

Meeting Minutes

James R Watson Elementary PTO



Date/Time: Monday, Mar 10th at 6:00pm Location: JRW School Cafeteria

Meeting called to Order by: *Lindsay Foster, President*

Time: 6:05pm

Attendance: There were 14 attendees including board & Principal; a quorum was reached. No guest speakers were in attendance.



Treasurer's Report *(given by Andrea Sponhower)*

- Treasurer's report read & accepted (see attached). Andrea reviewed PTO General Fund Income & Expenses from 1/10/25 through current.
- Coin Race earnings were double what was expected!
- THANK YOU for Soup Donations for February Teacher Appreciation
- Student Needs/Resources: 5th Grade Deodorant; Travel deodorant purchased for all 5th graders & included in Hygiene kit (to be given)

Committee Reports

Box Tops *(given by Andrea Sponhower)*

- Current amount raised is \$662, exceeding this year's Goal of \$600. 1st grade won a Crazy Sock Day. If we can reach \$700, PTO will provide Ice Pops to students on Field Day.

Literacy Night *(given by Lindsay Foster) *Co-Chairs Lindsay Foster w/ Andrea Sponhower*

- Great turnout for the Lit Night, coordinated with Book Fair to provide 'Sabotage Blockers' for any Book Fair purchase. For next Spring Lit Night, will serve pizza to help keep meal costs within budget. Fall Lit Night will be Trunk or Treat with Food Truck.

Color Run Committee *(given by Angie Turner) *Co-Chairs Angie Turner & Shaye Pfister*

- Next years Color Run date, tentatively set for Sunday Sept 7 (Rain date 9/14). Other Schools have expressed interest in learning our Color Run planning process/execution.

Student Yearbook *(given by Lindsay Foster) *Co-Chairs Jenny Caylor & Abigail Alexander*

- Order sheets have been passed out to students are due back before Spring Break. **Send in your pictures to Jenny Caylor for possible Yearbook inclusion.**

Sweetheart Dance *(given by Lindsay Foster) *Co-Chairs Kileigh Wolfe & Jennifer Hagar*

- To be held April 11 in the school gym, will be Candyland themed with a DJ! **Jennifer Hagar will be reaching out for volunteers.**

****Amanda McGrew** interested in Co-Chair next year.

Fifth Grade Party *(given by Lindsay Foster) *Co-Chairs Kileigh Wolfe & Lindsay Foster*

- To be held May 16, will be Carnival theme using games on hand in PTO closet, Ashley Bowser & Angie Turner volunteered to help.

****Jenny Caylor** agreed to Co-Chair next year with Lindsay Foster during 9/16 meeting

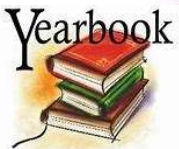
Son Plus One Event *(given by Lindsay Foster) *Co-Chairs Kileigh Wolfe & Lindsay Foster*

- Tincaps Baseball game set for May 4th, order forms will go out Mid-April. Decided on lawn seats so attendees may be free to roam & venture.

****Emily Wrona** agreed to Co-Chair next year during 9/16 meeting. **VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO CO-CHAIR NEXT YEAR.**

Teacher Appreciation *(given by Andrea Sponhower) *PTO Board*

- Aug-Breakfast; Sept-Fair Donuts; Oct-Candy, Pringles, Cookies & Boo Game; Nov-Mini pies; Dec-Texas Roadhouse carry-in lunch & fun game; Jan-Hydration Station; Feb-Souper Teachers; Mar-Trail Mix Bar; April DIY Succulent Terrarium & Easter Egg Hunt.





Committee Reports (cont'd)

Scholarships (given by Lindsay Foster)

- Ashley Sparkman will have scholarship applications ready for review by PTO Board soon.

School Kidz (given by Brandi Snider) *Co-Chairs Brandi Snider & Emily Wrona

- Grade level lists finalized for School kits; order forms will go out in late April/early May timing & will be due 5/20. Late orders due mid-June. Kits to arrive week before School Registration.



Skating Party (given by Eric Bowser) *Chaired by Eric Bowser

- 2 All School Skating Parties held on 11/19 & 2/18. Discussed possibility of incorporating a canned Food Drive for next year's parties.



Spirit Wear (given by Amanda McGrew) *Chaired by Amanda McGrew

- Working with Tammy Rieke on color selection/availability. Spring Spirit Wear Order forms will go out after Spring Break, for delivery around end of April.

Ronald McDonald Pop Tabs (given by Andrea Sponhower) *Co-Chairs Andrew Sponhower & Lindsay Foster

Coin Race (given by Lindsay Foster) *Chaired by Andrea Sponhower!

- First year, exceeded budget for earnings expectations. Raised \$4,073.06! Each grade will begin receiving their Grade Level Rewards this week.



Spring Fundraiser (given by Lindsay Foster) *Co-Chair Alison Todd

- Will be Rise N Roll instead of catalog fundraiser. Order forms went out this week, due back by 3/19. Pick up will be on Wed 4/16 in the Eagles Nest (right before Easter!)



Student Engagement (given by Andrea Sponhower) *Co-Chairs Andrea Sponhower & Lindsay Foster

- Students received suckers at start of school; Fruit Snacks @ Halloween; Candy Cane @ Christmas; Sunglasses @ Field Day.

Principal's Report (given by Austin Harrison)



Provided update on donation received from United Way to be used toward 4th Grade Field Trip to Indianapolis (A Big Thanks to Tyler Cleverly for coordinating). A couple years ago, state law was changed eliminating the ability to charge students for Field Trips, so teachers look to grants, donations, & PTO fundraising to help continue to make field trips possible.



State Testing has started & will continue through the end of the year. Third Graders took IREAD last week & Second Graders are taking it this week. If a Third Grade Student does not pass, Mr Harrison or Mrs. Quaintance will reach out with next steps(see Nov Meeting Mins for more on this). The 4-week Testing window for ILEARN begins mid-April for Third & Fifth graders.



Mr. Harrison shared the next chapter of Turkey Vulture Eradication Saga. He is working on a collaboration with the High School shop classes to construct and place posts so we can contract out new Canvas Sails to cover the playground equipment. JRW has obtained a permit from DNR & officials to eliminate up to 8 birds, however there are about 100, and would only consider this option if using as an effigy to ward off other birds. The birds aren't aggressive, however their waste on playground equipment presents a hygiene/health concern. Next steps the school is taking will be to move the mulch which contains the bird waste pheromones back by the woods, where they hope to create a new nesting area for these birds.



Member Feedback

Angie Turner brought up the USA Flag hanging in School gym is showing signs of wear & tear.

Can we look into possibility of replacing? Mr. Harrison will look into options.

Next Meeting is 5/12/25 at 6 pm in the JRW Cafeteria

Meeting adjourned at 6:37pm

Minutes compiled by Emily Wrona, PTO Recording Secretary