Report: Emily Stein

Emily introduced herself as our new PTA Treasurer. She had everyone present take a look at the handouts given of the 2016-2017 Proposed Budget. She explained that there were not too many changes except she did note that there was a lower estimated income for APEX this year. Also, we are still unsure of what amount we will need to help the school with a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. We will vote on an amount as soon as the amount is decided. Emily presented

the audit from 2015-2016 to a vote from the present members. All present voted in favor of approving the audit.

The most current budget will always be posted on the website and hard copies are available for review next to the bulletin board. If you put checks in Emily's mailbox please fill in a deposit slip to go along with it. Teachers are encouraged to turn in reimbursement forms and receipts in Emily's mailbox as well. Expense reimbursement forms can also be found in the mailroom near the PTA mailboxes.

Emily also explained that there is tax exempt form available on the PTA website. We are also able to reimburse sales tax expenses this year.

All present voted in favor of approving the 2016-2017 budget as presented.

#### Vice President's Report: Amy Shutts

Amy introduced herself as the Vice President, Committees. She showed everyone the blue PTA packet that was in the back to school packets. Amy noted that the Directory Form in the PTA bundle has to be turned in to Kathleen Grattini if you want your child included in the 2016-2017 Watkins Directory. A bright pink form will be coming home this week for WEP registration. Registration for WEP has a firm deadline of September 23. No registrations can be made after that date.

#### Vice President's Report: Divya Raman

Our first author visit is September 14. Jennifer Weiner is coming to speak to our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders. 15% of the book sales from this author visit will go to Watkins PTA.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Box Tops: Katie Berkman/Erin Clippinger

Katie and Erin let us know that there will be five Boxtop collection dates this year. There will also be a popcorn and ice cream parties for the top classes. Our Boxtops goal this year is \$5,300. Please send in your closely clipped Boxtops in with your child. No expired tops please. A Boxtops app will also be available this year for easier collection. Links to the app can be found on the JBWPTA Facebook page and website.

#### Bulletin Board: Carla Hagan

Carla let everyone know that if you would like to see something for your committee included on the PTA bulletin board please call or email her.

#### Candela's Night: Michelle Sexton

Michele said that our goal for Candela's night this year is more promotion! Candelas is a great family environment and we would love to support them as they support Watkins.

#### Chess Club: Lesley Brocato/Michelle Sexton

Lesley explained a little about chess club. The kids meet in the cafeteria the first Friday of the month at 8:05 a.m. If your child has any interest in learning or playing chess with friends please join us! There is also a fun tournament at the end of the year.

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

Chick-fil-A nights will continue this year once a month at the Westchester location from 5:30-8:00 p.m. There will be a wheel of prizes inside sponsored by a different grade and one night for resource.

Copy Committee: Auburn Stovall/ Divya Raman/ Sara Armstrong

Divya let us know that Office Max will continue to donate paper to us this year. Divya would like to remind grades and teachers to make sure to provide paper if it is close to the end of the month and your grade could possibly be out of paper.

County Council Rep: Kristen Beazley

If anyone is interested in attending the County Council meetings please let her know.

Denim Drive: Tracey Malkie

Please clean out your closets and bring any type and any color of denim in to the school and place in the bin in the front hallway. There are two big collection days in October. Please contact Tracey if you have a large amount of denim that you would like to donate. All denim that is donated to the Denim Drive is donated to Goodwill after the contest is over.

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Danielle Maldonado

Watkins was built in 1966 making this the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We are planning things around a 60's theme with thoughts of incorporating celebrations with our Spring Fling.

Green Team: OPEN

We are looking for a chairperson for this committee. This committee would be in charge of helping maintain the courtyard near the Kindergarten round and the courtyard outside of the Library. This committee could also be involved with forming recycling programs for the school. If you are interested in heading this committee, please contact Amy Shutts.

Health and Safety (Blood Drive/Turkey Trot): Erin Brandenburg

There will be one blood drive, not two this year. The Turkey Trot is planned for November 19.

Lunch Buddies: Carla Hagan

Lunch buddy sign-ups are on the website and will be shared on Facebook. Times for lunch shifts range from 10:56-1:20. This is a great way to volunteer and spend time with the students!

Membership: Katie Sloan

Katie said that next year online membership payments would be best. She is waiting on Chick-fil-A coupons for PTA members. We have 472 members so far this year. Mrs. Cousins mentioned that in the next two weeks she would know if they (administration) are able to match the PTA Teacher reimbursements if the teachers have 100% PTA membership. She will let us know soon.

Pumpkin Lighting: Rebecca Williams

Rebecca said that this is her first time doing the Pumpkin Lighting and she is still in need of volunteers. She already has three food trucks lined up to come, she is still looking for one more food truck. This is a great family event where kids can wear their costumes, have fun, and the class pumpkins will be displayed.

Reflections: Gretchen Burch/Jaimie Anderson/Rita Bond

Reflections is a great opportunity for our students to express their artistic talents. This year there is a new sculpture category. All Reflections information can be found on the VAPTA website. Projects are due October 10. There is not a date for the reception scheduled yet. "What is your story?" is the theme.

Room Parent Liasons: Lara Jones/Rebecca Williams

Lara is working with teachers to get signatures from every parent to give permission to email communication from the room moms. There will be a room parent meeting October 4 at 9:30.

School Sign: Erin Clippinger

Erin said she would love to look at replacing the sign doors at some point, the hinges are very hard to handle. She would also love to have more letters as she does not always have enough letters to finish the sign.

Skyzone: Katie Berkman

There will be two Skyzone nights on Monday nights this year. Both nights will be reserved for Watkins only. The first Skyzone night is December 5, 6:30-8:30 with pizza and drinks provided.

Social Media: Auburn Stovall

Auburn let everyone know that she is the primary contact for Facebook submissions. If you have something that you would like to see on the PTA Facebook page, please send it to her and she can schedule for it to appear on the PTA Facebook page.

Spirit Wear: Kelly Kaze/Kelly Wright

Kelly would love to have more helpers especially on back to school nights. It is necessary to have two people handle the cash box at all times and having three people at the table is great. We will sell spirit wear at back to school nights, Pumpkin Lighting, Wiggle and the Spring Fling. We still have plenty of long sleeve grey shirts to sell. Water bottles and glow in the dark bracelets were ideas for spirit wear this year.

Spring Fling: Erin Brandenburg/Jaya Baker/Kat Kelly

They are in the pre-planning stage and they would love to have any volunteers.

Staff Appreciation: Leila Ward

The staff appreciation committee organizes luncheons and breakfasts throughout the year. Leila also stocked the teacher's lounge with creamers and snacks for the first days of school. The beginning of November is the first luncheon scheduled.

S.T.E.A.M. Night: Price Beazley

S.T.E.A.M. Night is scheduled for March 23, the school is reserved. Male volunteers would be greatly appreciated, they will have heavy furniture that will need to be moved.

Talent Show: Sidney Newton/Divya Raman

Last year there were over 100 kids in our Talent Show. This is Sidney and Divya's last year doing to Talent Show, we are currently looking for next year's chairs.

Volunteer Coordinator: Amy Shutts

Amy has gotten many sheets from the PTA packets with lots of parents interested in volunteering, especially new parents. Please email Amy Shutts if you are interested in volunteering.

Watkins Wiggle/Silent Auction: Mandy Bracey/Jessica Williamson

The chairs are looking forward to a great Wiggle dance and Silent Auction!

Website: Karen Carps

Please visit our PTA Website. You are able to export the PTA calendar straight to your phone thanks to Karen Carps.

WEP: Judy Long/Kat Kelly

WEP flyers will go home this week.

W.H.O.(Watkins Helpers Organization): Erin Brandenburg

This is a new organization for Watkins this year. This committee will do student driven service projects that include the whole family. The first project will be one for the Ronald McDonald house making busy bags for families with children in the hospital. In November, a virtual meeting will be held and kids will make cards for families that will be in a shelter during Thanksgiving. W.H.O. will also have involvement with RAL, a PBJ food drive, Recycling, and a PBS School Supply Drive. This is not a drop off event, please attend with your child.

Yearbook: Sara Armstrong/Divya Raman

This is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Yearbook. The target was originally 800 but the committee is upping this number because of more student enrollment. Online ordering is greatly appreciated. Committee chairs and room parents are asked to please send in pictures to be included in the yearbook.

## **School Representative Reports**

Principal's Report: Kimberly Cousins

Kim said a big thank you to PTA for all of their back to school support. The school has a new newsletter that is virtual, they are still working through things to make sure that everyone is receiving it. There are three back to school nights this year. The administration is trying to find a solution to find latch covers for doors this year. Karyn also said a big thank you to all parents and volunteers that helped with the arrival and dismissal for the first week.

## **New Business**

Track

Our track is now paved. We used a portion of the APEX money from last year to make this happen!

Sandbox

A sandbox was constructed by Sam Fazar as an Eagle Scout project. This sandbox is being enjoyed on the playground by our students this year.

Map on Bus Loop

Michael Sorrenson, an Eagle Scout, has asked permission to paint a USA map on the bus loop. We voted YES as a membership to give him the requested \$60 for materials.

Girl Scout Clean Up

Junior Troop 5123 will clean up the library courtyard on October 17.

APEX

APEX information will go out to all Team Leads. Team Leads will also meet with Don from APEX to discuss when the teachers would like the APEX team in their room for five to eight minutes. Prizes will be handed directly to teachers to put in backpacks. There will be three APEX pep rallies. We have asked APEX to keep the noise level at a good level. Please look in your PTA blue packet to see all that we were able to do with our funds from last year's APEX fundraiser. Laura Kurichh has gotten quotes on covered walkways in the bus loop and a covered sidewalk leading out to the fifth grade trailers. Please email Laura Kurichh if you have any other projects that you would like to see priced out for use of APEX funds this year.

**Announcements**

- September 14, Author visit, Jennifer Weiner
- September 15, Chick-fil-A Night, hosted by Kindergarten
- September 20, Back to School Night, K-1, 6-8 p.m.
- September 22, Back to School Night, 2-3, 6-8 p.m.
- September 23, Box Tops Clip-In, 9:30-11 a.m.
- September 26-October 7, APEX
- September 27, Back to School Night, 4-5, 6-8 p.m.
- September 30, 3 Hour Early Release
- October 3, W.H.O. Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- October 5-November 9, Wednesdays WEP
- October 7, Chess Club, 8:05 a.m.
- October 11, 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 \_\_\_\_\_