



WATSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO

1ST PUBLIC MEETING

DATE:	September 11, 2023 (Monday)	TIME:	6:06pm	MEETING CALLED BY:	President - Carissa Bell
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PTO BOARD/STAFF IN ATTENDANCE			
Tara Siders <i>Vice President</i>	Carla Pyle <i>Treasurer</i>	Ron Ortega <i>Finance Committee Chair</i>	Becki Murphy <i>Special Events Committee Chair</i>
Rashanda Berryhill <i>Secretary</i>	Jill Skehan <i>Administrative Committee Chair</i>	Kim Yelich <i>Teacher Liaison</i>	Gretchen Pishkur <i>Teacher Liaison</i>

Agenda Item	Discussion	RESOLUTION
Pledge of Allegiance	Lead By: President Carissa Bell Recited by: Meeting Audience	N/A
Introduction of Board Members	Name Position How Long on The Board #Children/Grade/Teacher at Watson	N/A
Review of Previous Minutes	<p>President – Carissa Bell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PTO board is required to post every meeting minute on school website Last board meeting needs to be voted on to be adapted into the record President stated that if you were not at the last meeting its not expected for you to vote for adoption. Meeting Minute for May 8,2023 - https://watson.lcsc.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2023/05/PTO_Meeting_May_2023_Minutes.pdf 	<p>Motion to Adopt: Kim Yelich</p> <p>2nd The Motion: Travis Thurn</p> <p>All In Favor: All</p> <p>Any Oppose: None</p>

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Treasurer's report	<p>Finance Committee Chair - Ron Ortega</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Last year (2022-2023) the PTO Board generated total Income \$57,939.15 ● Last year (2022-2023) total Expense \$38,820.63 <p>As of September 5th 2023 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Total Income \$4,202.84 ● The Total Expense \$2,816.23 <p>Carissa Bell</p> <p>Drafted copies of the new 2023-2024 budget are on the back table. Please take one and review at your leisure.</p> <p>Our budget is pretty large and with that being said we really need to fundraise. The board plans to spend money this year.</p> <p>Our biggest fundraiser is our <u>Wildcat Walk held September 29th</u>. Our goal is to raise \$14,000, if that goal is reached, we don't have to worry about selling cookie dough or candles, etc.</p> <p>Your help would be greatly appreciated with that fundraiser. We have some great prizes this year for the Wildcat Walk.</p> <p>We have other smaller fundraisers throughout the year like Dine & Donate. Please encourage your family and friends to come out and support our Dine & Donates so we can reach our budget goals.</p>	<p>Motion to Adopt: Travis Thurn</p> <p>2nd The Motion: Anabelle Bischof</p> <p>All In Favor: All</p> <p>Any Oppose: None</p>
Teacher Liaison Report	<p>Teacher Liaison - Kim Yelich & Gretchen Pishkur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Welcome Back Breakfast was great, the teachers loved it. ● We loved the Welcome Back Gifts; the clipboards with the candy were a great hit with the teachers. ● To the parents - the teacher appreciates all the fundraisers support and efforts. It really helps us as teachers. We buy a lot of things out of our pockets. ● We loved seeing the parents at the Dine and Donate. ● The Teachers really appreciate the entire board and all that you do for the teachers. ● Thank You! 	
By-laws	<p>Carissa Bell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The board reviewed and made some edits to the bylaws over the summer. ● No by-laws edits made since 2015 	<p>Motion to Adopt: Kristen Marsh</p> <p>2nd The Motion: Travis Thurn</p> <p>All In Favor: All</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By-laws were emailed to each member of the PTO. There is a QR code on the back table if you didn't receive the email. Please scan the QR code to review at your leisure. <p><i>No questions or concerns from meeting audience</i></p> <p><i>The by-laws will be signed by each Executive board member tonight.</i></p>	<p>Any Oppose: None</p>
Blacktop	<p>Carissa Bell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of our biggest completed projects for the 2022-2023 school year. If you dropped off or picked up your children, or have children in kindergarten you have seen the blacktop improvements. We had a ribbon cutting ceremony during the open house. Many of our staff enjoy the improvements. The artist gave us cards that can be used to help the children play with the games painted on the blacktop. Some of the games are hopscotch, four square, duck duck goose, and some others. <p>If you have not seen it, please take time to drive by and take a look.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
Membership	<p>Vice President – Tara Siders</p> <p><i>Recap</i></p> <p><u>Current Membership- 171</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We're still accepting members/ Volunteers to assist with year around events. (<i>Wildcat Walk, Truck or Treat, etc.</i>) Unfortunately, we're no longer accepting head/room parents to assist with classroom parties (<i>Halloween, Holiday and Valentine Day's</i>) <p><i>Room Parent Responsibilities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emails have been sent to head/room parents with the information about parties they've been selected to host A room parent meeting will be scheduled to help understand your responsibilities and assignments. A hopeful meeting date will be scheduled for next Thursday (September 21st) in the evening. Classroom parties are very simple "Simple is Best" Snacks are provided by school due to a lot of food allergies 	
Wildcat Walk	<p>Special Events Chair – Becki Murphy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Annual Fundraiser "The Biggest One" with a goal of \$14,000 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is how we jump start our budget for the school year. <p>Date: September 29th 2023 – During School (9:00am-2:00pm)</p> <p>Theme: Carnival Theme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The kids go outside during their grade level scheduled time. They walk, play games, and participate in other activities. <p>Great Prizes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chromebook Lunch with teacher Admin hour in the office Ride to school with officer Steve <p>Every \$10.00 your child turns in they will get a ticket. That ticket can be used to win additional prizes (a lot of different ways for them to win prizes)</p> <p>Top earning class in the entire school will receive a reward from sonic for them to choose a drink of their liking. An order form will go home to order for that day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coupons from McDonalds for the highest earning classes by grade level. The top earning student could win various prizes such as family bowling, AMC movie tickets, and one month of karate lessons, etc. We're allowing the top earning students to pick their own top prizes. <p>If you would like to volunteer to help with your child grade level or any other grade level, please be on the lookout for a sign-up genius email. The sign up will be sent out to all members to assist with preparation. You can pick from half a day and or stay the entire day.</p>	
Trunk-or-Treat	<p>Special Events Chair – Becki Murphy</p> <p>Date: October 13, 2023 (6:00pm – 7:30pm)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This event will be outside in the school parking lot behind Grimmer and Watson. We had so much fun last year and had a big turnout. This year we will have a DJ, food, face painting, etc. 20 – 30 trunks full of candy last year, and we're hoping to have more this year. <p><i>Parents can still sign-up if they would like to Volunteer to assist with preparation for this event.</i></p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you missed the sign-up sheet for all events at both open houses, you can still sign-up. ● If you didn't state which event on your membership form you can still sign-up. ● See the President and or events chair Becki, but a sign-up genius will be sent out for every event to sign-up ● We will be allowing our members who help in planning and assisting to sign up for the events prior to the rest of the general membership. We appreciate all those who are helping to secure donations for our events and participate in planning. ● We welcome all volunteers with background checks on file. 	
Apples for students	<p>Carissa Bell</p> <p>Update(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chairperson – Amy Alder ● She will be counting every Strack & Van Til receipt. She may ask for help throughout the year. We will ask for a volunteer to help assist her. ● Last year we had over \$200,000 in receipt totals and she counted every dollar. (We Greatly Appreciate her) ● If you shop at Strack, please send the receipts in as you shop, you don't have to hold them. ● This fundraiser is throughout the entire school year almost (September – March) ● Those dollars turn into points and we're able to use those points to get recess equipment, headphones for students, things for wildcat walk, etc. ● Every penny is counted except for alcohol. ● The receipt will need to be the actual receipt ● You can collect from family and friends or anybody that doesn't want their receipts. 	
Dine & Donates	<p>Upcoming Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● September 20th – Mod Pizza in Highland, IN ● October 24th - Portillo's in Schererville, IN ● November 16th – Red Robin in Schererville, IN <p>The majority of the board members will be at most of the Dine & Donate</p>	
Question(s)	<p>Next Meeting: Monday, November 13, 2023 - 3:00pm in the school Gym</p>	

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	<p><i>Childcare will be provided during that time.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please like and share the New Watson's PTO Facebook Page ● Dine and Donate fundraiser flyer will be emailed out ● A lot of reminders will go out via email <p>Meeting End Time: 6:43PM</p>	