

J.B. Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting

February 14, 2017

J.B. Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria

President Kristen Beazley called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. In attendance were:

Officers:

Kristen Beazley, President

Auburn Stovall, Secretary

Emily Stein, Treasurer

Divya Raman, Vice President of Programs

Amy Shutts, Vice President of Committees

Karyn Andersen, Assistant Principal

Committee Chairs, General PTA Members and Guests:

Amanda Bracey, Erin Clippinger, Leila Ward, Kimberly Johnson, Heather Fritz, Lesley Brocato, Irene Delcamp, Didi Cohen, Michele Sexton, Erin Brandenburg, Sarah Simmons

Kristen welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming on Valentine's Day. She said a thank you to the staff and Emily Stein for working so hard on the wish list ordering. Emily has done a great job as our Treasurer keeping everyone up to speed on how we spend and planning of our funds.

Quorum Certification

A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the November 15, 2016 General Membership Meeting were presented. There were no corrections and they will stand as presented.

Officer Reports

Treasurer's Report: Emily Stein

Emily reported that everything is going very smoothly with the wish list, about 90% of the purchases are complete. She let everyone know that this is a busy time of year for her in her full time job so if you have turned in a reimbursement to her and haven't heard anything from her, please send her an email her and she will get back to you. She also said that if you are a committee chair and need to know where you are with your committee budget, please send her an email and she will let you know your committee's remaining budget balance. She also said that the budget information is updated and always on the website.

Vice President's Report: Amy Shutts

Amy spoke about the Nominating Committee, including herself, Laura Kurichh, Divya Raman, Rebecca Williams, and Kathleen Grattini, for the PTA election at the next meeting, March 14,

2017. Amy presented the official letter of nomination for Leila Ward for PTA President and Didi Cohen for PTA Secretary. Amy opened the floor for to any new people interested in running for a position. Kimberly Johnson expressed interest but said she would speak to Amy after the meeting.

Vice President's Report: Laura Kurichh

Laura reported that information has been sent to the County level about the possible new carpool pickup system. We are waiting on the County's approval of a proposed program. She is also waiting on information from the County about placement of the trailers in the back of the school.

Vice President's Report: Divya Raman

Divya said that author Anne Marie Pace visited the K-2 group at our school and the visit went great! Va Rep Theater also recently performed a Harriet Tubman play for 3-5th grade. Mo O'Hara, the author of the Zombie Goldfish series, is visiting 2-4th grade on March 9th.

Committee Reports

Talent Show: Sidney Newton/Divya Raman

The talent show was a huge success with over 50 acts and more than 65 students participating. The host was great and everything went very smoothly. We are currently looking for two new Talent Show chairpersons for next year. Please let the PTA Board know if you are interested in the chair position.

Yearbook: Divya Raman/Sara Armstrong

Yearbook sales have officially ended. The committee has sold 890 yearbooks at this point. The waitlist for orders will close soon as well. The committee placed an order of X amount and they are not able to order extras.

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

The last W.H.O. meeting went really well making 55 blankets to donate to the Child Life Center at MCV. 27 slippers were also collected to take to MCV. Erin plans to deliver all of the items to MCV on Thursday. Barry Farmer, a former Watkins Instructional Assistant, is coming to the next W.H.O meeting to lead a supply drive for his organization, Bright Minds. He will be collecting a variety of items, markers, pencils, pens, paper, games, etc. Bright Minds is similar to a Boys and Girls Club. The next W.H.O. meeting is March 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Erin also shared information about the upcoming Moe's event supporting Beckett Wyatt. This coming Saturday, Moe's will donate 40-50% of their sales to the Wyatt family. Times for this event are 11-9 p.m. There is also a meal train to help the Wyatt family.

Hospitality Committee: Leila Ward

A soup luncheon is coming up for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade to help with. Out of 22 classes, 10 have not yet signed up. Leila is asking for volunteers.

Reflections: Rita Bond

We have three Watkin's finalists going to the District Level! The Watkin's finalists are Baylee Burch, Alex Anonick and Tristyn West.

Wiggle and Auction: Mandy Bracey/Jessica Williamson

There have been 82 online orders and 327 tickets at this point. We still need adult volunteers. The question was raised about why at this point we do not have a Father Daughter and Mother Son dance and that is because the Wiggle is so popular at this time.

Boxtops: Erin Clippinger

Erin reported that we have collected 7,000 BoxTops. The last collection is May 19. We are currently at 63% of our goal.

County Council: Did Cohen

Didi said that at the last County Council meeting they discussed the upcoming Annual PTA Awards dinner on April 3. They did a budget overview and discussed the subject of virtual schooling being a priority. They also discussed the proposed school start times in depth. Watkins will be ten minutes later start and release under the proposed schedule.

School Representative Reports

School Representative: Karyn Andersen

Karyn thanked the Board for making the teacher wish list distribution so smooth. She talked about the concern of the new proposed start time impacting our current bus system and how our pickup system will need to be looked at. She agreed that this should be a push for the County to help us decide on a better dismissal time pickup system.

Karyn is checking with Ms. Cousins to see if they are able to match the teacher reimbursement if we can get to 100% staff membership. 100% staff membership would also help us achieve our goal of another 17 members.

New Business

Foreign Exchange Student Program: Sarah Simmons

Sarah came to the PTA meeting to share information about the local exchange student program. The local program is looking for host families for exchange students for the next school year. You can volunteer for 6 months or for the whole school year. All exchange students are fluent in English and this is a great experience. Please contact Sarah Simmons if you or someone you know is interested in hosting a student, simmons.sal77@gmail.com.

Bingo: Kristen Beazley

Kristen explained that we decided to cancel the next Bingo night. We need more volunteers to come out if we would like to continue Bingo nights. Let the PTA board know if you are interested in helping with Bingo nights.

5th Grade Graduation: Kristen Beazley

Kristen asked if there was anyone present to represent the 5th grade graduation committee. There was no one present at the meeting. When we originally set the budget for this year's graduation we were told to cut back. PTA is only involved with giving money for graduation not

for planning. Administration is meeting with members of the graduation committee to figure out what amount of money they would like to propose. Once we have an amount we will vote and approve that amount.

Announcements

- February 17th, 3 Hour Early Release
- February 20th, No School
- February 22, Staff Luncheon hosted by 3rd-5th grade
- February 24th, Wiggle and Auction 7-9 pm
- March 3rd, Chess Club, 8:05 am
- March 6th, W.H.O. Meeting, 6:30 pm
- March 14th, PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m. with a motion made by Amy Shutts with a unanimous vote.

_____ Minutes Approved as Written

_____ Minutes Not Approved

_____ Date _____