

Washington Elementary School PTO Board Meeting

March 10, 2026 6:00 - 7:00pm

Welcome and Introductions & Michelle	(5 mins)	Kakie
Amber Kuhn		
Peter Cales		
Alison Sobczyk		
Sam Constance		
Emily Moody		
Michelle Kiel		
Michelle Craig		
Abby Fargo		
Chelsea Cottrell		
Alicia Gillespie		
Kakie McGill		
Annie Jameson		

Will move this week of PTO meeting next year so that it doesn't fall on the week of conferences for teachers.

- I. Approval of February [minutes](#) (1 mins)
*Requires Vote

Motion to approve – moved and second – all in favor

III. Reports

A. Principal's Report	(10 mins)	Mrs. Gillespie
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4th quarter started, thank you for sponsoring our meals. Next Level learning is at walnut hill. Will be at Washington likely next summer. We will start testing the week of 31st. One full week back before map and nscats testing. Encourage parents to write post cards with words of encouragement. Will try to do a reward for students who put in a lot of effort. Bounce house. We are trying to keep up on attendance goal and test scores. We will have staffing movements. We are fully staffed now, but I am not quite ready to share was is finalized. Make sure all offers have been accepted before I can talk about it.

Why the attendance change? I have a hard time blaming the kids. We are not the home attendance for some kids. It is the same few kids. We will probably never have perfect attendance.

Flyer came home, encouraged to make an attendance flyer and decorate it. It will get judged and best ones will get gift cards. We do currently have 6 kids with perfect attendance which is great.

Peter Cales – one thing I notice in my classroom is make an appointment in the middle of the day and then the kids don't come back. Totally unaccounted for attendance miss.

Have some families that have certain situations that we understand but 40 absences a year, year after year is a lot.

A. Teacher & Staff Report (5 mins)

B. Presidents' Report (0 mins)

Kakie & Michelle

1. High fives!

- a. Classroom Valentine's Day Parties (Heidi Thomson)
- a. Eileen's Cookies Fundraiser (James and Rob)
- b. Family Fun Night: Ice Skating (Michelle)

D. Treasurers' Report (5 mins)

Emily & Abby

It's been a quiet month, not much has changed. Spirit wear sales – we saw a couple on wix and I paid a couple simple bills. Our balance is about 35,000. Whoever bought Valentines treats has not been paid yet. Conference dinners still needs paid and spring fundraiser can be reimbursed. Field day is coming soon. Let us know what you need reimbursed for. I just paid the babysitter \$25 for an hour for 8 kids.

Brick link is still open – we are going to try to sell again in the spring. Should we target 6th graders? Isn't that who usually buys them? Leave it open so that we can open the ordering again.

E. Fundraising (5 mins)

Rob & James

Cookie orders went well. On to ecreamery, this will be our last fundraiser for the year. Rob has planned sales window to open March 30-April 17. Can have people pick up April 29/30 OR have them deliver it. Will arrange to bring staff's orders to Washington. Flavors – we can pick up to 8. Rob will make executive decision on the 8 to choose. They recommend \$10 per pint and we keep \$5. Will have kids pick the names. Each grade will get assigned a flavor to name.

Is the picture package a fundraiser? On the flyer it says it is a spring fundraiser. Mrs. Gillespie will look into that.

F. Financial Strategy Committee (5 mins)

James

No major updates. Working on interest form survey to get an assessment on where the values are. That works out because we have a couple more surveys going out.

G. Nominating Committee (5 mins)

Kakie

- 1. March PTO Volunteer Interest Form (due March 27?)
- 2. April 14th: Submit slate of officers
- 3. May 12th: Vote

PTO interest form is live! It went out in the meeting email but we will send a separate email that is individual to the specific interest form. 30th is the deadline and when the link will go down. Will give committee time to look over interest and decide on new slate of officers.

IV. Discussions & Actions

- A. Washington Enrichment Activities (5 mins) Annie
1. Next Steps (Survey)
 2. Do we want a partial version for the classrooms?

If there are parents interested, can we add volleyball and soccer to the enrichment activities? Mrs. G always puts it out to staff first, but we can open it up to parents. The children need to tell Mrs. G if they are interested in volleyball or soccer. Mr. Cales asked the teachers to gauge interest from female students about volleyball.

- B. New Ideas and Topics (5 mins)
Michelle

Michelle has located the Boo Bash items.

We have a ton of cups and plates and decorations in a cabinet that has always been locked. Now it is open, and we can use these items for 6th grade celebration.

6th grade celebration has \$700 to spend on 6th grade celebration.

6th grade memory book – ask teachers for photos. We have to be careful about asking parents for photos because we want to make sure there is equal representation.

Family Fun Night – next year something to replace movie night in September. Dinner and bounce house on the field? Right after school on a Friday with hotdogs? Ask people to pay \$5 per meal. Stay after school to socialize and meet other families. We could adjust the budget for that and pay for hot dogs, hot dog buns, Costco chips. Keep it simple. Nix the bounce house. Just let the kids play. Ask parents to bring something.

Tin Can is an old fashioned 1990s landline that hooks up to wifi. Buy for \$85. Parents are trying to get kids connected without screens, other apps. Could PTO coordinate this? No subscription, no monthly fee. Kids could call other kids from Washington. It is nice to not have to hand my kid the cell phone when they want to call their friends.

Peter Cales asked what the meal is for conferences? Not sure yet.

- V. Upcoming Activities (0 mins) [Full calendar here](#)
1. Mar 12-13 No School, Parent/Teacher Conferences
 2. Mar 16-20 Spring Break
 3. Mar 27 Spring Concert
 4. April 10 Family Fun Night: Skating Party, 5:00-7:00pm
 5. April 14 PTO Meeting (Officer Nominations), 6:00-7:00pm
 6. April 17&20 No School, Teacher Professional Day

VI. Adjourn