**minutes**

**WVE PTA General Members** **Meeting**

May 23, 2019

**Board Members**

Cindy Hutcheson, President /Katie Felmlee, 1st Vice President /Siobhan Hummel, 2nd Vice President/Alan Scholl, Treasurer/Misty Cebry, Corresponding Secretary/ Anne Strawbridge, Recording Secretary/ Ed Smith, Principal

**Call to Order/Welcome & Introductions/Last Meeting’s Minutes** Cindy Hutcheson

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. The Board was introduced, and the minutes were approved as presented.

**President’s Report:**  Cindy Hutcheson

Cindy Hutcheson thanked everyone for coming, especially on the eve of a holiday weekend! The PTA has put on a lot of exciting programs since our last meeting, including Spring Spectacular, Teacher Appreciation Week, Game Day, Muffins with Moms, and our Spring Book Fair. More details to follow in the committee reports.

**Principal’s Report**  Ed Smith

Mr. Smith reported that most of our field trips are done. 6th Grade picnic is yet to come. He encouraged everyone to come out to the Fine Arts Nights, or Chorus Concerts, or Concerts at the High School. These are great events for our school community!

Mr. Smith changed up Kindergarten roundup, and it was held at 4:00. Teachers took the kids back to the Kindergarten classrooms while Mr. Smith talked to new parents. Last week the kids came back and did a Kindergarten readiness assessment. He expects to have 63 children enrolled in Kindergarten and 58 came to be assessed. They used the data to provide parents with what they need to practice with their children over the summer to be ready for Kindergarten in the fall. This also provides teachers with a baseline for their incoming students.

With our current enrollment, Mr. Smith is expecting 4 sections of Kindergarten, and 4 sections in every grade, except for 6th grade where the student count is teetering between 3 and 4 sections. A few more 6th graders will tip the scales in favor of a 4th section.

Teacher Placements are coming up. Mr. Smith does take parent input, and keeps notes from year to year. Contrary to some beliefs, he does not play favorites but goes by what he feels is the best match for each child. He also takes input from teacher recommendations and staff. August 16 placements will be announced.

Next year’s curriculum will not separate out Chorus, and World Language will be treated like a regular special during the day.

Mr. Smith talked about the transformation in the building from when he arrived to now. It has gone from an industrial building with children to an elementary school with a warm climate. Mr. Smith praised Allison Beaver as being instrumental in this undertaking, as well as the PTA who have been a dedicated partner.

Mr. Smith shared with the PTA that the survey he sent out produced some good information and suggestions, as well as posing some challenges. He is looking at improving our dismissal process for pickup. He is also going to revise our website and switch communication to a Google Classroom platform. This should help to provide a more consistent and streamlined resource for information.

Mr. Smith encouraged people to attend the Honors Science Meeting at the Middle School on May 28.

Lastly, Mr. Smith described the climate in the building as being very bubbly, and before long it will be very quiet.

**Treasurer’s Report** Alan Scholl

Alan Scholl reported that the finances are reconciled to the latest statements and they are strong. We have approximately $86,000 on hand. The largest financial transactions since the last general meeting are Muffins for Moms $730, Spring Spectacular $615, and Website renewals at $345. There were no questions on the report.

**Correspondence** Misty Cebry

Oh my goodness! So much PTA love! There was a table full of children’s correspondence from Mrs. Kulp’s and Mrs. Day’s classes thanking the PTA for hosting the Steven Courtney assembly. Dr. Lloyd thanked the PTA for their sponsorship of 1st and 2nd grade field trips. West Vincent K Kids thanked the PTA for our events, clubs, book fair, assemblies and more. Mrs. Clementoni, Mrs. Sansone, Mrs. Matz and Mrs. Orso thanked the PTA for sponsoring the 1st grade field trip. The PTA received many beautiful thank you notes for donating books into their classroom and for the PTA support, including Mrs. Hertzog, Mrs. Flexner, Mrs. Sansone, Mrs. Clementoni, Mr. Vogel, Mrs. Hineman, and Mrs. Vaneman.

**Old Business**

* Spring Spectacular: Katie Felmlee reported that despite the weather, our Spring Spectacular was a great family event. The kids enjoyed the games, DJ, and food. The raffle prizes and the Teacher Treasures were very popular. Most of the Teacher Treasures are scheduled or have happened. Proceeds from the event came in at $2,756.
* Teacher Appreciation Week: Cindy Hutcheson reported that the PTA worked with Jeanne McMenamin providing a continental breakfast for staff. Treats and notes were put out daily in the mail room, and the signs were placed along the drive and the lanes as well as a banner in the foyer.
* Game Day: Anne Strawbridge gave huge thanks to Alan Scholl, Derek Heiner, and Mike Strawbridge for their help setting up tents and tables and managing our morning shift along with Siobhan Hummel and Chanelle Gilyard. Anne thanked all of the parents who contributed fruit, and noted that there was about ½ as much as usual. A mid-day grocery run and lots of knife skills got us through our afternoon shift. Thanks also to our 2nd set of volunteers, Liz Kanavy, Courtney Osman, Kate Pomager, and Lyn Noon. Shout out to Mr. and Mrs. Katen who sprang into action helping to get the tents down when Mr. Hineman said he needed them immediately after the event.
* Muffins With Moms: Cindy Hutcheson reported that we had a full house with 327 seats occupied, and signups were closed. Sheila Kennedy did an SEL presentation called GROW. Huge thanks to Alan Scholl, Greg Hummel, Tyge Cebry, and Mike Strawbridge who manned the table during the event so we Moms could participate with our kids! Also, massive thanks to Heather Withers for getting the coffee and Amy Lloyd for arriving early to set up.
* Spring Scholastic Book Fair: Jamie Williams sent a message that our Spring Book Fair made approximately $8,450 which is very good for a spring BOGO. Exceeds 2017’s BOGO by about $1,200. We put a lot of books into the library and into classrooms which teachers had selected in their baskets. Jamie thanked all of the volunteers who devoted their time and effort to support this program.
* Playground Initiative Phase 1 Vote

Our playground initiative Phase 1 to purchase a set of 4 swings, a Sensory Dome, and Walk the Plank for up to $17,700 was unanimously approved.

Mr. Smith presented the plan to the School Board last month and to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for review of the underground prep and site work. He will be working with that committee along with Mr. Bentman from North Coventry as there may be an opportunity for some partnerships. These equipment installations enhance the property values of the buildings as well and the children’s experiences at school. He is planning to begin installation in the end of July and have it finished before the kids return to school at the end of August.

Mr. Smith also applied for a $25,000 grant through Game Time. If WV is awarded that grant, then we will make some changes to our plan and timing.

Mr. Smith has purchased some life size games and is planning to get more of them. He is also adding Gaga Balls, kick balls, and jump rope in an effort to add more structure to an unstructured time. The PTA purchased a storage cabinet for all this fun equipment, and it has been installed by the door leading out to the blacktop.

**New Business**

* PTA Board Elections for 2019-2020 school year

Katie Felmlee thanked the nominating committee for their work in selecting a slate of officers for next year. Nominations were requested from the floor for each position. There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was approved as presented. Congratulations to our new Executive Board: Cindy Hutcheson, President; Katie Felmlee, 1st VP; Siobhan Hummel 2nd VP; Misty Cebry, Corresponding Secretary; Chanelle Gilyard, Recording Secretary; and Alan Scholl, Treasurer.

* 2019-2020 Proposed Budget Vote

The proposed budget was voted on and approved as presented.

**Committee Reports**

* Membership and Unfundraiser: Anne Strawbridge reminded everyone that PTA memberships only last one year, and the new year begins July 1. Please share this information with others!
* All Pro Dads: Katie Felmlee is organizing a Hospitality Committee. Individuals are needed to help volunteer to set up and serve between 6:15 and 8:15. APD meets 4 times/yr.
* Yearbook: Saunde Briggs organized and did a great job with yearbooks. They are in and look great! They will be distributed on June 3 and signing will be on June 4. They can be purchased in the office for $25 cash or check made out to WVPTA while supplies last. Reminder that 6th graders will get a free yearbook from the PTA.
* Backpack: Anne Strawbridge said the Spring Spectacular donations were very appreciated!
* Reading Incentive: Amy Shumaker did a great job with this program. Please remember to get your May calendars in on Monday before school lets out so that prizes may be distributed.
* Publishing Center: We are going to need a new chair who can shadow with next year’s chair.
* Reflections: Lyn Noon handed out reflections awards at the Fine Arts Night. Next year Annika Juvaadi will chair.
* Website/Sunday Blast: Elly Hensman has agreed to be our website and e-mail blast Chair.
* Spirit Wear: Katie Felmlee reported that our spring online sale earned $373 net.
* Senior Scholarship: Will be awarded at the high school awards ceremony. We discussed promoting the scholarship differently next year including sending the list of former WV students a personal invitation through Canvas and refining the details of the essay.
* DeFeet Distractions: Anne Strawbridge submitted the WV entries. Fingers crossed!

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.**

**Upcoming 2019 Dates to Remember:**

5/23/19 General Membership Meeting 6:00 @ school library

5/24/19 and 5/27/19 No School for students

5/30/19 Senior Scholarship Presentation @ High School

5/31/19 6th Grade Picnic

6/3/19 Distribute Yearbooks

6/4/19 Yearbook Signing/Year End Treat

6/4/19 General Member’s Meeting 7:00 @ school library

6/6/19 6th Grade Promotion

6/6/19 and 6/7/19 Half Day for students