

# Washington Elementary School PTO Board Meeting

April 9, 2024 6:00 - 7:00pm

## Meeting Attendees:

Michelle Craig	Megan Little	Amy Quinn	Janene Bolt
Ope Oloyede	Peter Cales	Alison Sobczyk	Kakie McGill
Gwyneth Cliver	Emily Natal	Lisa Price	Alicia Gillespie
Annie Grace	Taylor Borchert	Craig Moody	Callyann Casteel
Michelle Kiel	Kelsey Fischer		

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Motion to approve March PTO meeting minutes passes.
- III. Reports
  - A. Principal's Report
    1. We had a successful spring concert. Next school year, we plan to hold the ensemble performance at the end of February and the grade level performance at the end of April.
    2. Thank you for the field day t-shirts! We have the Elmwood Park pavilion reserved, and permission slips are going home. Mr. Z is in charge of running field day this year.
    3. Thank you for the spring conference dinner!
    4. The eclipse viewing yesterday went well. PTO funds approved for the purchase of eclipse glasses at the March meeting were not used.
    5. The egg drop is scheduled for May 16th (rain date: May 17th).
    6. The family lunch picnic is scheduled for May 20th.
    7. Flag football for 5th and 6th graders started this week. Mr. Marcus and Mr. Stessman are coaching.
    8. Reading NSCAS and MAP testing is going on this week. Science will be next, then math. Thank you for writing postcards to encourage students during testing. We made sure everyone had a card.
    9. Mrs. Gillespie will be on leave from April 24th-29th for her son's wedding.
    10. Mrs. Connor is retiring at the end of this school year after 34 or 35 years. She will be greatly missed!
  - B. Teacher & Staff Report
    1. Lisa Price, 2nd grade
      - a) Students are celebrating the end of the reading railroad 100 book challenge with ice cream sundaes this week.
    2. Emily Natal
      - a) All 3rd through 6th grade students will get to go to an ice skating party at Motto McLean ice rink on May 2nd after NSCAS testing is finished. Thanks to Michelle Craig for setting this up!
  - C. Presidents' Report
    1. Family fun night - Thanks to Michelle Craig!
    2. Benches - We received half of the order (4 sides and hardware but no seats or backs).
    3. Conference dinner
    4. Bertha Bruckner scholarships - Two scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors that went to Washington. We had 5 applications and selected Jessica Prince and Sophia O'Hara.
  - D. Treasurers' Report
    1. Current balance is about \$34,000. A more thorough report will be given next meeting.
    2. For the year, income is about \$12,000 less than expected, and expenses are about \$8,000 less than expected.
    3. The kids love the gaga pit, but it has led to some visits to the nurse. We could sand and paint the wood eventually if that would help.
    4. Transactions made on the PTO website are not specific at Dundee Bank. We should see if we can make this better.

#### IV. Actions & Decisions

##### A. Nominating Committee

1. We had 30 responses to the survey. Thank you to all the volunteers!
2. A discussion of the bylaws pointed out that no person should stay in the same executive board position for more than 2 consecutive years. Also, the VP Treasurer position should have a 1st year and 2nd year board member. People liked the idea of having a 1st and 2nd year volunteer in other positions on the board, too.
3. We will vote on the slate at our next meeting.
  - a) Presidents: Kakie McGill and Craig Moody
  - b) 1st VPs: Janene Bolt and Taylor Borchert
  - c) VP Treasurer: Annie Grace and Emily Moody
  - d) VP Secretary: Gwyneth Cliver and Ope Oloyede
  - e) VP Fundraising: Megan Little and Alison Sobczyk

##### B. Planning for Carnival

1. We will try a new layout on the east parking lot and field this year. There will be no tables to eat at this year.
2. The pizza has been ordered from Godfather's and will cost \$900. We need a volunteer to return the hot bags to Godfather's at the end of carnival.
3. We need one more cooler. - Gwyneth Cliver offered one.
4. Wristbands will be \$8 in advance and \$10 on the day of the event. Two cash boxes (\$300 in each) will be needed early in the day on Friday for wristband and spirit wear sales. Square and Venmo will also be available. (Venmo charges 3% on each transaction.)
5. Sign Up Geniuses will be going to staff and families soon.
6. Green Team will have an east side clean up focus at their next meeting.

##### C. Spend Money Taskforce

1. Playground games
  - a) We haven't received a callback from OPS regarding paint options, but we found a good product for longevity. We plan to buy one gallon each of 8 colors (black and white last 5-6 years, other colors last 2-3 years), no primer is needed. Price is \$60 a gallon. Amy Quinn will pressure wash the area before painting and get stencils and brushes. We will start painting this weekend, then finish it in pieces. Motion to approve \$800 for purchasing paint and supplies passes.
2. Trees: planting this spring
  - a) We will plant at the next Green Team meeting if the trees are available.
3. Landscaping: planting this spring
  - a) Creeping juniper is still on the way. Plantings will take a couple of years to fill out.
  - b) We have \$400 from the previous girl scout troop fund to use to spruce up the front of the building.
4. 6th grade program budget - No budget was specified, but there is money left in the miscellaneous fund that could be used. The treasurers will provide the available amount.
5. Dirt from digging for the concrete pads for the benches can go where the sandbox used to be on the west playground. We might start this weekend.

##### D. Fundraising Committee

1. eCreamery report out
  - a) Ice cream pint pickup is on Thursday. We had \$5,000 in pint sales (\$2,500 will go to PTO). 5% of sales at eCreamery from 3-7pm on Thursday will also go to PTO. A reminder will go out on social media and email.

##### E. Brick Sales

1. We sold 14 bricks and will add one for Mrs. Connor, bringing the total sold to 15.

##### F. Teacher Appreciation Week

1. The current budget is \$1,000. Motion to add \$300 to make the budget \$1,300 passes.
2. We will plan to stock the fridge with favorites from teachers' lists, put treats in mailboxes, and provide lunch midweek.
3. A monthly snack cart sponsored by families was suggested as an idea for the future.

G. Mrs. Connor's Retirement

1. Ideas for recognizing Mrs. Connor were discussed. Craig Moody and Mrs. Gillespie will finalize the plans for this.

V. Asynchronous Updates

A. Spend Money Taskforce

1. Benches: partially arrived as of 4/5/24

B. Upcoming Activities

1. Apr 11: eCreamery fundraiser pickup (3:00 - 7:00pm)
2. Apr 28: Green Team Grounds Clean Up (9:00am - noon)
3. May 6 - 10: Teacher Appreciation Week
4. May 10: Carnival (6:00 - 8:00pm)
5. May 14: PTO Meeting (6:00 - 7:00pm)

VI. Adjourn: Go Wildcats!