

JB Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting

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

President Leila Ward called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. 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

Debbie Weatherford, Principal
Karyn Andersen, Assistant Principal

Committee Chairs & Guests:

Kimberly Johnson, Kat Kelly, Jen Salley, Sarah Shuey, Brandi Hidalgo, Shannon Hoyland,
Sarah Simmons, Jenny Quarles, Lauren Sos, Arielle Greene, 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. Leila re-introduced all the current board members. She thanked Erin Bradenburg and Kristen Beazley for the WHO meeting where they made over a 100 blankets for the Child Life Project. Leila also thanked Shannon Hoyland and Kim Do for their leadership and running a well organized WEP program this spring. They have done an amazing job. Kat Kelly and Divya Raman were recognized for the delicious staff appreciation lunch and Kim Johnson for going to all the County Council PTA meetings and keeping us informed. Thanks to the 3rd, 4th, 5th grade and SPED teachers for participating in the Candela's Spirit night. Katie Berkman and Erin Clippinger were acknowledged for their commitment to Box Tops collections. Many thanks to Principal Weatherford, Mr. Wood, Mr. Gillis, and Mrs. Maurer for shoveling snow off the walkways of the school and paths to the trailers.

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.

Officer Reports

Vice President - Committees Report: Amy Shutts

Tonight is election night. Amy Shutts thanked Rebecca Williams for the hard work of chairing the nominating committee. Tonight we are electing four board positions.

Bios of candidates were available by the sign in sheet to read.

The candidates introduced themselves and talked about why they would like to be selected for the positions.

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.

Amy opened the floor to questions for the candidates.

Motion from the floor to elect them from Rebecca Williams and seconded by Lauren Sos. The vote to elect each candidate for those positions passed unanimously. Congratulations and welcome to the JBWPTA Board!

Vice President - Ways and Means Report: Laura Kurichh

Laura Kurichh reported that she's working to get more physical activity for kids. There may be a grant possibility for the PE department.

Parents for Healthy Kids Grant - we need to come up with physical activity initiative and nutrition plan. Must be an ongoing program. She's thinking jog/walk club and indoor recess. Laura welcomes everyone to share ideas for the initiative. Kids spend 1,200 hours in classrooms a year which increases irritability and contributes to low energy. Exercise and good nutrition increases test scores and mental and physical health.

On April 28, there will be a community yard sale at the Grove. Anyone participating is asked to bring all unsold items to JBW to get weighed by Goodwill. Goodwill will give our school cash per pound of donated items.

Vice President - Programs Report: Auburn Stovall

Auburn Stovall reported the following programs remain on the upcoming programs schedule:

April 9 K-2 Theater IV Ugly Duckling.

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

Secretary's Reports — Didi Cohen

The minutes from the February 13, 2018 PTA General Membership Meeting have been posted to the JBW PTA Facebook page and website. Hard copies of the minutes were offered at the sign in table. There were no corrections and the minutes stand as presented.

Committee Reports

Box Tops: Katie Berkman/ Erin Clippinger

Katie and Erin not here but Amy Shutts reported that they collected 6,881 Box Tops in February and received \$688.10. Final collection for the school year is May 18. General Mills will issue checks in April, which will include our December and February collections, as well as purchases using the Box Tops App. This check should be between \$1,200-1,300.

Chesterfield County Council: Kimberly Johnson/Erin Clippinger

The County Council meeting was cancelled due to snow so there was no report to give.

Go to the Chesterfield County Council PTA website for more info.

Chess Club: Lauren Sos/ Angie Scranton

Lauren Sos reported 55 students attended. 146 kids are on the roster. Attendance is very consistent. It was a little rowdy this week. Drop off is 8:05am so when children get dropped off early that's a long time for them to stay in one space and they get antsy. Lauren is too nice to lock the kids out until official start time of 8:05, so she will try to come up with some other ways to keep them occupied. (Note from PTA secretary: seriously people - Lauren and Angie are volunteers providing a super cool club for your children. Please don't take advantage of their already abundant generosity. Please wait until 8:05 to drop off your kids.)

Tournaments will begin in May and continue until the end of the year.

Chess club has \$400. We have plans to improve boards and get more pieces. Lauren Sos agreed to continue chairing chess club next year. We thank her so much for giving our students this amazing club.

Green Team: Sarah Simmons/Whitney Revell

Sarah reported that the Green Team's project of recycling is still in progress. April Linmar and Whitney Revell worked for 3 weeks putting together a lunchroom recycling plan. We ordered

blue bins. After spring break we will begin teaching kids how to recycle. Each class will have 2 Recycling Rangers per lunch period who are students assigned the class job that week of making sure recycling is done properly. She'll be sending a SignUp Genius for 1st and 2nd week for volunteers to train the kids and staff on how the lunch recycling program will work. Biggest concern is making sure everyone is educated enough and that teachers don't feel like they are burdened with this process so please volunteer to help. Those first 2 weeks are the most important. It will tie in with Earth Day.

Lunch Buddies: Sara Sitkiewicz

Sara was not here but there is still a need for lunch buddy support. Please volunteer through the SignUp Genius email link.

Mother/Son Event: Mandy Bracey

Mandy Bracey is the chair for the Mother Son Event and has been working with Amy Shutts on the plans for it. Just like the Sweetheart Dance, everyone is welcome to attend but the main focus is on mothers and sons. Details and date to be determined. \$5 per mother-son duo/family (Maximum cost is \$5 per family regardless of boys/JBW students in the family). Carla is helping to make a SignUp Genius for all info and where you can purchase tickets. We are working with counselors to help families who need help with accessing the SignUp Genius and payment. It will be held in the gym and cafeteria. Refreshments will be served in the cafeteria. It will be an indoor event so it is not weather dependent. Casual attire. It's a bonding event for mothers and sons but also fun for kids to hang out with each other.

Spirit Nights: Heather Fritz.

Heather Fritz reported: The next Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night will be March 29 5:00-8:00pm for pre-K, resource, and Sp. Ed. All ages and grades welcome. Teachers were notified last month they must stay by the prize wheel and operate the wheel. Heather will be there for most of the night, but may be in & out as long as teachers report for their wheel time. The money will be allocated to the teachers who are present for the Spirit Night.

Final Spirit Night is at Sweet Frog (Westchester Commons) on 4/27 from 4:00-9:00pm. We get a percentage of the proceeds. No prize wheel and no grade level allocations.

Staff Appreciation: Kat Kelly / Divya Raman

Kat Kelly reported that the staff appreciation luncheon was well received. It was catered by Wegman's and with money donated from 3rd-5th grade parents. Good time was had by all. The soup was a hit.

Spring Fling: Jenny Quarles/ Morgan Cheatham

This year's Spring Fling will be on May 18th from 5:00-8:00pm. The theme is "Celebrating Our Community." We will have a focus on summer safety: pool safety, crossing the street safely, and campfire safety. I've invited the local fire department and police. Four food trucks are confirmed. The photo booth is confirmed. There should be a mini Sycamore Square (The Little Bookshop, Dances with Wool etc.) and Midlothian Village talking about summer before/after school opportunities for Watkins kids. Camps are invited to be present. There will be bounce houses. Fee to be determined but it is generally about \$2 per person with a \$6 per family maximum fee. We will need day of event volunteers to take short shifts and will send a SignUp Genius next month. If anyone has local vendors they would like to have participate or if anyone wants to volunteer now, the email address for the event is:
jbwspringfling@gmail.com

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

All went well. Students, families, and vendors were very happy. We will keep vendor information for future WEPs. Hoping to have both Fall and Spring sessions next year. Shannon has committed to chairing WEP again next year. We are thrilled and very grateful for her commitment to this amazing program.

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

Kat Kelly reported from Erin that the last WHO meeting was a huge success. Kristen Beazley and Erin Bradenburg want to thank everyone who came out to support WHO's last meeting. Between Greenfield Gives and Watkins Helpers Organization, we were able to make 150 small 'no sew' lovie blankets for Child Life VCU in memory of Beckett Wyatt. This wouldn't have been possible without the help from Thrivent Financial who donated \$250 for the supplies.

Our next WHO meeting will be at the end of April/beginning of May. This will be a sign up event. We will be visiting the SPCA and learning about their cause. Please stay tuned for the date and time. We will post the information on the PTA site.

Representative Reports

Principal's Report: Ms. Debbie Weatherford

Principal Debbie Weatherford thanked the PTA for the lunch. All the teachers who have them, really appreciate the promethean boards and say they are really cool.

April 19th is Kindergarten registration. Get the word out. It will be 9:00am-7:00pm. All paperwork is available online which should quicken the process and shorten the lines on registration day.

Meeting at Good Shepard tomorrow night to talk about Old Hundred Elementary School. 6:30pm.

Mr. Ondrish, Mr. Bourne, and Mr. Cottman are looking into Safe Routes to School program for safe walk bike routes to school for students to get more exercise throughout the day.

Next year Watkins is offering the YMCA program on campus for before and after school care so we will no longer need to bus to and from YMCA.

Laura Bickford, a representative from the YMCA, spoke about before and after school programs and passed out flyers and business cards for anyone who has specific questions.

Teacher Representative Report:

No teachers report today but Mrs. Salley spoke about how much she appreciates everything PTA does to support the teachers - especially the delicious lunch during this past teacher appreciation luncheon.

New Business

1. 2018-19 Election Results. All nominees were voted unanimously into their respective positions.
2. Approval of Bylaws (due May 2018)...committee consists of Leila, Auburn and Didi. No changes from the floor so Leila will pass it on to the VAPTA for approval.

3. Midlo District School Board Meeting - 3/14 @ Good Shepherd; 6:30pm. Laura and Leila will be there.
4. Lauren Decker - The Park at Salisbury Apartments. Brought \$110 from a paint night event to donate to JBWPTA.
5. Update on Buddy Bench in memory of Beckett Wyatt. Bench approved Thursday. Takes 4-6 weeks to be delivered. End of April/ early May delivery. Don't want to interfere with SOLs but will let admin know when it arrives for the best time to get it installed and plan the memorial accordingly.
6. Westchester Commons 5k and 1k Fun Run 3/17/18. www.westchestersharmrock.com

Announcements

- March 15 — STEAM Night 6-7:30pm.
- March 29 — Chick Fil A Night (Resource, Special Ed, Preschool) 5:30-8:30pm
- April 2-6 — Spring Break
- April 9 — Theatre IV Ugly Duckling Performance (K-2)
- April 13 — Chess Club 8:05am
- April 20 — Mother Son Event
- April 24 — Ali Pfautz “The Story Lady” (K-2)
- April 27 — Sweet Frog Spirit Night

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was motioned to adjourn by Amy Shutts and seconded by Laura Kurichh. Meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm.

Authentication of the Minutes

Respectfully submitted to the Board for approval this March 21, 2018 by Didi Cohen.