

**Jacob Wismer (JW) Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2014**

President's Report: Kathy Leis called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves. There were 14 people in attendance.

- Vote on amendments to bylaws: Last spring the Financial Reporter position was eliminated and therefore the wording on the bylaws needs to be updated to reflect this. Amendments were posted on the PTO board the past month. Wendy Gibson motioned to approve the amendments. Anne Daniels seconded. Kathy Leis to provide final bylaws for Erin Ertz to post on PTO site.
- Open PTO board positions: There are 4 open volunteer positions. VP of fundraising (2 year commitment), Co-Volunteer Coordinator (2 year commitment), Treasurer (2 year commitment) and Member at Large (1 year commitment). Nominations are open. Geralyn Kerprich, Kathy Leis and Kim Beaton are on the nominating committee. Will post open positions on PTO site, newsletter and bulletin board.
- 2014-2105 calendar: Joan McFadden, Kathy Leis, Tracy Bariao-Arce, and Lori Secker worked on the activities calendar for the next school year. The Fall Community event has a proposed date of Friday, October 17th, however there is no theme yet. There are a few changes to note below: See Principal's Report

Secretary's Report: Erin Ertz had no updates.

Principal's Report: Joan McFadden expressed her gratitude for all the treats during conferences!

- Parent Input Forms: Due the end of April. Teachers read these and they really do make a difference in placing kids with the right teachers.
- Staffing for next year: Number of positions will be known hopefully on April 21st; teacher assignments will not be finalized until summer.
- 2014-15 School Calendar: Will be moving Science Fair to January since there are so many spring activities. Will not be having Jump Start this year, as its too difficult to have classes done by then, but will incorporate it into Back to School Nights. Planning on having different tables set up for about 20-25 minutes, at which time classrooms will then be open. We also plan to mail welcome letter, class placement and after-school plans (bus, parent pick-up, etc) home the week before school starts.

- Four years ago, Arts for Learning received a 4 million dollar grant. At that time Jacob Wismer was not accepted, however we are now being given the opportunity to participate in this program. The program is twice a year in fall and spring, where grades 3rd, 4th and 5th have art curriculum that is infused into literacy. The same lessons are done throughout the district and is a series of 5 lessons. With this, we are provided an Artist in Residence at no cost. Very positive feedback from other schools that lessons are really good!

Community Partnership Team: Joan McFadden, Team is composed of Joan McFadden, Tracy Bariao-Arce, Nancy Spaulding (Cedar Mill Library), Tina Oki Le, Jillian Starr, Nina Kelley, Marnie Sadek, and Catherine Kerrigan.

The last all-district Community Partnership Teams meeting is scheduled for April 17th at the Nike Tiger Wood's Center. Looking forward to it!

Assistant Principals Report (Tracy Bariao-Arce) Joan McFadden provided update on Tracy's behalf, as Tracy Bariao-Arce was not in attendance.

- Roland Smith Author Assembly on Monday, April 14th. There will be a K-2 assembly from 8:45-9:30 in the gym. There will be a book signing in the upper level hallway, across from the 2nd grade pod from 9:30-9:55. The 3rd-5th grade assembly will be from 10-11am in the gym.
- All prepared for the Science Expo. 250 student projects will be displayed, Mad Science, a hands-on inquiry station, chemistry demonstrations and family math games.
- OAKS: 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classes have begun taking the OAKS Reading test in our upper lab.

VP Fundraising's Report: Wendy Gibson

- April Restaurant Night: Pasta-thon at Pastini's in Cedar Hills over two nights. Monday and Tuesday, April 28 and 29th. 50% of net proceeds goes to Jacob Wismer. Red Robin night to be sometime in May. Wendy Gibson working on getting in touch with the manager to coordinate.
- Innisbrook Fundraiser: Megan Schnell provided some feedback that catalog is only for fall; there is not a spring one. If we were to only offer an online option, people would be responsible for paying for shipping, and we would only be receiving 40% back. Feedback from Innisbrook is that doing just online sales hasn't been very successful. For Jacob Wismer in 2011, sales were \$15,000 (\$1,000 online), 2012 was \$16,000 (\$1,000 online) 2013 was

\$11, 653 (\$700 online). Megan Schnell to find out from Innisbrook the latest we could put orders in for Thanksgiving delivery. Megan Schnell to let Kathy Leis know.

VP Community Events Report:

- **Author Visits:** Anne Daniels provided the update in Jillian Starr's absence that Roland Smith will be here April 14th. Students have all received their book orders. Very excited about his presentation! Jillian Starr is looking for authors for next year and has been in touch with a few national authors. Joan McFadden brought up the idea of, in the future to cut down on costs of purchasing books for everyone, is instead having a large number of books in the library for the students to read and check out.
- **Celebrate the Arts:** Melody Stringer provided the update that Celebrate the Arts will start off with a short all-school choir to open the evening. Kids will be moved into library and will be able to walk around until performance(s) end. Different grade levels will be doing musical numbers. There will be a whole school art project that follows Beaverton District's theme of WE. All the kids will decorate a fish, which will then make a bigger fish out of all the small fish. There will be extra fish for siblings. There will also be a fun movement piece! The wonderful PE staff is putting together a fun activity. This year, there will be a room for teachers to display their art as well. There will be a musical open house where kids can sign up and perform, and there will be a special presentation by the Haiyan International Dance School at the end. The PVC display structure will be donated from another school for us to use. The volunteer sign-up sheet will be in the upstairs volunteer work room.
- **OSOB:** Nina Kelley provided the update that One School One Book is right around the corner. The kids are going to find out more at the OSOB assembly on Friday, April 18th. Nina Kelley and Tracy Bariao-Arce have worked together to put together PowerPoint to present to the kids. This year, there will be a hamster and a fish that will reside at Jacob Wismer. The kids will get to name both the fish and hamster. Nina Kelley has already chosen names for them to vote on. Will have family reading board again which will encourage kids to read with their family, pet or stuffed animal. Bulletin boards around the school will contain clues about the name of books. There will be a website for OSOB and each day there will be a teacher reading a section of the book out loud so that kids can either listen or read along. After kids are done reading the book, they can bring books back and they will be donated to the Childrens Book Bank.

Volunteer Coordinator's Report: Geralyn Kerprich, Sarah Plocher: No updates.

- Running Club: Amy Charon reported that running club is going great and that she is combining all the laps ran in Mr. Arnold's running PE class and Running Club laps. This way kids can combine all their laps in order to earn their milestone charm for total miles ran. Brainstorming ideas for next year.
- Beaverton Clothes Closet is in strong need for all kinds of clothes and their budget is getting very low. Geralyn Kerprich made a motion to donate \$300 to the immediate need of the Beaverton Clothes Closet. Nina Kelley seconded. Karen Patsy to send a check to the Clothes Closet. Ideas of having a clothes drive was discussed.

Member at Large Report: Shanna Lonquist – No updates. Shanna Lonquist brought up that McKinley Elementary has a reading club before school and wants to know if we have any books to donate through April. They are in need of any books and all reading levels.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Patsy reported that most teachers have gotten in their requests for reimbursement. Karen Patsy is sending emails to teachers letting them know what they have left to spend.

PTO Liaison: Dan Silver provided grade level reports.

- 5th grade, we are all having our Junior Achievement volunteers present the JA curriculum "Our Nation." The Outdoor School paperwork is getting turned in and is due Friday. Students will be able to provide input about their cabin mate choices next week, and we'll be heading to Cedar Ridge before you know it!
- 4th grade has kicked off on the Oregon Trail. We are doing simulations and two classes are making Oregon Trail comics with an artist in resident. We have two field trips on the books and thank you to PTO for grade level funds as well as transportation money! We are going on Tuesday, April 29 to the Ridgefield, Washington area to visit the Lalooska Cedar Plank House and learn about the Chinook way of life. Then, on May 13/14, classes will go to Phillip Foster Farm by Eagle Creek, Oregon to learn about the Pioneer way of life.
- 3rd grade is working on our Portland unit. The Washington County Mobile Museum is being used. The Oregon Historical Society has a traveling trunk that we will get to explore more about Portland. A culminating activity of our Portland unit is a walking field trip in Portland.

- 2nd grade is excited to be observing life cycles with tadpoles turning to frogs, caterpillars to butterflies, and mealworms to beetles. We bought magnets and science materials with the rest of our PTO money. Thank you PTO! We recently went to OMSI for the planetarium (solar system) and Tony Hawk exhibit (simple machines).
- 1st Grade we have been learning about how to keep our bodies healthy - dental care, germs, proper hand washing, diet and exercise. One of the things we did was to make a mouth full of teeth (using mini-marshmallows - kind of an oxymoron) and use it to learn how to brush our teeth properly for 2 min. For exercise, Mrs. Knighten's class learned The Brain Dance. Free lessons to all PTO members who would like to learn it! We are heading into geometry for math. We look forward to it because the kids all love the hands-on activities.
- Kindergarten had great conferences with our parents! Our students are ready for first grade! We have two in-house field trips this month, thank you to the funds from PTO! We are having a zoo visit this week, and an OMSI visit in a couple of weeks. We also used some funds for new supplies for our classrooms! We soooo appreciate the extra funds this year! We are practicing our songs for our spring daytime concert!

Music:

- Kindergarten and 1st: Students had fun creating music for *Where the Wild Things Are*. Instruments that “illustrated” the various characters were chosen, and students followed the conductor's cues when playing. We are learning about jazz and creating movements for jazz music. The new scarves are very popular with the kids!
- 2nd Grade: Students are enjoying their recorder unit. They have learned the notes B, A, and G, and love playing “BAG” songs.
- 3rd Grade: We are continuing with recorders and xylophones. Students are learning some Shona-style xylophone songs from Zimbabwe. Working on these multi-layered pieces helps develop concentration, cooperation, and listening skills as students focus on their parts. It is very joyful music that is fun to play, and it sounds wonderful!
- 4th and 5th Grade: Students are almost finished with their xylophone compositions, and they are great! Students not only contribute musical phrases, they also decide where the phrases should be placed in the overall piece. Dynamics, tempo, and form are discussed during this unit. The collaboration piece is exciting. It is very interesting to hear the kids discuss things such as why a phrase works well, or which two phrases should be played at the same time, or at what tempo a phrase should be played. Many smaller groups have branched off and are working on new compositions.

New Business: None.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.