

Meeting Minutes

James R Watson Elementary PTO



Date/Time: Monday, Sept. 16th at 6:00pm **Location:** JRW School Cafeteria

Meeting called to Order by: *Lindsay Foster, President* **Time:** 6:04pm

Attendance: There were ~30 attendees; a quorum was reached. No guest speakers in attendance.

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



- Treasurer's report read & accepted (see attached). Andrea reports the '23-'24 School year PTO Income was higher than budgeted & Expenses were lower than budgeted.
- '23-'24 School year was first year covering Field Trips. New Fundraiser this year 'Coin Wars' will help fund Field Trips & playground maintenance.
- \$6k was taken out of General Fund for Back To School shirts (new students)
- Fall Fundraiser, Color Me Watson, raised \$19,096.11 (\$4,096.11 more than budgeted)

Committee Reports



Literacy Night-Trunk or Treat *(given by Lindsay Foster)*Co-Chair w/ Andrea Sponhower*

- Will take place Oct 3rd 5:30-7p. Students will visit trunks outside & follow a passport inside to the Book Fair. **TRUNK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.**

Box Tops *(given by Andrea Sponhower)*



- This year's Goal is \$600, Fourth grade won September's Popsicle party. October Winners will earn a Pajama Party.

Color Run Committee *(given by Angie Turner)*Co-Chair w/ Shaye Pfister*

- Thanks to all who volunteered to help! Popsicles were handed out this year instead of Kona Ice to avoid the yellow-jacket nuisance, & they were a hit.
- Next year will change Sponsor signs & will hand out popsicles again.
- Students who raised at least \$100 earned an Ice Cream party on Oct 9th. The class with the most funds raised will be announced soon & will get to 'Throw Pies' at Mr. Harrison on Oct 11th during a mini assembly with a performance by Rockin' Classics.

Yearbook *(given by Jenny Caylor) *Co-Chair w/ Abigail Alexander*

- Last year was 1st year for current yearbook vendor, will fine-tune some items this year.

Sweetheart Dance *(given by Kileigh Wolfe) *Co-Chair w/ Jennifer Hagar*

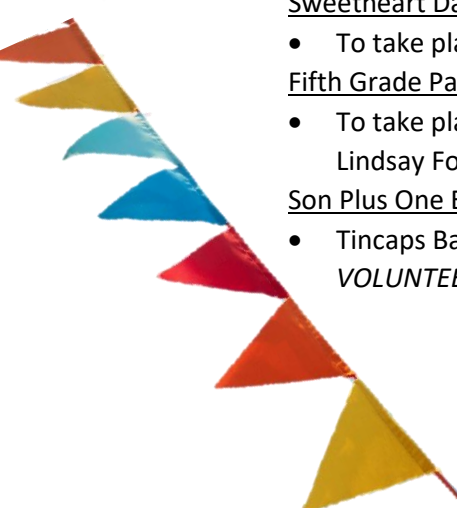
- To take place in April, date TBD.

Fifth Grade Party *(given by Kileigh Wolfe) *Co-Chair w/ Lindsay Foster*

- To take place in May, date/details TBD. Jenny Caylor agreed to Co-Chair next year with Lindsay Foster.

Son Plus One Event *(given by Kileigh Wolfe) *Co-Chair w/ Lindsay Foster*

- Tincaps Baseball game in May, date TBD. Emily Wrona agreed to Co-Chair next year. **VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO CO-CHAIR NEXT YEAR.**





Committee Reports (cont'd)

Teacher Appreciation (given by Lindsay Foster) *PTO Board

- August-Breakfast; September-Fair Donuts; Oct-Halloween Candy, remaining months TBD. **VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED FOR FEBRUARY SOUP CARRY-IN**

School Kits(given by Lindsay Foster)*Chaired by Jennifer Hagar

- New company used this year was hit, will use again next year. Brandi Snider & Emily Wrona agreed to Co-Chair next year.

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

- Will plan to have 2 school-wide parties; First one scheduled, more info to come.

Spirit Wear(given by Amanda McGrew)

- Order forms to come out soon, due before Fall Break to be delivered in time for gifting. Looking at different styles/designs, **OPEN TO REQUESTS**. A second Spirit Wear order will be offered in Spring.

Ronald McDonald Pop Tabs(given by Andrea Sponhower)*Co-Chair with Lindsay Foster

- Started last year and have collected 425,000 so far. GOAL = 1,000,000 tabs!

Spring Fundraiser(Catalogue) (given by Andrea Sponhower)*Co-Chair Alison Todd

- Will kick off in February, with orders delivered before Spring Break.

Student Engagement(given by Andrea Sponhower)*Co-Chair with Lindsay Foster

- Students received suckers, will receive Fruit Snack @ Halloween, Candy Cane @ Christmas, Sunglasses @ Field Day, and possibly more.

Dine to Donate(given by Lindsay Foster)

- New this year, 3 events scheduled so far. Dine to Donate @ Panda Express: JRW PTO will receive 50% of sales flagged on 9/18 from 10a-10p. Gift Card fundraiser to Texas Roadhouse before Christmas, & Dine to Donate @ Texas Roadhouse early 2025. Discussed Student Leadership Team facilitating table at Texas Roadhouse.

Principal's Report(given by Austin Harrison)

- Austin provided a brief introduction for new attending members of his background and career history. Shared the dynamic collaboration between the JRW Staff/Admin & PTO, all funds raised go directly back to the school/students/staff.
- Highlighted unique activities Wacky Water Day, College Go Week, Rocking Classics, which help keep students engaged.
- Discussed the opportunity to utilize our Safety Resource Officer(SRO), shared with 1 other elementary school, & the importance of an active police presence for students to engage with.
- Next meeting, Carrie Quaintance will be invited to present new IREAD3 program changes to the state law & what that means for students in Grades 2-3 & beyond. The State has set an IREAD3 Pass Rate Goal of 95% by 2027, JRW is at 95.2%! Mr. Harrison & select staff will join others in Indianapolis for recognition of this achievement.

Next Meeting is 11/18/24 at 6 pm in the Cafeteria

Meeting adjourned at 6:38pm

Minutes compiled by Emily Wrona, PTO Recording Secretary

