Meeting Minutes for October 4th, 2011:

Notations: PD=Peggy DeCrispino, Principal

Motion to Accept the minutes from the May 2011 meeting by President. Second offered and minutes approved.

**Treasurer Report:**

Hoping fundraisers bring in money. Big expense: no longer doing individual teacher reimbursements. Moved to upfront reimbursement. Giftcards to Walmart are issued upfront, so it was a big up front expense.

$100 FT, $50 PT for those who join the PTA.

Discussion re: writing a check to PTA instead of purchasing from Fundraisers. Always welcomed. Will revisit for 2012-2013 in May of 2012. Amber Dickson offered to help if we'd like to do this next year.

**Admin. Report by Peggy DeCrispino:** We have already had a few field trips. Photojournalists are accompanying field trips. Students are acting as the photojournalists to tie in photo stories with the classrooms. Possible reporting via the tv studio.

* Black Saga has started.
* DI has transitioned from the PTA to the school. There is a meeting tomorrow after school for those interested at 4:15.
* 10/18 is indiv. picture day.
* 10/21 WES closed for students.
* Fire Prevention Month. Fire Dept will be visiting.
* Star lab is returning to visit. 10-19 thru 10-31. (Astronomy based program and it rotates schools every few years)
* Thanked Beautification Comm. Parent Carla Attenborough for her great job beautifying the school grounds and trying to install dog waste stations.
* 6 whiteboards donated to WES.
* Introduced our new Asst. Principal, Missy Thompson.

**Teachers Report by Beth Allen:**

* Teachers are enjoying the Walmart gift cards.
* Calendars are still going home w/behavior committee Ms. Allen explained the stop light system.
* Ms Allen is in charge of the Volunteer Comm. (and will not be doing it next year), but at every PTA meeting the Volunteer Video will be available to view so you can be certified.
* Student Council. Ms. Allen is in charge of this – and it will be open to 2nd-5th graders. Focus on philanthropy and helping charities. Pull tabs, etc will be handled by Student Council. Focused on giving back and being a part of the community.

Q: from floor: Halloween Parade? Will we still be doing it?

A: Yes. No masks, no weapons. Parade will be in the afternoon.

Q: Student Council – how will it happen?

A: There will be a contract but it will be open to all, not just 2 per grade as in years past. If numbers are large then parent help may be needed.

**Presidents Report:**

* Transition took place from previous president.
* Boo Hoo breakfast – 40 rsvp’d and about 60 showed up.

New Family social – well attended but not as well as we hoped. We did have Vietnamese & Spanish interpreters.

Back to School Night – was well attended.
Overtime Athletics started yesterday. 24 kids are enrolled. Hoping for better weather for future classes. This is a PTA fundraiser providing $10 per child for the PTA.

We are a green school so we are doing everything thru the newsletter. If you skim you will miss something. Please take your time and read through it so you do not miss anything. We are striving to be paperless.

Committees:

**Fall Fundraiser:** Brenda Pound Not present.

**Notecards:** Michelle will be sending home info in the next 2 weeks. Due back at the end of Oct so they can be back by the holidays.

**Grandparents Breakfast:** It’s not for parents – for grandparents and grandparent figures in your childs’ life. Doors open at 8. We ask parents donate an item. It’s always the Friday of Am. Ed Week. Grandparents are welcome to stay and visit in the classroom after class. Lifetouch photographer will be present. The BCPS Parent Mobile will be present also. Will work with Amy to try to survey on-line in keeping with the green school for rsvp’s. Nov 18th. Volunteers esp. needed the night before, and also the morning of. This will be Barbara’s last year so if anyone wants to shadow to learn to help Kim next year please let them know.

**Welcoming Comm:** More WES Mentors were present at the New Family Social than new families. Mentors very much appreciated and thanked. All requesting new families who wanted a mentor have been paired. If any family still needs a mentor just get in touch with Comm. Chair.

**Spirit Wear:** 9/30 orders are in. One of the best seasons ever. Sold 45 pieces vs. 30 in the past. Cochair position opening up b/c cochair will be leaving WES after this year. Please talk to Patti Pipel Schwartz if you would like to help. Will be adding baby items to the mix.

**Box Tops:** will be worked through the Student Council. Continue to save them. Collection box is in the front lobby. Please label with the tally, neatly cut, and into the box top box with your kids homeroom teacher name. Suggestion please put into bags of 50 and label #50.

**Food Nights:** Chick-fil-a will be 10/26 (change from previous date of 10/25 b/c restaurant changed the date). 25% back to WES, drive thru counts. Must present the digital flyer that will come home via the newsletter. Beth Allen suggested asking Ms. Santos to announce important info via the morning announcements.

El Nayar will be coming, Grilled Cheese & Peace of Pizza, Panera.

**KIDS Club:** Spanish starts the 12th, next week. Had to cancel level 2 and ¾ b/c the enrollment was low. Intro and Spanish 1 are on the same day. Spaces available. Please see Courtney to register.

**Green School:** Approval from PD to create a green school website. Christina is in the process of creating this website to be a virtual recording of all GS activities. She wants to document all green activities/programs on this site. Looking for 1-2 parents to help with updating the website once it is up and running. All the work needs to be a collaborative effort. It can’t be just parents in order to maintain certification. PD said only certain products can be used for cleaning, so we must check with custodians.

**Beautification:** Front bed cleanup has happened. The learning cottage is the next project. Trying to resolve the dog waste issue. Has secured a parent connection to get free dirt for WES. We need perennial donations from any of your gardens if you have any, please let Carla know. The next work party is Sunday the 9th from 1-2:30. Some will be starting at 9.

Q: Is the trailer temporary? It cost the county 100K. We do not know. We are at 116% capacity. We do not forsee it leaving anytime soon.

Yearbook: Cheryl is not here.

Q: meeting is Thurs at 6:30 … is it for students or parents?

**Playground:** Over summer the blacktop was turned into a greentop; stencils were applied by the County. Proposal is in the works for ordering (from Gametime) a multi-hoop and a buck-a-bout for 4 kids.Turkey Trot (new date 11-21, Monday, 12:30-3:30). In the process of getting donations for raffles, and in need of volunteers. It will be held at WES. Tina is the contact; her info is in the newsletter. Ginger will give template of fundraising letter another school does in conjunction with PTA fundraiser.

**Staff Appreciation:** Did the welcome back gift for the staff. Each month we hand out birthday gift cards (Dunkin Doughnuts this year). First staff appreciated will be the bus drivers coming up in 2 weeks. Typically we do Wed of that week. Please feel free to join the committee. Will be meeting in early Nov. to plan for the year. Big Teacher App day in May with a theme (little Italy this year).

Membership: So far 173 parents joined, 28 parents & admin. Last year we had 253 by the end of the year, plus 35 teachers.

Chapman, Noppenburger, Krickbaum, Williams are in the lead.

Q: Can grandparents join? A: YES! Please make it clear per parent b/c it seemed like $7 per family from a new persons’ perspective.

Anticipate a dues increase next year.

Movie Night: We had a good turnout for our first movie night. There is ots of interest in a holiday movie night with a holiday theme. We lose money on movie night so we are trying to do it on our own rather than use the service for $600 so we can try to make some money. We need to try to sell tickets ahead of time b/c we had too much food and water. The volunteers made the difference.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Aliza Worthington: SW Area advisory council meeting 3rd Wed of the month. Oct meeting is a budget meeting. You must come ½ hr early and sign up to speak. Anyone is welcome to come to these meetings. Aliza is a liason and the liasons go to the school board and share reported issues/concerns. Dr. Hairston will be present in March.

Marni Beyer: Question about the WES website. It’s not updated much. Only once were the Morning Announcements there. PD: Mr. Torrington has been very busy. We want to revise our website; there is a lot more we want to do with our website.

Ms. Huff: The calendar is pathetic.

Parents: The staff was not updated timely, nor the PTA. It took until after the school started. Our webiste is pathetic, esp compared to the middle school and high school. Their websites rock. Ours doesn’t.

Beth Allen: If you need vol. training see me. If you need a homework pass see me.

President: We need a parent to help with the PTA fundraiser of ink cartridge collection. Beth Allen will have student council tally, give numbers to Green School Comm, and Megan Kight will be the parent to ship via UPS.