

JB Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting

October 9, 2018, 6:30pm
JB Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria 501
Coalfield Rd, Midlothian, Virginia 23114

President Leila Ward called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. In attendance were:

Officers:

Leila Ward, President
Sara Shuey, Treasurer
Jenny Quarles, VP Committees (ABSENT)
Kat Kelly, VP Ways & Means
Kim Johnson, VP Programs
Sara Sitkiewicz, Secretary

Deborah Weatherford, Principal

Committee Chairs & Guests:

Mary Witt, Shannon Hoyland, Angie Trueblood, Debbie Weatherford, Erin Clippinger, Heather Parrish, Arin Branch, Shaun Mestayer, Jennifer Flohre, Paula Stocks, Susan Wilson, Marchelle Albertson, Sara Saavedra, Laura Kurichh, Brandi Hidalgo, Ashley Webb, Jemima Johnson, Arielle Greene, Rebecca Williams, Lauren Sos, Jessie Boyland, Whitney Revell.

All other committee chairs were absent.

Quorum Certification

A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

See secretary report

Officer Reports

President's Report: Leila Ward

Leila Ward opened the meeting and welcomed everyone then introduced the board. She thanked everyone that volunteered over the summer with various committees and around the building. Thanked Angie Trueblood and Karen Carps for creating the new JBW PTA digital newsletter. Jenny Quarles has been a big help with that. She encouraged people to give updates to Angie for the next newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Sarah Shuey

Copies of the 2017-2018 audit results are available. The report is posted on the PTA website and Facebook page. Two signers went through the audit results and found no necessary exceptions. Sarah asked for approval of the 2017-2018 audit results.

Leila Ward moved to approve the results and Rebecca Williams seconded it. The audit was approved.

Copies of 2018-2019 budget were available and Sarah added that much is dependent on how much the Apex Run brings in. Leila moved to accept the 2018-2019 budget and Angie Trueblood seconded the motion. The budget was approved.

The most recent treasurer's report includes July, August and September. The cash balance is high, but still need to pay WEP so the balance is inflated. Sarah mentioned she was glad to cut checks to the teachers for their wish list and appreciated the nice thank you letters. There was \$5172 in reimbursements made to teachers from the PTA. An additional transfer of \$3180 was WEP collections into PayPal that were transferred in October.

She mentioned there is a lock box in the mailroom of the office. Cash can go in the lock box and will be checked once a week along with reimbursement request. She has cut all checks for submitted reimbursement. Leila added that there are 4 boxes in the mailroom. 1 is for the treasurer. Yearbook and spirit wear are only online now and do not have a box. Coming up is staff lunch so there will be a lockbox for that cash collected. Sarah was asked about cashboxes for events and recommends going to bank and asking for change; the PTA has empty cash boxes.

Vice President – Committee's Report: Jenny Quarles

No report

Vice President - Ways and Means Report: Kat Kelly

Apex started yesterday and we already have online donations. The fun run on Oct 17/18 marks the end of the fundraiser. She said things are going well so far. Mrs. Stocks won the championship belt for having the most pledges. The signup genius for volunteers is almost full to participate in the fun run.

Upcoming spirit night is November 12th is at El Cerro Azul from 5:30-8:00

Vice President – Program’s Report: Kim Johnson

Still working on an author visit and has reached out to a few. Because of the size of our school we have to find someone to stay all day or split it up over multiple days. It has to also be within our budget. The Theatre IV visit that was scheduled in October has been canceled. The next Theatre IV event will be in November, Mysteries of Ancient Egypt.

Jenny Quarles will clarify but Kim mentioned that there are a few open spots for next year.

Denim

Reflections

Pumpkin Lighting

Rebecca Williams asked if anyone could help Lauren Colacurcio on the yearbook committee.

Secretary’s Report: Sara Sitkiewicz

The minutes from the June 5, 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.

Lunch Buddies: Sara Sitkiewicz

October’s lunch buddy sign up is posted and November’s will be ready in a couple weeks. I encouraged people to pass along the sign up.

Committee Reports

Box Tops: Erin Clippinger

First collection was in September where we collected over 8k tops. We should receive a check in November or December which will be a big check because it’ll include May. The next collection is October 19th.

Chesterfield County Council: Sara Saavedra

Sara attended the PTA Training Workshop on Sept 10th. The meeting talked about the procedure book and organizing meetings. She attended a session on communication and technology strategies.

Green Team: Arielle Green/Whitney Revell

The Green Team organized a clean up for the gardens and mulched before school started. Cross Creek donated flowers and they learned the county will donate annuals for future. They are getting ready to start the lunchroom recycling program again on October 22nd. Kindergarten will start at a later date. Last year there were a few learning curves with the new program and doing a few things different this year like getting rid of the liquid bucket. The Green Team works with Lunch Buddies and the ultimate goal is to help the kids learn so they can do it themselves. Currently looking into recycling crayons as a project.

Chess Club: Lauren Sos

Chess club is the first Friday of the month. Angie Scranton updated the roster and processed 30 new kids. There are currently 144 on the roster. At last Friday's first chess club meeting there were 69 kids which is the biggest attendance yet. There have not many volunteers on the sign up but many parents stuck around and some knew how to play too. Lauren wanted to thank one of the parents, Tiffany, who took over at the end of chess club and was very helpful with the kids. Lauren wanted to share that chess club is self sustaining and does not cost the PTA any money. Last year they were able to buy boards and also ordered t-shirts which they lost money on but still came out ahead at the end of the year. It cost \$2 to participate and you don't have to have any chess experience.

Pumpkin Lighting: Rebecca Williams

The Pumpkin Lighting is the largest event at Watkins and takes up most of the school. It also marks the start of the book fair in the gym. Super fun event where each class submits a pumpkin. Food vendors out front and games throughout the school. The event will be on Friday, October 26th from 5:30-8:00. There are no flyers going home. Tickets can be bought on the PTA website. Each child's ticket is \$1.50 and can be purchased online or at the door. Adults are free. Silly string tickets are \$2 and only available online. Wristbands bought online will go home with students soon. Volunteers are needed. At least 2 adults from each class. Need more volunteers, at least 2 adults from each class.

Leila mentioned this is Rebecca's last year at JBW so we'll need someone next year to take over Pumpkin Lighting

Reflections: Kimberly Johnson

Reflections entries box is in the front office. She will pick them up this Friday and is currently working on the award ceremony.

Staff Appreciation: Jaya Baker/ Heather Fritz (not present)

First staff appreciation luncheon is on November 14th and sponsored by K-2nd. Jimmy Johns will be catering and the committee is asking parents for \$2-\$5 from each student. They will email room parents and ask them to send the info out. The committee also gave all the bus drivers a goodie bag after the tornado and brought cookies and coffee to staff.

WEP (Watkins Enrichment Programs): Shannon Hoyland/ Brandi Hildago

Shannon explained the WEP program and said it's going well. This will be her last year but Brandi will take over next year. They would like more volunteers. Now is the time to come in and see what it is about and see planning for next WEP session in spring. They would like to keep it going but need help to do that. There are 137 kids enrolled in this sessions. Parents and volunteers are huge help to keep kids where they should be

W.H.O. : Kristen Beazley/ Erin Brandenburg (not present)

WHO had a fantastic turnout for the first event!! We talked about the heroes that donate blooded made signs of encouragement and bracelets and pins for blood donors coming on the 8th. Our next meeting will be November 14th where we'll be making placemats like last year for the Giving Heart Community Thanksgiving Feast. Attendees of this meeting are asked to bring canned food to contribute to the school food drive. We're adding families to the email list and if others would like to be added please email who@jbwpta.com.

Turkey Trot: Laura Kurichh

Laura told us about the new fence around the school which blocks a path for the run. Laura is talking with the county about installing a gate but not sure about an install date. If a gate is not installed then instead of a Turkey Trot she'll plan something like a tacky light run. She's hoping to plan something for early December.

Representative Reports

Principal's Report: Deborah Weatherford

Ms. Weatherford introduced herself and thanked everyone for the support at the beginning of the year in various ways. She said it makes their job easier. The cafeteria looks amazing and thanked those that worked on it. Ms. Borgman is at the denim drive meeting and awaiting info on how Watkins placed. She said the plants around the building and especially out front look great. Reminded everyone about the meeting at Midlothian HS hosted by our PTA. She said she has the same info everyone else has and we will get updates at meeting. Thanked everyone for navigating through the transportation issues and told us they are still working to make sure the kids get out in time. In fact, she and the assistant principals have a contest to see who can get the buses out the soonest. So far the record is 4:06 pm.

Tomorrow is walk to school day and 86 people have signed up. Meet at American Family at 8:15am.

The Papa John event will be on October 24th. They are excited to deliver pizzas to the families and there will be a contest of who will raise the most tips and for costumes. Also thanked everyone for helping the school during the tornado situation and appreciate the voice of support. Gave a general reminder that when the school is sheltering in place that means the staff cannot answer phones. Thanked the committee chairs for getting info to her for the Sunday message. When you need to pass along info please send it by Thursday.

Teacher Representative Report:

Mrs. Parrish thanked the PTA for issuing the reimbursements.
No other teacher reports.

New Business

Leila mentioned that no money was used from the PTA to paint and refresh the cafeteria. 14 gallons were donated by Sherwin Williams on Mall Drive. Donations also came from i9 Sports, Richmond Flying Squirrels and Richmond Orthodontics. Also, Mrs. Matthews, Ms. McDermott, and Mrs. Klein (from Jacobs Road ES) donated their time painting the cafeteria - thank you, ladies!

Brandi Hildago mentioned she had a conversation with Ms. Gunn and she had a request. When there are events here if there could be a volunteer to help with influx of parents and sign in. It was discussed that we normally do but will keep this in mind.

Announcements

October 12 - 3 hour Early Release

October 17 - OHES Community Meeting @ Midlo HS 6:30pm October 26 - Pumpkin Lighting 5:30-8:00pm

November 2 - Chess Club 8:15 am

November 5 & 6 - Student Holidays

November 8 - Theatre IV Mysteries of Ancient Egypt (2nd/3rd) November 9 - Fall Picture Day

November 12 - Spirit Night at El Cerro Azul

November 13 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm

November 14 - Staff Luncheon (sponsored by K-2)

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was motioned to adjourn by Kat Kelly and seconded by Laura Kurichh. Meeting was adjourned at 7:13pm.

Authentication of the Minutes

Respectfully submitted to the Board for approval this October 12, 2018 by Sara Sitkiewicz.