

## **JB Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting**

February 13, 2018, 6:30pm  
JB Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria  
501 Coalfield Rd, *Chesterfield, Virginia 23114*

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President Leila Ward called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. In attendance were:

### Officers:

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

Debbie Weatherford, Principal

### Committee Chairs & Guests:

Jenny Quarles, Amanda Bracey, Shannon Hoyland, Sarah Simmons, Whitney Revell, Morgan Cheatham, Lauren Sos, Tammie Nagy, Erin Clippinger, Arielle Greene, Kimberly Johnson, Heather Parrish, and Rebecca Williams. All other committee chairs were absent.

## **Quorum Certification**

A quorum was established.

### **President's Welcome**

President Leila Ward welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. A special thank you to Mandy for rocking out our first ever Sweetheart Dance on Friday. It was beautiful, fun, and everyone had a great time. Rita Bond went to the Reflections award ceremony. Congratulations to her son, Brandon, who won first place. Heather Fritz did a great job also with Sky Zone Spirit Night. Thank you to Jenny Quarles and Gina Lee for the fabulous Talent Show and all the flexibility with the snow days. We are very excited about new secured lock boxes located in the front office mail room. Our goal is to have a lock box for committees that collect money.

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **Carla Hagen**

Copies of the treasurer's report are available. If anyone has questions, feel free to contact Carla. The monthly budgets are posted on the PTA website and Facebook page.

The posted report is updated and includes Sky Zone Spirit Night. Thanks to Heather for her thoroughness with the receipts thereby making the treasurer reporting for that night easier. Carla created new deposit forms and money reimbursement forms. When it is filled out, please put your bundle in the treasurer's new lock box in the office marked 'Treasurer'. Please send Carla an email if you put something in there so Carla knows to pick it up.

Purchasers pay the fee when we use SignUp Genius instead of the PTA as with PayPal. Also, SignUp Genius stops selling when we reach the ticket limit. Carla is looking into switching to using SignUp Genius for all future PTA events involving money.

### **Officer Reports**

#### Vice President - Committees Report: Amy Shutts

Amy Shutts reported that upcoming elections for board or committees will be held at the next PTA meeting.

Upcoming Elections: Rebecca Williams announced that we found candidates for four of the open board positions for next year. She will make the bios available for review on the Facebook page and the PTA website and will take down the flyers around the school. The

nominating committee members were Lauren Sos, Didi Cohen, Kimberly Johnson, Rebecca Williams, Brandi Hidalgo, Jenny Quarles, and Amy Shutts.

The Nominating Committee of the JB Watkins PTA presents the following candidates:

Kat Kelly for the office of PTA Vice President of Ways and Means

Jenny Quarles for the office of PTA Vice President of Committees

Kimberly Johnson for the office of PTA Vice President of Programs

Sarah Shuey for the office of PTA Treasurer.

Vice President - Ways and Means Report: Laura Kurichh

Laura Kurichh was home with her sick child but Leila announced that JB Watkins purchased 4 Promethean Boards with the money from the PTA .

Vice President - Programs Report: Auburn Stovall

Auburn Stovall was not present but the following programs remain on the upcoming programs schedule:

April 9 K-2 Theater IV Ugly Duckling.

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

Secretary's Reports — Didi Cohen

The minutes from the November 14, 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.

### **Committee Reports**

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

Katie and Erin collected on Friday but have not counted yet. Last collection will be in May. In December, 5,800 box tops were collected and Carla has received the check.

**Chesterfield County Council: Kimberly Johnson/Erin Clippinger**

Erin Clippinger discussed the Chesterfield County Council PTA meeting where Dr. Lane presented the budget and school start time changes. The county is adding \$7.7 million additional dollars to custodian budget. Each building will be able to hire day custodians

directly but will continue using contract companies for the night shifts. Two new daytime custodians per building are planned.

Annual Awards Dinner is April 23. It is an annual award ceremony celebrating accomplishments of countywide PTAs. Website has more information on the awards and application process.

The March 12, 2018 meeting will hold elections. Go to the PTA website for more info.

#### **Chess Club: Lauren Sos/ Angie Scranton**

Lauren 57 kids were at last weeks Chess Club. A group picture was taken. We may have bags with the chess club logo by the end of the year. Shirts are still available for \$15.

#### **Spirit Nights: Heather Fritz**

Heather Fritz reported: The SkyZone night was successful. We learned a few things and will likely do some logistics differently next year. We had to return 26 registrations for approximately 50 jumpers due to space regulations. We can avoid this by having two jump sessions in the future, which I would recommend. We did that in the past. We're giving free Spring Fling tickets to all returned registrations. We will only sell online tickets from now on to provide relief to the teachers from having to deal with the forms, and to prevent accidentally overselling.

#### **Sweetheart Dance: Mandy Bracey**

Mandy liked that this dance was smoother and less wild than past Wiggles. She was happy to be a part of it. A huge thanks to all the volunteers! Total ticket sales included 438 paper order forms and 82 online for a total of 520.

#### **Green Team: Sarah Simmons/Whitney Revell**

Sarah reported that the Green Team's project of recycling is still in progress. She has been working with Mr. Ondrish. Goal for the year is lunch room recycling. She hopes to have recycling in cafeteria beginning in March. Hoping to get mulch for the grounds and benches for the area outside the Miners Diner. Girl Scout troop wanted to help our school in some way. Debbie Weatherford said they could help to paint the tables in the first and 2nd grade hallways and the Girl Scouts will provide the resources to do that project .

Thanks to Whitney Revell for the fun JBW painted rock planters in the front of the building.

**Staff Appreciation: Kat Kelly / Divya Raman**

Leila reported for them that there will be a staff appreciation luncheon on February 21. Divya is collecting donations.

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

**WEP (Watkins Enrichment Programs): Shannon Hoyland / Kim Do**

We've had 201 registrations for this spring's WEP. We still need volunteers to help sign out students and check ids for safe release of the children. Please remember to park in a legal spot when picking up your children.

Wednesday the 28th there will be a Chinese concert in the cafeteria. We will need help from 4:15-5:15pm to pack up the tables and set up the chairs for the concert.

**Talent Show: Jenny Quarles / Gina Lee**

The Talent Show was a huge success. Thanks for all the hard work to make each of the two nights, (including a snow date change!) such a positive experience for the students and families.

**Representative Reports**

**Principal's Report: Ms. Debbie Weatherford**

Since November the acoustical panels have been installed and we have noticed an improvement in the noise level in the Miner's Diner.

We now have installed 8 foot perimeter fencing which starts at the baseball field, passes in front of the water tower, behind the track and around to the bus loop. We are thrilled to now have a defined property line.

Keypads are also installed at the 5th grade trailer. We still use Watchdogs and adults when we can but 5th graders are excited to have the independence and flexibility these keypads provide.

Phones are part of 4th grade trailers and should be in the 5th grade trailers soon. Principal Weatherford has sent in the work request order for trailer B and resource trailer. We are very excited to be able to call those trailers as we can for any other classroom.

We now have added a 2nd lunch line which will be opened in the main cafeteria on Friday February 16. Food purchases should be moving much quicker from now on.

Tardy bell has been ringing 3 minutes early but a work order has been put in to fix that.

Have not heard anything yet about whether school time will be extended beginning next week by 10 minutes due to the snow days.

We will be interviewing for the two new custodians. The evening custodians will be filled by a contract company. We will still have the option to terminate the company if they do not fulfill their duties to our satisfaction.

Budget money from the county for the school allowed administration to purchase 5 Promethean boards and PTA money provided funds for 4 more so we now have 9 Promethean boards installed throughout the building. Looked into portable Promethean boards for the trailers since we cannot install permanent structures to those buildings. The portable ones are double the cost so that's out of the question. Looking into changing the white boards to interactive white boards. They are half the price of Promethean boards which could be a likely solution.

Principal Debbie Weatherford addressed some questions regarding school budget:

We have a school budget and a county budget. 20% of the county budget is held back until later in school year each year so she wanted a nest egg to provide for the teachers. Certain costs come up throughout the year that cannot wait so money from administration sponsored fund raisers such as Papa John's delivery night and Chick Fil-A night were responsible for filling the gap until county money arrives and providing items teachers cannot live without (copier for the trailers, for example.)

We will be purchasing chrome book carts for the chrome books coming from secondary. We need a total of 6 of those but because that county was only going to provide 2 but we needed six, those 2 are allocated to alternate buildings and Watkins will be purchasing 6 new ones. Money from school fundraisers also provides for teachers to attend conferences including the necessary travel and lodging expenses.

Watkins cannot use county money for spoiling teachers so that's what fundraising money such as Papa John's goes to.

Developers bids for the new Old Hundred Elementary School have gone out. Hoping to break ground in March, start building in April, and should take 14 months. Dr. Lane will announce a date to talk about issues regarding new school, boundaries, etc. Debbie Weatherford doesn't know what the new boundaries would be but most likely we will still be about 900 students at Watkins. Most likely, Watkins will never be a small school.

Volunteers —huge need for help in the lunchroom especially K-1st grade. Mainly on odd date days are when we need the most help because we do not have the high school helpers.

#### Teacher Representative Report:

No teachers report today.

#### **New Business**

1. Coupon Code for Office Max copies- The PTA gets a huge discount on copies and supplies from Office Max.
2. Virginia PTA's Citizenship Essay Project - "What Does it Mean to Dream Big?"
  - a. More info at [www.vapta.org](http://www.vapta.org)
3. Vote on Memorial Fund - the board has been working hard to come up with the best way to honor Beckett Wyatt. The PTA Board has consulted with counsellors, administration, and experts on the subject and have decided on the best way to memorialize him. A green Buddy Bench will be purchased to replace an old wooden bench with an engraved plaque on the back with a Star Wars theme stating, "In Loving Memory of Beckett Wyatt".

Motion to approve \$1000 for bench and ceremony for 5th grade class made by Kimberly Johnson and seconded by Amy Shutts. Vote passed unanimously. Plan to have it by end of school year so 5th graders can attend the memorial but we are still waiting on the county to approve before we can purchase and install the bench.

4. Power Plates Program - <https://www.vpta.org/members-only/student-programs/power-plates>

If kids want to make up their own recipe and take a picture and submit it, they can win an award. Has to be an original recipe and picture of the actual food.

Leila posted about it on the Facebook page and website.

### **Announcements**

- February 21 — Staff Appreciation Lunch
- February 26 — Candela's Night (Grades 3-5, Special Ed, Resource) 6-8 pm
- March 9 - Chess Club 8:05am
- March 13 - PTA meeting 6:30pm
- March 15 - STEAM Night 6-7:30pm
- March 29 - Chick Fil-A Night (Resource, Special Ed, Preschool) 5:30-8:00pm

### **Adjournment**

With no further business the meeting was motioned to adjourn by Amy Shutts and seconded by Carla Hagen. Meeting was adjourned at 7:24pm.

### **Authentication of the Minutes**

Respectfully submitted to the Board for approval this February 16, 2018 by Didi Cohen.