

AGENDA



WATSON IN PERSON PTO MEETING

May 8, 2023 3p; in person meeting

Location: Watson Gym, Called to order @

In attendance: Carissa Bell, Tara Siders, Becki Murphy, Ron Ortega, Jaclyn Tocz., Marcie Clasgen, Kim Yelich, Jen Conlon, Gretchen Pishkur, Mari Jo Olenik, Carla Pyle, Jill Skehan, Abby Carter, Anabelle Bischof, Elaine Bintz, Michelle Lavin

	Meeting Called to Order 3:06pm	Meredith Bickell
	Pledge of Allegiance	Mrs.Lavin/Mrs. Conlon
	Welcome to Watson Parents and Staff	Meredith Bickell
	April 2023 Meeting Minutes-(review on own) Any questions please let us know. Motion needed to approve the April minutes. - Gretchen Pishkur	Abby Carter
	Teacher Liaison Report Thank yous were shared for staff appreciation week, gift and staff reimbursements.	Claesgens/Pishkur/Olenik
	<p>Special Guest: The Lion’s Club presented a donation from the Watson Memorial Fund to the Watson Elementary School Library. Received by Mrs. Toczak.</p> <p>Ms. Toczak shared that a Book vending machine will be purchased with the donation from the Lions Club.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>Staff Appreciation: 5/1-5/5</p> <p>The theme this year was camping! Every staff member received a gift from the PTO: a Watson umbrella.</p> <p>Thank you to all our amazing sponsors and families for helping us give our staff an amazing week!!</p> <p>Thank you to our co-chair Anabelle for your help making this week happen.</p> <p>Thank you to our LCHS volunteers who helped us with prep work.</p> <p>The week consisted of:</p> <p>Monday- Pizza compliments of Vision Boutique; Salad and bread compliments of Texas Roadhouse. Trail mix bar compliments of the Watson PTO.</p> <p>Tuesday- Breakfast catered and compliments of Avgo and the Bischoff family. Fruit % the PTO.</p> <p>Wednesday- A fun and yummy snack bar and s’more station! Compliments of our Watson Families.</p> <p>Thursday- Jimmy John’s compliments of Jimmy Johns in Schererville and the Watson PTO.</p> <p>Friday- Mexican Fiesta catered by La Quesadilla Mexican Grill compliments of Maki Insurance.</p> <p><i>Daily Raffles were done and each winner won a \$5 gift card that was donated by our families. Swag bags were gifted to all our paras % Vision Boutique. Every staff member was given a tumbler with goodies from Maki Insurance.</i></p> <p>Kindergarten Testing 4/12 - 4/13</p> <p>The PTO purchased lunch for our kindergarten team as well as books to welcome all our new Wildcats! The kindergarten team is excited to bring new things to kindergarten orientation next year.</p> <p>Glow Dance - Thursday 4/13 5-7p</p> <p>Special thank you to all our AMAZING families and staff for your support! Thank you to all our volunteers; staff, parents and LCHS students! These types of events are not possible without all of your time and support!</p> <p>We have received amazing support throughout the year from our community businesses and families!!! Thank you once again!!</p> <p>This was a FUNdraiser! Total raised: \$5,393.81</p> <p>Craft Day (reschedule) - 3/23 and 3/24 (for our 1st-4th graders).</p> <p>Thank you to all our parents who volunteered. Overall all feedback was positive and the parent volunteers appreciated the added volunteer opportunity.</p>	<p>Meredith Bickell</p> <p>*****</p> <p>Carissa Bell</p>

McTeacher Night at the Schererville McDs.- 3/15

Thank you to all our amazing staff who volunteered to make this happen! We had Jaclyn T and Mrs. Pishkur as the apple pie at both drop off and dismissal. As well as Mrs. Pishkur who got our students excited by greeting them in the cafeteria during their lunch periods.
Total raised: \$1,623.25

Budget

Recent Expenses:

Childcare for Regular Meeting: \$30

Kindergarten Registration
Budget- \$375
Actual Expense- \$330.76

Upcoming Expenses:

Staff Reimbursement
Budget- \$9,100
Total paid to date- \$6,451.79

Glow Dance Fundraiser
Budget- \$1,500
Total paid to date- \$6,027.97

Staff Appreciation
Budget-\$1,200
Total paid to date- \$1,539.53

Fourth Grade Party
Budget- \$1,000 plus donations
Total paid to date- \$249

Recent Income of Watson PTO:

Income for events completed since last meeting:

Membership dues budget-\$2,000
Actual income- \$2,060

Additional Income:

Dine and Donate/Community events budget- \$2,000
Actual income to date- \$4,489.13

Spirit Wear
Budget-\$2,250
Actual income to Date- \$2,425.52

Glow Dance Fundraiser
Budget- \$5,000
Actual income to Date- \$11,421.78

Amazon Smile budget- \$250
Actual income to date- \$252.89
Sadly the program has ended. Thank you for all your support over the years.

Request to review teacher reimbursement for Liz Bossos

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Spirit Wear Stores

- 1st Place Spiritwear (online store)
Open all year long for purchases and PTO gets paid quarterly.

Carla Pyle

Carissa Bell

	<p>Link: https://1stplace.sale/34842 We have additional spirit wear on hand; please contact a board member if interested in purchasing a Watson t-shirt. Limited sizes available; cost \$10 each.</p> <p><u>Apples for Students</u> The program was a success. Receipts from any Strack&VanTil store dated September 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023 were collected, counted and sent in. Last year we collected \$167,516! This year we collected: \$204,000. We receive 1% of the final amount to use to shop in their catalog. AMAZING!!! We will redeem points for items that are used in raffles and prizes including games, sports equipment and electronics. As well as recess balls for all our students. Amy Alder was the co-chair and has been counting receipts as they come in. Thank you!</p> <p>Special Thank you to Robin Cox, a Watson para, who provided childcare at most of our monthly meetings. Thank you to Mrs. Villa and Mrs. Giazzon for helping, too.</p>	
	<p><u>Dine and Donate</u> Goal is to raise money for our Playground Enhancement Fund! We want to upgrade our playground (courtyard/blacktop area) 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 Fil A- \$381.56 ● October ~ 10/12 Schererville McDs 4-8p *teachers welcome at their lunch periods ~ \$299.44 raised ● November ~11/7 Smoothie King **6:30a-9p* \$312.79 raised ● December ~ Five Below \$34.93 raised ● December ~ 12/13 Schererville Culver's 3-8p *teachers welcome at their lunch periods; \$230 raised ● January ~ 1/25/23 4p-8p Red Robin - \$167.80 raised ● February ~ 2/15/23 3p-7p Sweet Frog-\$112.72 raised and they rounded up to \$150. ● March ~ McTeacher night 3/15/23 @ Schererville McDs 4-7p; all money raised will be added to our budget for Staff Appreciation Week! \$1,623.25 raised ● April 20 ~ 4p-8p- Crumble Cookie in Dyer - \$456.94 raised ● May 8 ~ 11a-8p; Portillo's in Schererville. - 5/11=\$238 raised <p>Thank you to everyone for your continued support!</p>	<p>Tara Siders</p>

	<p>Friendly Reminder that any parent can join at any time! Dues are \$10 and a membership form does need to be filled out (located in the main office or can be emailed) and a background check form must be on file . PTO Members get communications regarding PTO sponsored event(s) volunteer opportunities.</p> <p><u>Suggestions:</u> 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>Abby Carter</p>
	<p><u>New Business:</u> For the 2023-24 PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD, ballot was emailed to all PTO members (parent and teachers). Thank you to everyone who took time to vote!</p> <p>Our Board for the 2023-24 School Year is as follows: President: Carissa Bell Vice President: Tara Siders Treasurer: Carla Pyle</p>	<p>Jill Skehan</p>

Secretary: Rashanda Berryhill
 Administrative Committee Chair: Jill Skehan
 Special Events Committee Chair: Becki Murphy
 Financial Committee Chair: Ron Ortega
 Teacher Liaisons: Gretchen Pishkur, Marcie Clausgens, Kim Yelich.
 Thank you to everyone for taking the time to vote! Thank you to our parents and teachers for volunteering your time and talents! We look forward to another amazing year!

PTO Board presented gifts (flowers and cards) to Mrs. Olenik (retiring), Abby Carter for her one year service and Meredith Bickell for her seven years of service.

Message from the President -

I would like to take a minute to say thank you for 7 (yes 7!) great years serving on the Executive PTO Board.

Many of you reached out and or showed your support and love and I feel everyone should know before the ballot window expired, I withdrew my candidacy for the Secretary position, for several reasons.

I wish the new board lots of luck and would like to say thank you to this year's board, co chairs, parents and staff for another amazing year.

If your name is called, a gift is here for you! This is % of the PTO, as a thank you for giving of your different talents and most importantly of your time! The greatest gift anyone can give!

The Executive Board members- Meredith, Carissa, Carla, Jill, Tara and Abby.
Co Chairs- Ana Belle Bischof, Becki Murphy, Amy Alder, Elisa Pozywio, Colleen Kiefor.

Helpers- Amanda Sarkady helped secure donations for our glow dance fundraiser and Rashanda Berryhill helped obtain a few prizes for our Wildcat Walk.

Please stop on your way out and grab your gift; a Watson umbrella.

Upcoming Events:

Ice Cream Treat Day- the PTO will be providing an ice cream truck on Wednesday 5/17 1130am. Treats range from \$1-\$2 each and a \$75 travel fee is billed; the company will be donating 10% back to the PTO.

**Nutritional value information will be shared with our administration team and they will be working with our school nurse and teachers to ensure all our students with allergies can participate or their parent's can arrange an alternative.

4th Grade Party - Friday 5/19- This is a PTO sponsored event. The PTO provides \$1,000 to cover a snack and a t- shirt to celebrate our 4th graders as they move on to middle school! Corporate sponsors and family donations have been generous to help offset the costs.

Corporate sponsorships were obtained to cover the following:

DJ- \$250 ~ Murphy family, Photo Booth- \$250 ~ Maki Insurance and Flag Football \$50 to help cover the cost of shirts.

Thank you to our parent volunteers who have helped plan the event and for all the parents who have donated and plan on working the event to ensure its success!

Field Day is Thursday 5/18- this is **NOT** a PTO event! All details, including volunteer opportunities will come from the school. Any questions please reach out to the main office.

Black top Enhancement Project: Is under way! We are finalizing paperwork on our end in hopes that it can be worked on over this summer!

Meredith Bickell

Parent and Teacher Comments

Meredith Bickell

* Discussion about dine and donates and having more staff present/staff nights. Could make them more successful. Example the Mc Teacher night. Shared that it is up to the specific businesses in how they do things. In the past, Red Robin was one that allowed staff to help serve.

Meeting End 3:34pm