

AGENDA –

Meeting Minutes (Revisions noted in blue)



WATSON IN PERSON PTO MEETING

September 12, 2022 6p; in person meeting

Location: Room 15

In attendance:

Staff: J.Conlon, G. Pishkur, MJ Olenik, M. Clausegens

PTO Board: M. Bickell, C.Bell, J. Skehan, C. Pyle, A. Carter, T. Siders

Parent: Missy Anderson, Kim Stafford, Jaqui Nielson, Jeanne Velazquez, Kristen Schaack, Bryanna Stewart, Sara Kelly, Natalie Nelleman, Danielle Lewis, Misty Martalbano, Sara Dennis, Alanna Reed, Kari Grider, Sara Hicks, Carrie Shank, Eva Velasco, Julie Jemison, Sara Renaan, Elizabeth Dupre, Amy Alder, Greer Sweeney, Colleen Kiefer, Tiffany Razo, Natasha Sexton, Jaclyn T., Anabel Bischof, Keerthi Patlolla

	Meeting Called to Order 6:05pm – start time	Meredith Bickell
	Pledge of Allegiance	Mrs. Lavin
	Welcome to Watson Parents and Staff	Meredith Bickell
	MAY 2022 Meeting Minutes-review Any questions please let us know.	
	Teacher Liaison Report	Claesgens/Pishkur/Olenik
	<p>New Business</p> <p>Teacher Liaisons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Claesgens, Mrs. Pishkur, and Mrs. Olenik will be the PTO Teacher Liaisons for the 2022-23 school year. <p>PTO Board Members for 2021-2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our 2021-22 PTO Executive Board Meredith Bickell-President Carissa Bell- Vice President Co-Treasurer- Jill Skehan Co-Treasurer-Carla Pyle Co-Secretary- Tara Siders Co- Secretary- Abby Carter <p>Co-Chairs</p> <p>Wildcat Walk (raffle item help)- Rashanda Berryhill</p> <p>Penny Wars- Elisa Pozywio</p> <p>Strack's Receipt Program- Amy Alder</p> <p>Santa Shop and Staff Appreciation – TBD</p> <p>Annual PTO Membership Drive- Theme; PTO Membership is SWEET! We collected \$ 1925.00 In dues. Having ~ 173 family memberships. Thank you to the families who donated extra \$65.00 The class with the highest percentage was Miss K's 4th grade class. This class will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card to purchase items for their class. We also drew a name using a random name generator and the winning family of a \$25 Amazon gift card is the Simon family.</p> <p>Open House</p> <p>Thank you to everyone who visited us at the two open houses. In addition to accepting memberships, we sold spirit wear and other Watson swag we had on hand and took orders for our premium shirts. Raising: \$1868.50 (IN PERSON SALES ONLY).</p>	Meredith Bickell

	<p><u>Apples for Students</u> The program is back! receipts from any Strack&VanTil store dated September 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023 we ask to be collected and sent in. Please put in an envelope or baggie; attention Watson PTO so the teachers can turn them into us. Last year we collected \$167,516! We hope this year to surpass this amount. Items we are able to redeem are used in raffles and prizes include games, sports equipment and electronics.</p> <p><u>School Store-</u> We are not doing this program this year.</p> <p><u>Amazon Wishlists-</u> We will be assisting the teachers again this year with their Wishlists; we will send them home via flier the week of 11/21/22 and share them on our Facebook page, as well.</p>	Abby Carter
	<p><u>Budget</u> Motion to approve – Carla Pyle Second Motion – Carrie Shank All in Favor Recent Expenditures by Watson PTO Balance as of September 12, 2022 = \$27,485.09</p> <p>Upcoming Expenses: WCW budget -\$2,500 Goal - \$12,000 Trunk or Treat budget -\$1,200 Goal - \$5,000</p> <p><u>STAFF REQUESTS</u></p> <p>Staff Reimbursement – <u>**VOTE NEEDED</u> Proposed: full time staff -\$200 Part time staff 15 classes or more \$150 less than 15 classes \$50 K-4th fulltime Speech Therapist x1- \$200 EC Speech – \$50 Nurse - \$100 Counseling services- \$150 ** "Team" Additional \$250- items that benefit the grade level team. **Money not used rolls back into the balance. ** Staff Reimbursement subject to be changed pending success of fundraisers. Forms will be shared via email as well as extras will be available in the office. All forms and receipts are due by 05/01/2023. When ready to turn in please put in the RED folder labeled staff reimbursements in the PTO drawer in the main office. BUDGET APPROVED PER VOTE IN PER: ? & ?; ALL IN ATTENDANCE WERE IN FAVOR. NO ONE OPPOSED.</p>	Carla Pyle
	<p><u>CONTINUED BUSINESS:</u></p> <p>Spirit Wear Stores</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Place Spiritwear (online store) Open all year long for purchases and PTO gets paid quarterly. • A proam spirit wear store was open! As we want to support our local businesses too. This store was open till 9/5. **delivery should be week of 9/26 pending any delays from suppliers. 	Tara Siders

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custom Premium shirts- were sold at the 2 open houses. (bleached black tees, spray tie dye and camo were available; cost \$25 each). Delivery goal is before the week of 9/26. 	
	<p>Dine and Donate Goal is to raise money for our Playground Enhancement Fund! We want to upgrade our playground with painted activities our students can enjoy when it is too wet or muddy to be on the playground!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August ~ Schererville DQ - \$490 raised • August ~ Dyer Chipotle -\$ 342.42 raised • September ~ 9/27 5-7p Schererville Chick Filet *flier required* • October ~ 10/12 Schererville McDs 4-8p *teachers welcome at their lunch periods. • November ~11/7 Smoothie King **0630am-9p** no flier needed • December ~ 12/13 Schererville Culver's 3-8p *teachers welcome at their lunch periods <p>Thank you to everyone for your continued support!</p>	Tara Siders

	<p><u>UPCOMING PTO EVENTS</u></p> <p><u>Newsletter-</u> newsletters to come soon! Newsletters will be emailed and posted to our Facebook Page. They will be created by Tara Siders and Abby Carter. Thank you ladies!</p> <p><u>Reminders:</u> Friday, Sept 30~ Wildcat Walk! PirateTheme. Walk the Plank to Fundraise! Fliers and donation envelopes will be sent home week of 9/12 ~ Our Goal is this year is \$12,000. We hope we meet our school wide goal! Prize if meet our school wide goal will be an in school show, extra recess & a PJ day. Volunteers- Our PTO parents will be notified the week of 9/12 by email. We use signupgenius for all signups. Please look for it and sign up if you are able to volunteer. All volunteers must have a background check on file prior to the event. We are hoping that this fundraiser is so successful that we do not need to hold a fundraiser that requires anyone to sell anything, this year.</p> <p>Structure will be like in years past; for every \$10 turned in, your student will receive one ticket to enter a raffle of their choice. For \$50+ in donations, your student will receive this year's WCW t shirt as well as be entered into a drawing for an Alexa. We have several awesome top seller prizes as well this year! Our amazing pirate donation wall in the front hallway= all students who donate gets their name on it.</p> <p>Trunk or Treat Thursday 10/20 6-7p Location Watson/Grimmer School grounds. We need families to participate. A signup genius will be sent to all PTO families soon. This is a fundraiser as it is a community wide event! Cost: \$5 per student if pre paid and \$7 at the door. Family Max; \$20 prepay & \$28 at the door. In addition to candy, games/prizes, face painting are included. Concessions will be available for purchase. A signup genius will be sent out soon!</p> <p>Upcoming "in person" PTO meetings: 11/14 @ 3p, 1/23/23 @ 3p, 3/13/23 @ 3p, 5/8/23 @ 3p; all will be held in the gym. Free childcare will be provided. All our meetings are emailed to the Lake Central School Corporation along with</p>	Jill Skehan

	<p>our budget and requested to be posted to the Watson Elementary School Website under PTO. Any specific questions, please email one of the executive board members and/or teacher liaisons.</p> <p>Suggestions: We welcome new ideas and suggestions. Please email a board member or teacher liaison if you think of any ideas! We request that all suggestions and or ideas are submitted in writing.</p>	
	<p>Parent and Teacher Comments</p> <p>Q: What is the budget for A: (Meredith) the fundraisers outlined in the budget help us prevent the need to have kids selling candy/popcorn/etc. as long as we are meeting our goals for fundraisers. Last year the \$\$ went to staff reimbursement. Brain Pop was an example of a program that was funded by the PTO last year, however it was under used so we will allocate funds elsewhere for this year. Money raised goes back into the school for staff reimbursement, student activities and items/resources that there is not budgeted money for.</p> <p>Q: Are we able to pay/donate electronically? Is there a fee to make electronic payments? A: (Meredith) we use Zeffy this year and there are no fees , Amazon Wish list is also available for donations.</p> <p>Q: is there a contingency fund if the PTO so they have excess funds? A: No, typically we try and maintain \$10,000-\$15,000 in our budget. This is so we are not starting from scratch each year.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QR code for zeffy will be sent home in folders - Amazon Smile page – Search for “Watson Elementary Parent Teacher Organization” to access page. We will reshare easy access to this page on the PTO Facebook page <p>Room Parent Information</p> <p>Q: Regarding class parties, what is the best way to communicate with the other room parents: A: (Meredith) – Group text , email or meet in person.</p> <p>Q: are room parents able to request \$ for class parties? A: (Meredith) requesting Specific items be donated is typically the best approach. Work together to ensure that no one parent is doing all the work or paying for the party.</p>	<p>Meredith Bickell</p>
	<p>Meeting Adjourned: 6:57pm – motion by Anabel Bischof; second – Gretchen Pishkur.</p>	