

Wolf Branch PTC General Membership Meeting Minutes Wednesday, September 21, 2016 7 PM – WBES Cafeteria

In attendance: Corine Altepeter, Tricia Altmansberger, Elizabeth Bethel, Michael Brown, Amelia Chiaverini, Derek Clements, Kary Cobb-Adams, Jamie Crane-Zacharski, Michelle Dibadj, Lara Dorner, Lyndsie Fuehne, Idaria Goodwin, Madonna Harris, Kelly Harter, Cindy Hodapp, Miranda Jernigan, LeAnne Kniepkamp, Katie Kramkowski, Stephanie Maggio, Chrissy Malare, Christina Martin, Kristin Miller, Thera Montgomery, Jessica Motsinger, Michelle Nersesian, Jennifer Poirot, Nicole Sanderson, Martin Schmid, Melissa Slocum, Susan Solsten, Cori Stanczyk, Renee Walker, Sara Walker, Rona Welsch, Shontel Williams, Stephanie Wyatt, Carol Yee

- **Welcome and Introductions**: Prior to the start of the meeting, copies of the agenda and 2016-2107 budget were distributed. Cori Stanczyk began by welcoming all in attendance and introduced the PTC Executive Board members.
- **Teacher's Report/Administration Updates**: Chrissy Malare, the Teacher Liaison for WBES, noted that the school year was off to a great start. Additionally, she shared that many teachers have signed up for Fall Festival and all (teachers and students) are looking forward to the event. Chrissy raised a question from teachers regarding funding of United Streaming. In years past, this has been funded by the PTC; will that continue? Treasurers LeAnne Kniepkamp and Kary Cobb-Adams indicated the cost to maintain United Streaming is included in the 2016-17 budget to be approved tonight.

Nicole Sanderson, Wolf Branch School District Assistant Superintendent, formally introduced Jennifer Poirot as the new Dean of Students at the Wolf Branch Middle School. Jennifer Poirot thanked the PTC for all they do to support the district. Additionally, she inquired if there would be a dunk tank at Fall Festival. However, there were no Fall Festival chairpersons or committee members in attendance to answer this inquiry. Jennifer also expressed gratitude to Amy Pugeda for chairing the Giving Tree.

Madonna Harris, Principal of Wolf Branch Elementary School, also expressed many thanks for the Giving Tree. It is very much appreciated by the teachers and staff. Madonna echoed what Chrissy Malare had shared about Fall Festival. Many WBES teachers have signed up to volunteer and all are looking forward to this event. Additionally, she shared that teachers were excited about the PTC grant program.

- **Treasurer's Report**: LeAnne Kniepkamp and Kary Cobb-Adams provided a high level walkthrough of items/features of the budget. It was specifically noted that the budget now omits carryover expenses from past years. Cori Stanczyk shared her thanks for the great job that LeAnne and Kary have done to 'revamp' the budget. They migrated from the "old spreadsheet" and are now use QuickBooks to manage/track expenses.

Cori also noted that at this time the PTC has only \$5000 for Grants/Wish List submissions and \$1000 for administrative grants. Per LeAnne, we need the general membership to approve the proposed budget for 2016-2017. Carol Yee made a motion to accept the budget. Katie Kramkowski seconded the motion. All members present voted to accept. The WB PTC 2016-2017 Budget was approved.

Cori Stanczyk noted that the PTC reimbursement form has been updated. The updated form is available via the Wolf Branch (www.wbsd113.org) website. It was also noted that submitters should allow up to 4 weeks to receive reimbursement.

- **Head Room Parent Information:** Christina Martin introduced herself as the K – 4th Grade Room Parent Coordinator. Christina distributed folders to the Head Room Parents (HRPs) in attendance. The folders contained pertinent information about class parties and PTC events and contacts. She encouraged any one with questions regarding their role as HRP to reach out to her.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Paw Pride:** Tricia Altmansberger expressed appreciation for all who sent in items for the WBES Paw Pride store. She said the store is well stocked and ready for the first Paw Pride Day on Friday, September 30, 2016. Helpers are still needed; parents can volunteer to help via SignUp Genius.
 - b. **Fall Festival:** Fall Festival still needs volunteers; sign up to help via SignUp Genius. Fall Festival is next Friday, September 30, 2016. Michelle Nersesian raised the question of whether there would be a Food Drive in conjunction with the Fall Festival. *Cori took an action to follow up with Melissa Glidden and/or the Fall Festival chairs regarding the food/can drive.*
 - c. **Box Tops:** The first Box Top Collection will be Friday, September 30, 2016. Per Michelle Nersesian, Wolf Branch earned over \$2000 with Box Tops last school year. She noted this is free money for the school and encouraged parents to clip and collect from the everyday items they use. Michelle briefly described the Wolf Branch Box Top contest incentives (monthly class prizes, end of year class & teacher awards). It was noted that Box Top deadlines and submission reminders are communicated in the Wolf Branch newsletter.
 - d. **Family Game Night:** We will again do “Bricks for Kids” for Family Game Night. Additionally, it was agreed to offer the “Bricks for Kids” after school session later in the Spring after Family Game Night (scheduled for March 23, 2017). The Spring session would not be sponsored financially by the PTC.
 - e. **Family Fitness Night:** Per Cori Stanczyk, we are still in need of a Family Fitness Night chairperson. Idaria Goodwin volunteered to be the Family Fitness Night chair.
 - f. **Roller Skating Parties:** The first WB roller skating night was great. Everyone loved the all-you-can-eat pizza and soda. The PTC made \$138.
 - g. **Color Run:** We will once again do a Wolf Branch Color Run. It will be in April 2017. If you are interested in helping, please contact LeAnne Kniepkamp. Per LeAnne, we learned a lot from last year’s Run and will be doing it differently this year. We will not go with a private company to plan our event. We will instead purchase our own color; we plan to have 12 stops with different color at each stop. We will need a lot of volunteers to support this event. The suggestion was made to solicit help from the Cross Country Team.
 - h. **Santa’s Cottage:** Per Carol Yee, we are already planning for Santa’s Cottage. Posters are being made and we will be using a new computer system this year.
 - i. **Wolverine Wear:** Rona Welsch reported that the first Wolverine Wear order of the school year grossed \$3221. Per Rona, our merchandise provider has been great to work with and even increased our profit percentage from 25% to 30% for the order. The PTC netted \$996.30 for the first order. It was also noted that later this year, new Wolverine Wear merchandise with updated styles will be available.
 - j. **Boy Scouts:** Renee Walker provided an overview of the Boy Scouts of America (BSofA) organization. The Wolf Branch troop (Troop 52) is sponsored by the Wolf Branch PTC and is one of the largest in the area. We currently have 40+ scouts from 5th grade to 18 years old. Per Renee, Kim Enriquez is the Charter Representative. Renee noted that Wolf Branch produces a lot of Eagle Scouts. Jennifer Poirot provided a supporting example. She noted that currently a 2016 WBMS graduate and his father are working on an Eagle Scout project to put in a Gaga pit on the playground.
 - k. **Auction:** The auction is scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2017 at the McCormick Center in Belleville. This year’s auction does not have co-chairs; instead it is being organized and planned by steering committee. The first auction committee meeting is scheduled for next

Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at WBMS. Anyone interested in helping with the auction is welcome to attend this meeting. Katie Kramkowski encouraged HRP's to get engaged with the auction.

- **New/Old Business**

- a. **Giving Tree:** Per Cori Stanczyk, there are still a number of items that were not selected/satisfied from the Giving Tree. Cori explained that teachers were asked at the beginning of the school year to identify items (under \$100) that they needed in the classroom or could use to improve classroom dynamics. These items were hung on the Giving Tree which was set up during open house to allow interested WB families to select an item to purchase. Cori invited those in attendance to look through the still available items and consider taking an item(s) to purchase.
- b. **Teacher Presentations for WB PTC Teacher Wish List/Grant Funding:** Cori Stanczyk and LeAnne briefly described the intention behind the Wish List and Grant program. It was again noted that at this time the PTC has only \$5000 allocated to support this program. Additionally, general membership was informed that teachers who wished to submit a proposal for a Grant or Wish List item, must present their idea/need in person at tonight's PTC meeting.

There were two presenters at tonight's meeting:

1. Sara Walker (WBES 4th Grade Teacher) presented a Wish List request for tables in her classroom. Sara noted that each 4th grader now has a Chromebook and they do not work well with desks. In her proposal, she indicated the cost would be approximately \$1500 for 6 tables (each seat 4 – 5 students) and Sterilite plastic totes for storage. As a follow up to Sara's presentation, Carol Yee inquired if tables would qualify as standard classroom furniture. Per WB administration, standard classroom furniture is provided (e.g. desks) but there is no additional funding to purchase an alternative solution (e.g. tables). It was noted that while tables is Sara Walker's preference (and proposal request), they are not required. Additionally, Nicole Sanderson noted that teachers were encouraged to bring ideas and 'wishes' to present and the PTC previously purchased tables for another class (i.e. Mrs. Wyatt's 5th Grade Science Class).
2. Susan Solsten (WBMS Social Worker) presented a proposal for an annual assembly in support of the Advisory Program. Susan noted that the Advisory Program is trying to encourage celebrating diversity and creating a culture of respect. Wolf Branch Middle School is a member of the anti-defamation league and is a No Place for Hate School. As such, each student must sign an anti-bullying pledge. To further reinforce the anti-bullying message and to promote a positive message, Susan would like to bring in a guest speaker for an assembly. The preferred speaker is Tom Thelen. She noted that many speakers provide bullying stories but provide no tools. Tom Thelen tells students how not to be a victim of bullying. The cost is \$3000. This includes the presentation, Victim Proof, along with a 30 lesson DVD series and study guides. These additional materials could be used to reinforce the message. The impact would be 393 students at WBMS. Per Susan, the presentation is approximately 1 hour. The PTC membership inquired if he could do a presentation at both schools, WBES and WBMS. Per Susan, it would come with additional cost. Given the importance of this message, Melissa Slocum inquired about how we get something like this included in our annual PTC budget. Per Cori Stanczyk, this would need to be raised as a proposed budget line at the end of this school year/beginning of next school year before establishing and finalizing the budget.

Chrissy Malare made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tricia Altmansberger seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.