



**Fort Washington Elementary School PTA Minutes
General Membership Meeting
February 10, 2016**

PTA President Michelle Haggerty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

Elementary Connections Presentation, Wendy Klein

- Local businesses advertise in coupon book, FWES gets percentage of ad profits

Principal's Report, Assistant Principal Shawn McAleer

- PSSA Testing. State PSSA testing is set for mid-end of April for grades 3-5. A formal letter from Mrs. Hultquist will be sent home and included in an upcoming email blast. Testing will take place during morning's only (9-11 AM), and spread over a three week period. Tentatively, testing will occur beginning April 11 and conclude by month's end. Grades 3-5 will complete both the LA and Math assessment, Grade 4 will also take the Science exam. Information regarding religious opt out will be included with letter.
- Parent Picnic Luncheon. In an effort to celebrate family and provide another opportunity for visitation, we will be holding a picnic parent luncheon for students/families in May. Please bring your lunch and a blanket! Grades K-2: Friday, May 13th. Lunch Times: K 12:40-1 PM, 1st 12:10-12:30PM, 2nd 11:25-11:45AM. Grades 3-5: Monday, May 16th. Lunch Times: 3rd 11:50AM-12:10PM, 4th 12:30-12:50PM 5th 1:00-1:20PM.
- Town Meeting, February 19th. Theme is love, and will feature a presentation celebrating our Speedstack winners, a guest speaker from Jump Rope for Heart, No Place for Hate, and CAPE Awards.
- Teachers will be meeting next Friday, February 19th at 8 AM with Jackie O'Malley to learn about practicing mindfulness. Jackie O'Malley offers a mindfulness training program for teachers and students for schools.
- Early discussions are underway to look at changing or replacing the annual Open House evening.

Flipped Classroom and Zearn Presentation, Leah Howard, Math Coach K-5, Ryan White, 4B

- Zearn is a non-profit, computer based math program that uses the Eureka math curriculum.
- Ms. Howard explained how some fourth grade teachers are using Zearn as part of a flipped classroom technique where student view videos and complete math problems that will be covered in class the next day by the teacher. Mr. White discussed how it is used in his classroom and how it enables him to more easily identify and teach to those who need more instruction and those who are ready to move on in the lesson.

Teacher Liaison in Attendance: Lauren Regan, 1C

Business Meeting:

- January minutes were unanimously approved.
- Nominating Committee voted on and unanimously approved. Jenny Anderson, Christina Sunday and Joanna Waldron.
- Michelle Haggerty announced that she and 1st VP Julie Clark will not be returning to the board next school year.
- Michelle presented a possible Amendment to the PTA by-laws, opening the position of President to a person who is currently or who has previously served as chair of a standing committee. Nominating committee will meet to discuss further. Also proposed by Jenny Anderson and Christina Sunday, was enlarging PTA board to seven members to alleviate the work load that currently falls on the five person board. Proposed changes and more information will be posted and voted on at March PTA meeting.
- PTA Treasurer Sherri Gregg gave her report (follows).

Committee Reports and Announcements:

- Science Fair Entry forms are due Friday. Please see the PTA website for forms and information. The fair will be held on March 2nd.
- FWES Family Bingo is the evening of February 26th in the gym. Once again, many teachers have generously donated their time for auction items and for bingo calling.
- Box Tops – Congratulations to last month’s winners, Mrs. Duncheskie’s class, 2A.
- Volunteers needed for School store shifts (<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f49aaaa2fa57-school1>) and for Friday soft pretzel distribution shifts (<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b48adaf2ba31-pretzel2>). Both are very easy and short time commitments and help is needed.
- There are PTA Board positions available for next school year. Contact a member of the Nomination Committee if interested: Jenny Anderson, Christina Sunday or Joanna Waldron.
- No school on February 12th, Teacher In-Service Day, and February 15th for Presidents’ Day.
- The next Sandy Run Middle School Task Force meeting is February 16th, 7 PM at the UDHS Cardinal Room (2nd Floor). There will be an update on residential development in the township by Township Manager Paul Leonard.
- Early dismissal February 25, for Teacher In-Service
- The next Trivia Night has a date change, it will be held Friday, March 11th at Trinity Lutheran Church, more information to come.
- Dine & Earn at Mod Pizza in Horsham, February 23rd. See the PTA website and Friday folders for flyer.
- The PTA met with teachers during a luncheon in January to get requests for educational and classroom management items needed. As a result, the PTA is now in the process of purchasing many of those items for our teachers and staff.
- Indoor recess “Art on a Cart” supplies, dvd movies, and games are being collected by Mr. McAleer.

- Big Strides needs volunteers as it continues through winter, please see the sign up genius or contact Julia Watt or Ginny Vitella.
- Yearbook orders need to be done online this year, at: ybpay.lifetouch.com. The FWES school code is: 10366616. The class with the most orders by February 25th will win a pretzel party.

Thank you:

- Donna Murphy, for coordinating the exciting and fun Bungee Jumpers Assembly. And thank you to the teachers and students who participated during the assembly.
- Mr. Green and teachers who volunteered to help with the popular and fun Speed Stacking Competition.
- Victoria Racz, Eileen Sandifer and other volunteers who do the pretzel distribution on Friday afternoons.
- Ginny Vitella, Julia Watt and volunteers for keeping the kids moving and having fun at Big Strides during recess.
- Pam Olshefski and Jamie Jakubowitz for coordinating and running the school store on Wednesdays.

The next PTA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March, 2016, 7pm, in the library.

PTA President Michelle Haggerty thanked all for coming and adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Minutes prepared by Mia Payne, on February 11, 2016.

**PTA Treasurer's Report
February 10, 2016**

Deposits:

ASA	\$ 300.00
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Checks written:

School Yearbooks:	\$ 80.00
UDSD for kiln work	\$3601.14
Jump Rope Camp	\$ 850.00
Book Buddy	\$ 297.05
Science Fair (labels and flubber containers)	\$ 126.38
School Store reimbursement	\$ 201.66
Historic Philadelphia 4 th grade trip deposit	\$ 359.60
School wide gifts (Keurig for teacher's lunchroom, Hooks for 2D, K reading packets	\$ 219.51
Teacher luncheon	\$ 190.59
PA sales tax	\$ 350.95

\$6514.88

Other checks, less than \$100:

ASA reimbursement	\$ 80.00
ASA reimbursement	\$ 65.00
Play Fit recess book	\$ 17.95
Box top shipping, December prize party	\$ 25.05
Cup Stacking trophies	\$ 50.00

\$ 238.00