

Westlake PTA Meeting

10/19/2017

Board Members and Teachers Present:

Clyde Curley, Principal

Amy Dahlen, PTA President

Julie Lattin, PTA Vice President

Tim Madsen, PTA Treasurer

Shannon Cuff, PTA Secretary

Steve Sikes, PTA Parliamentarian

Adrienne Megoran, PTA Arts Co-Chair

Tina McGlashan, Teacher

Approximate attendance: 18 people

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm

Welcome/Introductions

Review and Approval of last meeting's minutes

- PTA Secretary Shannon Cuff reviewed the minutes from the last PTA meeting, which was held on 9/21/2017.
- **MOTION:** Motion to approve minutes was brought by Amy Joanides. Second by Christine Mantua. Approved unanimously.

Report from the Principal-Clyde Curley

- 1st Second Step Assembly was held today. 100 awards handed out to students in all grades for demonstrating the Wildcat Ways.
- Parent-Teacher conferences will be held at the beginning of Thanksgiving Break.
- Mr. Curley and Westlake teachers have been discussing goals for the year. Major goal is to adjust instruction to meet varying learning differences among students. Small group instruction is being used in all grades to address this goal.
- 4th graders are using Zearn, which is similar to Kahn Academy.
- "Chromebook in the Classroom" campaign: Mr. Curley would like to increase number of computers at Westlake. Goals are: one chromebook per student in grades 3-5, eight chromebooks in each 2nd grade class, cart of chromebooks and mini-lab for 1st grade classes to share. Surveying teachers to see how many are needed. Chromebooks currently cost \$260. The current computers at Westlake were purchased five years ago. Some are starting to fail.
- Westlake was awarded a National Science Foundation grant for tech instruction, but grant does not come with materials or curriculum.
- Typing Agent program is used by 2nd grade students.

Report from the Treasurer-Tim Madsen

- Review of 2016-17 budget report and check register
- Review of current budget report and check register
- **MOTION:** Motion to approve budget reports and check registers was brought by Julie Graff. Second by Christine Mantua. Approved unanimously.
- 2017-18 budget reports will look different due to use of new PTA software.
- CA State PTA membership: dues for 74 members and taxes have been paid
- Mel Sweet will do audit of 2016-17 PTA budget.
- Gold Country trip: Due to accounting error, parents' checks from last year's 4th grade Gold Country trip were not deposited. Amy Joanides sent letters of apology and voided checks to parents, with a request to re-submit payment. May be possible to pay online.
- Going forward, district may take over management of Gold Country trip funds. Mr. Curley needs to discuss with 4th grade teacher Jen Simington and consult with district financial department.

Life Lab Update-Jane Forbes

- October work day went well. Jane thanks all the volunteers. A special thanks to Hugo Jaffe.
- Wood chip moving day on November 5th at 9am. Coffee and donuts provided.
- Jane is looking for recommendations for good microscope.

Auction Update-Amba DesJardins

- Donation letters will be sent out soon. Would like to include information about what PTA funds and what is at risk if we don't reach our fundraising goals. Would like to include information about Westlake's awards from the state department of education.
- Each staff member at Westlake gets one free ticket to the auction.
- Fund in Need ideas: lunchtime librarian, strings for band, lower playground structure, full time music teacher, chromebooks
- Event to be held Saturday April 28th from 5-10pm at the Parish Hall at Holy Cross
- We get alcohol revenue.
- Caterer is booked. Full sit-down dinner is planned.
- Theme will be James Bond
- Committee looking for sponsors as well as donated items
- Hoping to recruit parents of younger grades to get involved
- Price of tickets still being discussed

Other Business/Questions and Comments

- Chess Club is currently a lunchtime program. Parent asked about the possibility of an after school chess program.
- Angela Dobkin is working with other district schools on the possibility of district-wide enrichment programs.
- Art Parent Coordinator has been found. Several classrooms still need art parents to work with students on class auction pieces.

- Amazon Smile: Thanks to Jennifer Jaffe for drafting letter explaining how this works. Due to concern from local business owners in our community, the PTA board will no longer promote Amazon Smile, although our account will remain available on the site.
- PTA will launch a Shop Local campaign close to the holiday season
- Dining for Dollars: Assembly on October 25, Woodstock's Pizza in November, Surfrider Cafe in December
- Parents' Night Out: scheduled nights at local taprooms, portion of sales donated to Westlake, still working out details
- Family Code Night: Genelle Heim and team are planning event
- 1st movie night raised \$600; Next movie night will be Honey, I Shrunk the Kids in January.
- Spooky Story Night: October 26th at 6pm
- Sweatshirts will be ordered in November
- Back to School BBQ made over \$7000
- New Leaf cards now available
- Question from parent about PTA Facebook page: How are decisions being made over what to promote on page? Should it strictly be school events and information?

Meeting adjourned: 8:17