

**West Woods Elementary
General Meeting
January 22, 2015**

Call to Order: Kim Johnson President, called the general meeting of the West Woods Elementary PTSA to order at 6:30 pm. Mary Walker, Secretary, was absent. Cary Stiever, 1st VP recorded the minutes.

Attendance:

15 PTSA members attended the meeting.

Principal's Report: Jason Smith

Jason Smith announced that he sent out the priorities survey to WWE, which asked the community their opinion on the budget. The response - class size was the primary concern. With his proposed budget, he will request enough money for 5-6 more teachers for 2015-16. Anticipated class size is about 25 students with assumed growth (see below). We may need to use the computer lab as a classroom.

He also announced, he personally held meetings with developers at Leydon Rock/Ranch to find out info himself on the projected number of families coming our way. He learned that 400 homes are being built by the 2015 school year. 43% of those might include elementary students...it could add 180 students to our school by next year. He was concerned the district didn't have a plan, so he attended another meeting to hear their proposal and accept the awards given to WWE. That meeting was disorganized; he was disappointed and has requested a meeting with Dan McMinimee and Ken Witt (board chair) to discuss WWE more specifically. He's encouraging everyone to put pressure on the school board representatives about this issue.

He announced that WWE received two awards – the 2014 John Irwin School of Excellence Award AND the Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award.

Jason asked the group about fees at the beginning of the year. In the past there's been Edukits, a fee towards resources in the classroom, etc paid online. Currently Math Expressions has a lot of workbooks...the district funded that this year and won't fund it next year. It's \$30k for consumables (workbooks) and he asked what parents would think of this additional fee. It would be \$70-\$80 per student before Edukits. (The free and reduced lunch families' fees are waived.) The discussion was split. Some thought it was too much to ask parents to spend, and others thought if parents were told our school/their kids needed it, they would buy it with no argument. He's going to meet with teachers and see if he can get that down. TBD on this discussion.

Next SAC meeting is March 10th.

Secretary's Report: by Cary Stiever for Mary Walker

The minutes from the previous minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Doug Hays

Statements for two bank accounts for the last part of the year were reviewed and signed by Jenn Berger and Cary Stiever. There is currently \$30k in main bank account. We earned 33 cents in interest on the playground account. We have \$15k available to grant for the rest of the year. In an effort to replace outdated technology at WWE, Jason Smith asked PTSA to grant the school \$15k for Chrome Books. (The golf tournament will also apply to technology, but won't be enough to cover the Chrome Books.) \$15,000 was granted to the school for "Chrome Books" (Kim moved, Erin seconded it...all were in favor, no opposed)

Kim Johnson asked us to consider using \$5k for a matching city grant to improve the playground blacktop. All were in favor of looking into the graphics for the blacktop further and finding out more about applying for the city grant.

President's Report : Kim Johnson

Hour of Code

Kim Johnson gave an update on Hour of Code. Two parents per class attended (about 20-25 parents came in)- it was a success and very well-received.

Read-a-thon

Kim gave an update. Exec board is working on all of the details for the upcoming Read-a-thon. Doug is building the website, and we'll plan to review the process to log minutes. We need teachers' participation and buy-in (door decorating contest, each class would have a mascot, etc). Perhaps we'll have a kick-off event...and we may need a parent volunteer for each class. It has the potential to raise a fair amount of money. For example, if half of our school participated and each raised \$100, it could be \$33k gross.

PTSA positions

There are several open PTSA board and committee chair positions open for 2015-16. We will start advertising for PTSA open positions ASAP...spread the word.

Committee Reports

1st Vice President: Cary Stiever

The committee chair for Penny Harvest can't help this year, so Cary is leading Penny Harvest, and looking for a new chair for next year. Three meetings will take place after school in Feb and

March, and the student committee will decide which non-profit to fund. The check may be given at the Day Without Hate assembly.

The Parenting Safe Children workshop is scheduled for March 11th, about 15 people are registered thus far.

Haley Hovis, Chair for the Welcome Committee gave an update. They recently had a meeting and plan to continue their support for 2015-16. They continue to call new families attending WWE monthly to insure they are experiencing a smooth transition and they have their questions answered.

Dayna Morain, Chair of the Legislative Committee gave an update. She read through many bills on the table currently. We discussed scheduling a way to get students involved next year through Student Council. The Colorado PTA will be the capital on February 26th, a group of kindergartners will be going with their parents - arranged by Dayna.

2nd Vice President – Jenn Berger

The Missoula Children's Theater is scheduled to take place in February. The directors' lodging has been found and we are all set to go.

3rd Vice President –Erin Wulforth

Spirit Day at Skate City happened. No one at the meeting attended, so we aren't sure how it went. Next *spirit day* is President's Day at Big Time Fun.

Box Tops and Soup labels are being collected, everyone is encouraged to start saving them.

Golf Tournament

Kim Pryor and Gina Weir are heading that up again. They talked about doing a golf towel instead of a shirt, might be more applicable. They are figuring out the cost. We must have good quality printing for sponsors to print on towels.

Carnival

We are definitely using food trucks this year, as opposed to the food provider in previous years. We are in the process of confirming those trucks. (Mary has been looking into the food trucks to be a fundraiser as well, TBD.) All are hoping some of the national honor society high school and middle school students will manage some of the games at the carnival so parents can attend with their kids.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm. Next Executive Board Meeting – March9, 2015; Next General Meeting will be held on February 19, 2015 at 6:30 pm.