

**Jacob Wismer (JW) Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)  
Meeting Minutes  
May 7, 2014**

**President's Report:** Kathy Leis called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Introductions were bypassed. There were 14 people in attendance.

- Proposed PTO Board 2014-2015: PTO Board met this week with the 4 new proposed board members that Geralyn Kerprich has recruited for the 2014-2015 year. New PTO Board is as follows:
    - ❖ President – Kathy Leis (staying in position)
    - ❖ V.P. of Community Events – Anne Daniels (staying in position)
    - ❖ V.P. of Fundraising – Bradi Gates (new member)
    - ❖ Co-Volunteer Coordinator – Sarah Plocher (staying in position)
    - ❖ Co-Volunteer Coordinator – Mary Kelly Rossow (new member)
    - ❖ Treasurer – Latsy Walker (new member)
    - ❖ Secretary – Erin Ertz (staying in position)
    - ❖ Member at Large – Tammy Robb (new member)
- The proposed board will be voted in at the next PTO meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Secretary's Report:** Erin Ertz had no updates.

**Principal's Report:** Joan McFadden

- Staff Appreciation Week was so much fun and so much appreciated. Thank you so much for all the great food, raffle and flowers!
- Due to WE CARE not being here the last week of school, could the Rainbow Dance Theater be a replacement? This was suggested by Colin Arnold. Joan McFadden to find out the cost and let Kathy Leis know.
- The Glass Fuse Art Installation is moving forward and a contractor is in place. Not sure of timeline (either spring or summer)
- Staffing allocations for each school has not been finalized, but should have a report for PTO in June.

**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.

- Attended big district wide celebration on April 17<sup>th</sup> at Nike Headquarters.
- Committee decided focus will be on technology and are looking at different programs to support this.

- Jillian Starr and Kathleen High will be going to Montclair and Raleigh Hills to observe their specialized tech programs on May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Nina Kelley wanted to ask (via text relayed by Karen Patsy) how the extra music and PE time will fit into the Specials schedule next year. Joan McFadden responded that the location is going to be out in the portable because we have open classrooms. Hoping to get another classroom teacher so that we have 2 PE and 2 music.

### **Assistant Principals Report (Tracy Bariao-Arce)**

- Science Expo was a huge success! There were approximately 250 students who displayed their science projects in the gym. There was an exciting chemistry demonstration, students practiced inquiry skills to make cars travel the farthest distance, families played math games, and many students' eggs successfully endured the egg drop from the roof!
- Kindergarten orientation was last month. Had a great turnout with some familiar faces, and many new families.
- Celebrate the Arts is Thursday night. Choir and grade levels will be singing, informal music performances, beautiful student art displays, all school art project with "swimmy" feel, teacher art. Finale will be a performance by Haiyan International Dance Academy.
- Met with Ken Derbenti for next year's Artist in Residence. First choice is Tears of Joy Puppet Theatre where students would be making own puppets and doing a puppet show. Not finalized yet.

**VP Fundraising's Report:** Wendy Gibson reported that we don't have totals from pasta-thon yet. Trying to secure another restaurant night at Pizza Schmizza before the end of the year.

### **VP Community Events Report: Anne Daniels**

- Author Visits: Jillian Starr
  - ❖ Jillian Starr reported that people really enjoyed having author Roland Smith here. He was a lot of fun and informative.
  - ❖ Booked author, Aaron Becker, for September 16<sup>th</sup>. NY Times Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year in 2013 for Journey. Aaron Becker has had many great reviews. His visit will be free.
  - ❖ Next year, we won't be ordering classroom books, but will be working with Tina Le and coordinating through the library. I-Shaun Warr is going to do author displays next year.

- ❖ Putting together list of authors for Joan McFadden, Tracy Bariao-Arce and for teachers to look at. There are some good possibilities for line-up next year.

**Volunteer Coordinator's Report: Geralyn Kerprich, Sarah Plocher:**

- Kathy Leis provided Geralyn Kerprich's update in her absence that most of the Chair positions have been filled for next year. There are a lot of people returning to do their Chairs.
- Field day – Geralyn Kerprich and Sarah Plocher met with Colin Arnold and his plan is use field day funds and recess funds to buy whatever he needs for field day this year. Letting kids know next week that it will be over 2 days on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Colin Arnold would like to have popsicles for field day. Geralyn Kerprich to look into securing donations for popsicles.

**Member at Large Report: Shanna Lonquist – No updates**

**Treasurer's Report: Karen:** Karen Patsy passed out budget for attendees to review. Karen went through the proposed budget by line item. Budgeted expenses for 2014-2015 school year: \$45,000

PTO will vote on proposed budget at next meeting.

- Wendy Gibson mentioned that Huntington Learning Center is interested in donating to our school. If there are any supplies, or specific needs for our school to please let them know.

**PTO Liaison: Dan Silver**

From all teachers/staff: Thank you all so much for the amazing week! WOW! The staff room looks amazing and we appreciate the tremendous amount of time and planning that went into Teacher Appreciation week. The week has just started and we already feel so grateful! The breakfast, the lunches, the snacks, the cookies, the raffle, the raffle, the raffle! Goodness! We feel very appreciated! Thank you all so much!

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Spring finds us launching into a large study on plants. We have begun by sorting seeds, comparing seeds, measuring and weighing seeds and looking at the inside of a seed. If you soak lima beans overnight and open them very carefully, you can see the baby plant leaves and root. It's actually called an embryo! Wednesday, May 7 is our big Special Interest Fair. Students put together a folder at home with information about some special interest they have - hobby, sport, collection, musical instrument, etc. They display the folders on their desks along with any

related items they've brought that are related to the interest. Then, all of the first graders visit each first grade room to look at everyone's projects.

We received some fabulous books thanks to the PTO money we had left. We will now have leveled reading books for instruction that correlate with our major units of study. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

Second grade is continuing our study of plant and animal life cycles (our tadpoles are just about to grow hind legs!). The author visit from Roland Smith provided a perfect foundation for our informational writing unit. Our classes are currently working on (or will be starting) insect reports. They have enjoyed using a variety of library books and websites to find information about their insects. Thank you PTO for investing in author visits, our school library, and technology at JW! We feel very supported with resources and enrichment opportunities for the kids. Our classes all love the OSOB and the school pets. GREAT book selection and activities. This is a fantastic community-building experience.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Learning about Portland. Field trip May 15th. Portland Walking Tour. Washington Co. Mobil Museum coming next week. Multiplication unit in math.

## **4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

We are just about done with photocopying/assembling all of the history comics. We are well on our way with our wagon train simulations and projects. Our field trip to the Lelooska Cultural Arts Center was a big hit and we are gearing up to go on our second trip to Phillip Foster Farms next week. Last week we held International Business Day where students bought and sold items in our mini society we created. Mrs. Yarnell's class is practicing an original musical which will be about pioneers on the Oregon Trail, Mrs. Guevarra's and Mrs. Johnston's classes are working on family history projects, and Mr. Silver's class will create a whole class stop motion animation movie about life on The Oregon Trail.

## **Music**

All classes have been working on their grade-level performances for *Celebrate the Arts*. Each grade level will perform one or two songs. The kids sound great!

**Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup>:** We are learning about the instruments of the orchestra, and their respective "families." Students at this age are very apt at deciding which instruments would best portray different ideas, or themes. We are watching

various parts of *Fantasia 2000*, and also listening to Benjamin Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*. Here is a delightful quote from a kindergartner: "My favorite orchestra family is the Concussion Family!"

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Students are continuing with recorders. We are forming groups of two, three, or four, and playing one piece from our repertoire for the class. They are so enthusiastic and sound great! We are focusing on proper finger placement and a full, "round" -- not loud -- sound.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** We are continuing with our Shona-style xylophone songs from Zimbabwe. Students are really enjoying these, while working hard to perfect individual parts.

**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** The class xylophone compositions are finally finished, and the kids are so proud of their accomplishments! Many small groups have presented their compositions to the class. We are also working on the Shona-style pieces. 4<sup>th</sup> graders took a small break from the xylophones to learn some pioneer songs and dances.

**New Business:** The back-up plan for rain on Field day will be the undercover area and recess will be moved.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm.