

## PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 11/5

We have a speaker from Edward Jones Investments (John Comberiate; Financial Advisor) tonight so we are going to do our best to keep this meeting as short as we can tonight.

Treasures Report – she's out sick tonight; deposits were about \$16K withdrawals about \$6K

Administration Report: Principal Peggy De Crispino Nov 15<sup>th</sup> WES closed for parent teacher conferences; National Education Week Oct 18-20; still doing RAPTOR sign in; you must be scanned in order to get into the building; they are going to do their best to preprint as many labels as they can for Parent Teacher Conference days and Grandparents Breakfast. Thanksgiving; closed 11/28 and 11/29- no students in on Monday 12/2 (professional development day); We are proceeding as if we have approved funding for the 201 seat addition; projected completion date prior to school year opening August of 2016. The whole building; not just the addition will be updated to 21<sup>st</sup> century technology. She is asking for a full double gym, larger cafeteria, a second assistant principal who would need an office; more bathrooms.

Teachers report: Beth Allen 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher: Dancing in the hallway reward was a huge success- thanks to the volunteers; report cards are forthcoming; 1<sup>st</sup> graders do not get a report card; if any challenges please bring those to your child's teacher before reaching out to administration.

Heather Helm asks for volunteers and donations for the upcoming parents breakfast; very important information came to us on the most recent "WES PTA star newsletter" with regard to the most recent overcrowding meeting; the plan is in place; the issue now is funding. Overcrowding updates: many WES PTA parents and staff were at the most recent SW area meeting. The issue is now funding. Our county is competing with other counties at a state level and a county level. This is a total \$70 million proposal. Heather Helm has a great list of politicians who we need to email letting them know that we support the funding of the plan. It's on this week's "WES PTA star news". Aug 2016 is estimated completion date for our WES addition. Our goal is to get 50 letters (emails) from PARENTS to support the funding of the plan. We ask that parents do their to attend these meetings when possible to show support.

Hillcrest PTA is attempting to create a join theme and campaign for multiple PTA groups to rally support for the funding. Individuals may participate by contacting Hillcrest PTA.

There is also a hand out from Kevin Kamenez.

Committee Reports:

Direct Donations campaign is still going on. We have flyers, forms, and were able to omit about 6 fund raisers this year.

Boo Grams: Patty Schwartz 1165 boo grams sent \$592-\$125 for expenses. She'll be doing Valentine's Day Grams also.

Spirit Wear Patty Schwartz is successful and she has 2 volunteers who are going to take it over next year when Patty 'graduates' to middles school.

Box Tops: Bernie Mosher 4,000 box tops in October we will see a check for over \$1,200 when they cash in. There will be the fall contest concluding soon and she'll do it again in the spring.

Food Nights: Yvette: Sweet Frog fund raiser money came in \$190. Also Apple Bees was a huge success. Profitable for sure. Amount TBD. In 2014-2015 school year they may try to move it to Valentine's time frame or Halloween. Will try to move it to the route 40 location if possible. Tentative 12/18 for Security Blvd Chipotle Food Night 4pm-9pm (50% profit donation); late Jan / Early Feb will be Panera.

Kids Clubs: Jen Taylor: it's going great. They would like to ask for more volunteers.

Green School: Amy Kelly: not much news this month; April and she worked a bit about the area near the trailers; they may need to clear it and start from scratch.

Beautification: April: not here tonight.

Yearbook: Cheryl is not here tonight. Did take pics at Halloween

Membership: Kim: beginning of the school year was their busy time of year. Tonight they are giving away 4 \$25 gift certificates to Peace a Pizza (membership total was eligible not just those at the meeting tonight).

Directory: Jessica Lucas: not yet complete but almost ready.

Book Fair: no news

Beach night: Kirsten: January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This is her last year. She needs volunteers (she needs someone to sell tickets in the mornings that week and about 10 people that night)

Movie Night will be 12/6: Megan \* Amy are not here: no news but the date

Student Council will start Fridays.

Black Saga will be November / December.

Curriculum: question: are the materials still being developed?

Answers: Principal DeCrispino: the students are getting a quality education; the teachers are seeing a stronger unit #2 and have their planning date in early December to prep for Unit 3. The teachers are getting the information late county wide; having to work longer hours right now; they are experiencing transition; especially with regard to language arts. She had heard some negative feedback on the unit 1 quality of materials. We are past the point of a 'pilot'. Common core had good standards. We have seen effective and highly effective instruction and results.

Additionally: Ms. Allen: unit 2 added a small group piece. They are helping the teachers to plan out that small group portion. They are using portions of the Houghton Mifflin materials.

Ms. Thompson: It's been a very long time since the curriculum has been changed so drastically so this is a time of transition.

Morna McNulty asks if we can have a date set to have a Q&A to gain a better understanding of the finer details of the changes and curriculum details.

Peggy will talk to the leadership team; Ms. Allen spoke to her grade information at back to school night; the web site also has some useful information; if we do an informational night it would have to be by grade level; she'll talk to the teachers and leadership team and see if they can brain storm some ideas on how to get the parents this information. More to come.

Heather Wrap up.

Dec WES PTA Meeting. Beverly Coleman is going to speak at our December WES PTA meeting.

No WES PTA January meeting.