

# **JB Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting**

September 10, 2019, 6:30pm  
JB Watkins Elementary School Library  
501 Coalfield Rd, Midlothian, Virginia 23114

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President Kat Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

In attendance were:

**Officers:**

Kat Kelly, President  
Lacey Knoll, Treasurer  
Becky Hoang, VP Ways and Means  
Sara Sitkiewicz, Secretary

Brenda Borgman, Assistant Principal

**Committee Chairs & Guests:**

Courtney Maddox, Nicole Fogel, Charita Taylor, Jennifer Wates, Carolyn Alford, Brandi Hidalgo, Kelly Barry, Lauren Becraft, Jonathan Becraft, Beth Losego, Linda Eakin, Jeannie Murray, Kathy Burnette, Becca Ozbalik, Jennifer Nunn, Chuck Waddy, Saedah Qosem, Whitney Revell, Jenny Quarles, Danielle Smith, Lisa Wassum, Paul Dylak, Andrea Buys, Katie Berkman, Lisa Shaw-White, Kaimeco Fairfax, Arielle Greene, Greg Brown, Kim Johnson, Jean Patton

All other committee chairs were absent.

**Quorum Certification**

A quorum was established.

**Approval of Minutes**

*See secretary report*

## **Officer Reports**

### **President's Report: Kat Kelly**

Welcomed all in attendance and thanked everyone that volunteered over the summer helping inside and outside the building. Appreciated Karen Carp for setting up Clear the List for the teachers. Grateful to Heather Fritz for organizing the staff and teacher treats their first week back. Some of the hallways were freshly painted and look great so thank you to Jack Hensley. Kat then introduced the Board.

### **Treasurer's Report: Lacey Knoll**

There are a couple items to approve tonight. One is our annual audit which is done every year. No irregularities were found and everything was documented. Copies of the audit were displayed for review. She made a motion to approve the audit and Jenny Quarles seconded it. The audit was approved.

Copies of the proposed budget were also displayed for review. Lacey explained that based on the number of students this year we decreased some budget amounts. She made a motion to approve the budget and was seconded by Courtney Maddox. The 2019-2020 proposed budget was approved.

Copies of August's treasurer report were displayed and Lacey said that our account amount was \$14,605 at end of August.

### **Vice President – Ways and Means Report: Becky Hoang**

Big thing this year is the APEX Fun Fun which we've done before and it's been very successful. A flyer is going out next week. The fundraiser will start with a pep rally on September 30th and end on October 11th. The run will be on 10/10 during each student's resource time.

There are several spirit nights planned through out the year. You can find those dates on the PTA website.

### **Secretary's Report: Sara Sitkiewicz**

The minutes from the June 4, 2019 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**

Big changes this year to the Box Tops program. There is a new app to use which allows you to take a photo of the receipt and submit box tops that way. Awarding box tops to individual classes is still a challenge and something the app developers are working on. In the mean time write the amount you have submitted on a piece of paper in name the class you would like it applied to. Our first collection will be on September 19th.

We will also continue collecting the can tab tops for Ronald McDonald House. You can send in the tabs along with your box tops.

### **Chess Club: Jennifer Waters/Lina Basyuk**

Chess club will be starting in October and then each month except January. Many new parents have emailed about the club and to volunteer. You don't have to know how to play chess in order to volunteer. There are many ways to help out. We have teaching chess sets and it's open to all grades.

### **Reflections: Kim Johnson**

The Reflections entry box will be in the office tomorrow. We are pushing the due date out a week. Reflections is a nationwide art contest open to all grade levels. There are a variety of categories to submit to. Go to the PTA Facebook page to get more information about your child participating. The date to submit an entry is October 11th. You can print out an entry form or get one in the office. Kim will turn them into the judges.

### **WEP: Brandi Hildago**

Brandi explained the Watkins Enrichment Program. It's an after school program with a variety of classes to choose from. Registration is now open and closes on September 18th. You can go online to the JBWPTA.com page and sign up on the WEP link. Some classes are still open. She stressed the need for volunteers and encourages those that signed up their child to consider volunteering.

### **Spirit Wear: Jennifer Hampton (not present)**

Sales of t-shirts are off to great start. There will be a spirit wear table at both back to school nights. They will only sell the shirts that have been ordered, no preorders will be taken. Along with t-shirts they will also sell bracelets of Watkins colors.

### **Green Team: Whitney Revell/Arielle Greene**

Whitney thanked everyone that has helped the The Green Team and explained that they take care of the school gardens and recycling in cafeteria. Mulching is done twice a year and may only happen once a year once the beds are more established. Whitney said that she loves working on these projects and having parent participation.

She said they are looking to work with the Trex Company to recycle bags and compete against other schools to win a bench made of trex material. More information to come when the program starts.

Lunch room recycling will start in October and if you are a lunch buddy you can help with recycling. Kids know what they are doing but they need some assistance with recycling.

### **Programs: Anastasia Gotovac (not present)**

VA Rep Theater is coming to school to present a program at 2pm on March 16th for 3rd-5th grades and April 17th, 9:45am for K-2nd grade.

### **Denim Drive: Jennifer Brooks (not present)**

As of now, we have just over 100 items of denim. We are aiming for 500 items to donate so that the school can have a PJ day. It would be great if more people could share the FB "event page" with family and friends to gain more support from the community. Any help is welcomed and very appreciated.

### **Membership: Melissa French/Didi Cohen (not present)**

Membership committee encourages everyone to join and to ask other Watkins parents to join. They are hoping to get to 100 percent participation for staff and administration.

### **Pumpkin Lighting: Shannon McGinnis/Sara Sitkiewicz**

This event will be on October 18th from 6-8:30. Planning is coming along and we are looking at changing some things up this year. Pizza meals will be available to preorder and we'll have a photo booth again. Will need lots of volunteers to pull it off.

### **Yearbook: Liz Frischeisen/Lisa Wassum**

Both Liz and Lisa are new to this committee. They will not be able to be at all events so they are asking parents to please submit photos of school events for the yearbook.

There is an app you can use on your phone or go directly to the website. The app and information will be posted to the PTA website.

They are working with the art teacher that will have the 5th graders submit a drawing to be used on the front of the yearbook. They also want all the grades to come up with a mascot of sorts that will be in the yearbook.

### **Chesterfield County Council Rep: Leila Ward (not present)**

Last night members of the county council hosted 8 training sessions to help inform presidents and their board members about topics such as Reflections, how to run a PTA meeting, male engagement, advocacy, and responsibility of a treasurer. Next month's meeting is October 14th and we will be hosting a school board and BOS candidate forum with Javaid Siddiqi, Leslie Haley, Kathryn Haines, and Patrick Regan. Please come and hear what your local candidates have to say about our community.

### **Lunch Buddies: Sara Sitkiewicz**

The September Lunch Buddy signup is posted online and we are always looking for volunteers to come in. Grandparents are also welcome. Everyone was reminded to fill out a volunteer background check online. The form can be found on the Watkins webpage.

### **Representative Reports**

#### **Assistant Principal's Report: Brenda Borgman**

Ms. Weatherford was not at the PTA meeting because she was attending the School Board meeting to accept an academic award for our school. We were one of eleven Chesterfield County schools that was honored with a 2019 Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) award recognizing advanced learning and achievement.

Ms. Borgman welcomed everyone and all the new parents to a smaller Watkins. It's great to have all the staff in one building and nice to see everyone everyday. Liked the 1st back to school picnic that took place in August. It was a great way to welcome everyone back.

She wanted to thank the PTA for all the support they give the school. And also a thank you to the Green Team for beautifying the school, staff appreciation for supplying the food and treats, the helpers in the cafeteria and at the bus loop the first week of school, and everyone else that has lent a hand. Reminded everyone that is going to volunteer anywhere in the school to fill out a volunteer form.

MAP testing has started. It's a tool for teachers to use to see where kids are doing well and where they need to go.

All Promethean boards have been purchased and the last few will be installed in the next few weeks. It's been a goal working with the PTA board to accomplish and it's done.

## **Teacher Representative Report:**

The teachers wanted to thank the PTA for their support of food and financing. Especially the Clear the List campaign at the beginning of school.

## **New Business**

Watch DOGS Greg Brown and Chuck Waddy were in attendance to promote the program and encourage males to sign up. They want to have at least 2 Watch DOGS everyday at the school. It's a great program and kids love the men being here. The sign up is on the PTA website. Generally they like the volunteer to be there for the entire day but open to half days too.

A question was asked about where to find volunteer opportunities. The PTA has an on-line submission form on their website and the volunteer background check online form is on the school's website.

A questions was asked what happened to the WHO program. Kat answered that it will now be call Coalminers Cares and it'll happen during the school day in class with counselors. It's still be developed and more information will follow soon.

## **Announcements**

1. September 19 - Box Top Collection Day
2. September 19 - Back to School Night (3rd - 5th) 6 - 7:30pm
3. September 26 - Back to School Night (K - 2nd) 6 - 7:30pm
4. October 3 - Fall WEP begins
5. October 4 - Chess Club 8:15am
6. October 10 - APEX Fun Run
7. October 11 - 3 Hour Early Release
8. October 15 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm

## **Adjournment**

With no further business the meeting was motioned to adjourn by Kat Kelly and seconded by Katie Berkman. Meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm.

## **Authentication of the Minutes**

Respectfully submitted to the Board for approval this September 13, 2019 by Sara Sitkiewicz.