

## Jacob Wismer Elementary School PTO

### Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2012

**President's Report:** Kim Beaton welcomed everyone & called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. There were 25 people in attendance.

**Secretary's Report:** Julia Gaynor presented the June 2012 meeting minutes. Liz motioned that the minutes be approved. Megan Schnell seconded the motion. The motion was voted on & passed.

**Principal's Report:** Joan McFadden encouraged people to come to Back to School Night. The district transferred 365 employees all by union contract. Several Jacob Wismer (JW) staff members transferred to different schools. JW lost some very good friends & colleagues & gained some excellent educators. The new staff have said they feel very welcome.

JW has fewer teachers; larger class sizes than last year. The smallest JW class is 28; largest is 34. At other schools class size is as high as 39-40. Each Friday the District takes an enrollment count & plans for adjustments. Joan thinks that JW won't lose or gain staff. Superintendent Jeff Rose visited JW on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of school. Things are going smoothly here.

On a lease-to-own agreement, the District got each teacher a laptop because the District converted to Synergy student information system. JW teachers get the laptop once they bring their old computer to JW's computer lab.

Bus 6 has been getting to JW 25-30 minutes late in the afternoon. It starts at Barnes & gets out early, so it picks up Barnes first & drops them off. Joan has been telling Transportation that this must not go on.

In response to Geralyn Kerprich's question, Joan explained that there are two P.E. classes in one rotation. There is a P.E. teacher, Andrea Pfau, & Chelsea Sanderson. Joan noted other staffing changes.

**VP of Fundraising** Wendy Gibson said that Taekwondo in Bethany is offering a program for JW students where Taekwondo will match \$ paid for a class they are offering with a donation to the PTO. There will be a fundraiser through Piccolo Mondo toy store in Bethany Village, date to be announced. Biscuits Restaurant said will help promote fundraisers for JW. Wendy is working on a variety of shopping/restaurant fundraiser events. A Sweet Tomatoes fundraiser is scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup> 6-8 p.m.

Megan Schnell explained the Sept. 17-Oct. 1st Innisbrook fundraiser & said that JW gets up to 50% of profits from Innisbrook sales.

**VP of Community Events** Lynn Hartigan stated that the Jacob Wismer Carnival is on Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 6-9 p.m. Info going out about pre-ticket sales & other info. Games, food, fun. Many volunteers & raffle items are needed.

**Volunteer Coordinators** Co-Coordinator Nina Kelley said that Co-Volunteer Coordinator Geralyn Kerprich will work with the Class Coordinators. There is a class coordinator for each class to schedule that class' volunteers. Nina will send out school-wide messages & help chairs with volunteer scheduling via the HelpCounter system. Nina said that there is new software that JW PTO has been able to use with which the committee chairs will be able to set up volunteer events directly in HelpCounter.

**Member at Large** Kim Beaton gave Jillian Starr a big thank you for organizing the New Family Welcome, especially since Jillian is new to the school.

**Treasurer/Financial Reporter** Kim introduced Financial Reporter Chitra Tovinkere & explained that the Financial Reporter position was created last year to take some of the duties that the Treasurer was doing in order for the PTO to have currently recommended accounting practices. Chitra explained that the JW PTO's account was moved from Key Bank to Bank of America. Chitra posted the July 24<sup>th</sup>-September 30<sup>th</sup> 2012 Profit & Loss Budget Overview Report for the meeting's attendees to view. Most of the income so far this school year was gathered at Jump Start. Laurel Parc seniors donated \$130 that shows in Jog a thon.

**Site Council/Community Engagement Group (formerly LSC):** Joan explained that the Group approves building use permits. The group is also working on a program to educate students about STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) careers with two JW parents. The Group's first meeting will be in mid-October.

**Arts** Liz Caswell said that the first Art Literacy trainings will be on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Liz gave an overview of the Art Literacy projects planned for the school year. The new Art Lit laptop is up & working. Liz used money left over in her budget from last year for a new projector. Celebrate the Arts will be on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Liz said that she & Len Mathis have finished all of the planning & preparation for this years' Art Literacy projects. Kim Beaton explained that Len is a retired art teacher who volunteers his time for Art Lit.

**PTO Liaisons:** Liaison & fourth grade teacher Barb Yarnell introduced herself & said that she, fourth grade teacher Dan Silver & third grade teacher Allison Guilfoyle will share the PTO liaison role. She said that the staff is feeling the effects of the budget cuts. For example, Everyday Math supplies are running out & the District has not planned to buy more.

**New Business:** None.

**Adjournment:** Kim adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.