

Walton Ferry Elementary PTO
September 2017 General Meeting Minutes

Date, Time & Location: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 5:30pm in the school cafeteria.

Meeting Called to order by President Liz Bucary at 5:36pm

Attendance: Liz Bucary, Amanda Prater, Scott Smith, Lily Duncan, Mrs. Alligood, Mrs. Wright, Kara Frazier.

There were no guests in attendance.

Liz introduced herself and the officers and talked about the importance of the PTO.

Minutes: The minutes from May 2017 were read and approved.

Principal's Report: given by Mrs. Bertie Alligood

~Construction Update: Most of the inside is complete. The library is due to be complete fall break (Oct. 9-13). On 9/29 the carpet will be installed in the library as well as in Mrs. Alligood's office.

~The work out back is on schedule for February, there has been a lot of progress even with the rain. A retaining wall along the edge and privacy fence will be installed. The final product will include 8 classrooms, 2 workrooms, teacher and student restrooms and a new drive. We have more car riders than ever so that will help.

~There will be a new sidewalk installed for our walkers. We are getting new cafeteria tables, they just haven't arrived. We have new furniture arriving. The kids are excited and they deserve a great school.

~Dr. Phillips is supposed to bid out for classrooms to be completely redone as well.

~September 25th is the Kick-off for the Fun Run. This will be the only fundraiser operated by the school, we will not do cookie dough this year. The Fun Run is 100% profit with a just a small amount toward awards spent. Half the money that each classroom raises goes back into that classroom! This is a great incentive for the teachers! Most of the money raised last year was used by teachers for reading and instructional materials. She is working on new ideas since Sumner County no longer allows inflatables due to insurance. Last year they made \$8,000.00 on the Fun Run. This money helps supply things the county doesn't such as technology and school improvement projects.

~This year's theme "Navigating Our Way to Success" - WFE is a great school but every school needs improvement. Think "Good to Great". We are extremely pleased with how our state report card looks. It is based on growth, the state judges on growth and achievement. The new test is complicated and it is frustrating for teachers and parents. The test is moving away from multiple choice and more to writing. We want our kids to be read and write fluently as they move on to middle school and high school. We have long range goal for S.T.E.M. certification. We have a focus once a month now. The marketplace has changed, there is a lot more competition and global competition, more collaboration and technology. We want to send out students on to middle school and high school prepared. The S.T.E.M. focus will help better prepare our students. We have one of the highest percentages of gifted students. We're growing our students, pushing them for a higher standard.

~The report cards are different and can be confusing. Feel free to reach out to Mrs. Alligood with questions, email is best.

~We LOVE our kids at Walton Ferry!

Officer's Reports:

Budget - Lily Duncan, Treasurer

~Nashville City Saver put us ahead of the game. Great start to the year, we had 50 orders the first day! The kids did a great job! Lily went from room to room and that provided a quick turnaround. After the two weeks we sold 983 books with profit of \$12,441.00 and \$150 in donations.

~ We're being conservative with the budget for this year, \$51,000, \$30,000 at current time.

We receive funds from spirit nights, box tops, we have \$1,000 brought in sponsorships by Mrs. Griffin. Scott Smith motioned to approve the budget, motion seconded, approved by unanimous vote.

T-shirts and Memberships, Scott Smith, Vice President, 3-5

~The purchase of a grade t-shirt gave you membership to PTO.

~We made \$4,750 on t-shirts.

~We want every student to have a shirt. We know some students don't have the means but we think some just didn't purchase for whatever reason. We've identified 40 students that do not have a shirt.

~A motion was made to give t-shirts to those 40 kids (\$400 worth), motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

~Mrs. Alligood was very appreciated of this. Even though we're in Hendersonville we have parents that do not have the means for these purchases. 42% of our kids need assistance.

~We need membership forms. We have information on 370 students (out of 460). The school cannot share personal information with PTO so we need the forms completed so we can communicate with you.

~We will need new officers next year, at least one for my position. Please think about getting involved now.

~Scott was treasure last year and also touched on past budget information. The first year this PTO started we raised \$19,000.00, in 2016 we raised \$29,000.00. We had \$13,500 in the bank to start the year. We will have \$20,000 - \$25,000 in the bank at the end of the year.

~We previously discussed two large expenditures - a basketball court and an outdoor classroom.

These were delayed due to construction. Bids will be needed. If those are things we decide to do we will need to get bids and vote on them at a future meeting.

Spirit Nights and Corporate Sponsorships, Amanda Prater, Vice President, K-2

~Most spirit nights are 2-3 times per month, try to switch up the nights. These are at local restaurants in Hendersonville and help our school. Our teachers and Mrs. Alligood often assist, like scooping ice cream at Maggie Moos. Participation is important, we receive a percentage of funds. The more people that participate, the more money we make.

~Corporate Sponsorships are tax deductible and there is no minimum donation required. All monies go to our students, Math Seeds and Flocabulary are examples of a few things that have come from spirit nights and sponsorships.

~We can use your continued support. If you'd like to be a sponsor or have ideas for spirit nights let us know.

Calendar Updates, Kara Frazier, Secretary

~Kara shared that she sends the Remind texts, updates the WFE PTO website and Facebook.

~Shared some upcoming dates and reminded parents that all information is on the webpage.

Events, Liz Bucary, President

~We have 4 big events: Fall Festival, Holiday Fundraiser, a Dance and Spring Fling.

~The Fall Festival is October 26, volunteers needed.

~We're replacing the Santa pancake breakfast with a fundraiser through Great American fundraising. There will be wrapping paper, NFL Flags and team water tumblers. The prices are reasonable and there will be an option to buy online. Great American will do everything for us, flyers, prizes, etc. We receive 40% of the sales. We anticipate make as much or more than the Santa breakfast in the past. We're ahead of last year if we make \$1,000.00, which we think we will. Kick off on Nov. 3rd, end on Nov. 15th.

~The dance will be February 13, 2018, we may change the theme up.

~Spring Fling is April 6th and is our largest fundraiser. It will include silent auction. We will need ideas to replace the inflatables. We can use donations of gift cards.

~We will need volunteer support for all of these events and will set up sign ups via the website, Remind and Facebook.

~We as a PTO do a lot for our school and appreciate and need your support.

Questions?

~Question regarding the Predators Party award from City Saver.

The party will be on Thursday in November, a letter will go home with the kids that earned it. It will be the child and one adult.

Gift Card Drawing, Mrs. Griffin

~Jessica D. - \$25.00 gift card to Panera

~Mrs. Wright - Appetizer and Dinner at Texas Roadhouse

Liz~ If you have any suggestions or want to be an officer please reach out to us.

A motion to adjourn, motion seconded, unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.