

**Jacob Wismer (JW) Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2013**

President's Report: Kathy Leis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. There were 26 people in attendance.

Secretary's Report: Erin Ertz sent around minutes. Brian Hamilton and Wendy Gibson moved to approve last year's June meeting minutes. Minutes were approved with no edits.

Principal's Report: Joan McFadden

So far the school year has been off to a very smooth start, with the exception of just a few kids experiencing separation anxiety.

- Kindergarten assessments, which are a new mandate from the state, started the first week of school. This occurred so that teachers would have critical one on one time with each student and teacher feedback was that it was very valuable.
- The upper parking lot area now has white (pvc pipe) barriers at the pick up/drop off area which has been making pick-up easier and safer for the students. Joan McFadden said to let her know about any other problem (safety) areas we witness which might need addressing.
- PE classes will be a little different this year. There will be two different classes. Colin Arnold will be teaching traditional PE, whereas Chelsea Sanderson will manage and teach cardio health PE classes. During cardio health PE, kids will be walking/running around the track and keeping a tally of their laps and miles. The Jog-a-thon will contribute to their total overall mileage and kids will be given a special prize once they reach 25 miles. The portable building adjacent to the track area will be cleared out and used for water breaks and will have special cubbies so kids can store their items.
- Teacher conferencing will be different this year. Parents will sign up for their student's conference starting October 7th – 23rd in the main hall near the office. Conferences will be October 30th and October 31st.
- Third grade classes are very large. Currently class sizes are 34, 34, 34 and 33. Joan McFadden will find out in October if we will be receiving a new teacher to help offset the 3rd grade class size.
- District has mandated that report cards be based and evaluated on end of the year goals, developing in 4 categories of the Common Core State Standards.

More information can be found on the home page of Jacob Wismer's website.

- Carnival items need a home. Wendy Gibson has graciously volunteered to store the items for the time being.

Community Engagement Committee: Joan McFadden

- Joan McFadden is currently recruiting for this committee. The committee meets three times, once every trimester. Joan McFadden has spoken to two people from the New Family Welcome meeting who may be interested. Let her know if interested.
- GERALYN KERPRICH expressed concern that it seemed lunches were being shortened and students not having enough time to eat. Joan confirmed that a two minute transition was put into all the lunch schedules so that a shift for kindergarten lunch could be added. Previously, kindergarten had been sharing lunch with the third graders. Students have 18 minutes for lunch, 18 minutes for recess and 2 minutes for transition.

VP of Fundraising Report: Wendy Gibson

- Winter Sock Hop – This will be a new community event, taking the place of the carnival. The Sock Hop will be February 21st 6:00-8:00pm and the entrance fee will be a pair of new and unopened pair of socks or underwear to be donated to the Beaverton Clothes Closet. The Sock Hop will be a fun 50s themed dance event with a DJ and will include activities such as a hula hoop contest, possible race car derby, and more. More info to come. Wendy Gibson will need volunteers to help implement this event.
- Jog-a-thon – This is the biggest fundraiser of the year with a goal of raising \$30,000. This will take a large effort from every student and parent. The Jog-A-Thon will be held on Wednesday, October 2nd. Kindergarten will run or walk for 15 minutes and grades 1st - 5th will run or walk for 30 minutes. Kids will have lap cards to help track every lap. Pledges are due by October 16th. Students are being asked to bring their own water bottles this year.
- Innisbrook fundraiser is coming up. The students will be getting their packets to bring home on Monday, September 16th. Assemblies will be held during lunch periods. 50% of profits goes right back to Jacob Wismer, which is higher than last year. There will be lots of prizes!
- Target Gift Cards – Last year's promotion ran on Facebook. The first 25 votes, you get \$25 gift card. Last years total was \$87.50. The PTO was going to donate money to a school in Washington that had extensive fire damage, but due to students being redistributed all over to other schools, it

was difficult to determine where the money should be allocated. Therefore, a motion was raised to redistribute those funds back into Jacob Wismer to be used for the Giving Tree, directly supporting our teachers. The motion was passed.

VP of Community Events Report: Anne Daniels

Ken Derbenti was planning to meet with Joan McFadden, Tracy Bariao and Lisa Wilcke to explore a location for the art installation. Lisa Wilcke is the artist in residence.

Volunteer Coordinators Report: Geralyn Kerprich and Sarah Plocher

- **Training Dates/Background Checks** - The volunteer orientation training for new and repeat volunteers will be held on Monday, Sept 23rd at 8:45am in the cafeteria. Volunteers who are unable to come should contact Sarah Plocher or Geralyn Kerprich. Class coordinators meet on Monday, September 30th in the cafeteria.
- **Giving Tree** – Each teacher gets three leaves at a time which have items that teachers need for their classroom. With parent permission, students can pick a leaf and purchase that item for the teacher. Reminder to get your background check and to always have volunteer badge on.
- **School Directory** – Carol Fandel requesting volunteer help in doing the directory. Two years ago had contest for cover art. Will be doing contest again and entries are due by October 18th. Volunteer(s) will help collect art, help compile all entries and then put up in staff room. Staff votes on favorites. There were 74 entries last year.
- **Beaverton Clothes Closet** - Wednesday November 6th is the Jacob Wismer day to volunteer. Needing lots of volunteers this year!
- **Scholastic Book Fair** - The hours will be changing this year. Wednesday, November 20th from 9:00-6:00pm, Thursday, November 21st from 9:00-6:00pm and ending earlier on Friday, November 22nd from 9:00-4:00pm. Last year the book fair raised \$12,000. 50% in scholastic dollars that we can give back.
 - Discussion that Birthday books will need to be hardcover due to soft cover not holding up over time.
- **Fall Author Visit** – Jillian Starr has set up an author visit for grades 3, 4 and 5th on October 21st with NY Times Bestseller, Stephan Pastis (author of “Timmy Failure: Mistakes Were Made”). Jillian Starr spoke with a teacher in Houston who said that the kids absolutely loved having him! Students will be able to pre-order by email which will be due on Tuesday, October 1st.

There will also be a poster contest. Jillian Starr also has a list of 5 potential upcoming author visits and the teachers will narrow it down to 3 to invite.

Member at Large Report: Shanna Lonquist

Shanna Lonquist reported that the New Family Welcome meeting went smoothly.

Treasurer Report: Karen Patsy

Jump start donations totaled \$10,382, Directory donations were \$1,182, and Party donations were \$2,273. Karen Patsy explained where PTO monies will get donated. Jumpstart forms were due by Friday, September 13th.

PTO Liason: Dan Silver

Highly recommends going to back-to-school nights. In the future, Dan is looking forward to being the Teacher Liason and giving ongoing updates from the classrooms.

New Business: Brian Hamilton provided update on Learn to Earn Banking. This is a great program where kids can do banking at school and watch their savings grow. Friday, September 27th is the first bank date. Every Friday that there is school, from 8:15-8:30am, kids have the opportunity to open and deposit money into their own bank accounts. There are about 200 kids involved in program.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.