



Walker's Grove PTO

Meeting Minutes



Walker's Grove PTO General Meeting

Date: **September 8, 2022**

Location: Walker's Grove, Media Center and Video call through Google Meets

Meeting Called To Order by Melissa Jeszka at 6:31 p.m.

Attendance:

Board Members: Melissa Jeszka, Nikki Lien, Veronica Garcia, Desi Kedzior, Erin Kenady and Tiffany King

Principal: Mr. Schafermeyer

Other Attendees: See Meeting Attendance Sign In Sheet

Started the meeting with everyone introducing themselves.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President: *Melissa Jeszka*

- PTO is planning on having Popcorn Days for each grade once a month and will be seeking volunteers.
- Spirit wear Sale is over, expecting delivery in the third week of September and will be distributed by the end of September.
- Last year 5th graders raised money for a new Buddy Bench. We have received it and are waiting for it to be installed.
- Birthday Books will also be given out this year. In August there were 63 books given out.
- Yearbooks: There will be a 5th grade cover contest again.
- Bylaws need to be updated. The last time they were updated was in 2017. They will be emailed to PTO members 14 days prior to the next PTO meeting. 10 percent of membership of 159 is needed to vote the bylaws in.
- Homecoming parade: Walker's Grove is responsible for obtaining 3 judges who are prominent people or business owners from Plainfield and also 3 volunteers. Please contact Melissa if you know of anyone or would like to be a volunteer. Next year Walker's Grove will be doing a float.

Vice President: *Nikki Lien*

- Will have classroom parties again this year, each class will have 3 parent volunteers and one of them will be the head/leader. Will get a budget of \$30. The parties will be Halloween and Winter. There will NOT be a Friendship Party, instead there will be an assembly. There will be a sign up genius and PTO members will get a chance to sign up first.

Secretary: *Veronica Garcia*

- Nothing new to report
- Copies of the April 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes were given to the people who were present.
- Motions To Approve: First approval by Erin Kenady and second by Mary Kay Gutrich.

Treasurer: *Desi Kedzior and Melissa Jeszka*

- Meeting attendants had a copy of the Financial Statement Ending 07-31-22.
PTO did great and gave back to the school
Motions To Approve: First approval by Rebecca Villegas and second by Christine Penney
- Attendants were given a copy of 2022-2023 Budget
One main addition is an expense for outdoor improvement and added two free events.
Motions To Approve: First approval by Tiffany King and second by Rebecca Villegas
- Attendants were given a copy of the Financial Report As of August 2022
Motions To Approve: First approval by Jeff Schafermeyer and second by Nikki Lien.

Fundraising: *Erin Kenady*

- Waiting for CanWow to send in a check
- Made \$375 from Culver's Restaurant Night
- Expecting around \$1500 from the mum's sales. Pickup date is September 14th.
- Smencils sales went very well, PTO purchased 800 and the unsold, will be sold and it will be all profit.
- Spirit sticks: PTO is exploring the idea of selling small patches maybe once a month.
- McDonald's Teacher night is on Sept 20th. 32 teachers have signed up. There will be a post of the teacher's McDonalds schedule. Will also be selling apple pies.
- Backroads Restaurant is on October 13th.
- Read-a-thon is Sept 19 - Sept 30
The book theme is Upside Down Magic
The school will be decorated with the theme
Every classroom will get assigned their own type of magic and compete for reading minutes
Pretty much the same as last year, and also prizes will be given out
The goal is \$35,000, same as last year
The incentive prize is a free entrance to a magic show when you raise \$20.00
When the school raises \$15,000, the school will get a magic show during the day
Donations are tax deductible and some employers also match donations so please ask your employers.

Family Activities: *Melissa Jeszka*

- There are Chairpeople for all the events which are currently being planned like pizza bingo, Polar Express movie night in December, etc.
- Adult female / Daughter Bowling is on Oct 23rd.

Teacher Report: *Mary Kay Gutrich*

- Thanked the PTO for all that they do.
- Luncheon was wonderful
- Really liked the smencils
- Think the Spirit Stick Patches are great. It would be a great idea that the kids can buy themselves and get excited about.

Administrator Report: *Mr. Schafermeyer*

- The Beautification outside is fantastic
- The letters in the school name have been ordered
- They appreciate all the PTO gifts that have been to them: rugs, fridge, teacher materials, all the supplies that the teachers have been given, kindergarten play date, popsicles with the first Principle Popsicle event before the school got started, the buddy bench, and the staff luncheon
- Presented in the CAPE Meeting on the 26th and thanked all the PTO for their hard work for last year in front of all the other PTOs.
- The school is in the middle of iReady testing, wrapping it up this week and doing some makeup next week
- School safety is a big piece for us this year. We are all trying to make our school as safe as it can be. Keeping track of everyone as they come in and out of the building, NEVER propping doors open, etc.
- Curriculum night went really great
- Tomorrow morning will have a little ceremony for Patriot's Day. Keeping it focused on the heroes instead of the tragedies of Sept 11th. Recognizing it as a day of remembrance.
- Mums pick up is on Sept 14th
- School's picture day is also on Sept 14th
- NO School on Sept 19th
- First Assembly is on Sept 30th
- Need ONE Volunteer for ONE meeting on October 4th for the parade planning
- Looking for volunteers for the Copy Club. Need about 3 to 5 volunteers for Thursdays to make copies for teachers in the mornings. It will be one person at a time every Thursday.
- Someone asked about the Watchdog program if it's one of its main purposes to patrol the school's hallways and keep it safe. When reading the Watchdog national program online, it gave the impression that one thing that dad's do is safety. Mr Schafermeyer answered that it is not used that way here in Walker's Grove. It is more for the dads to hang out with the kids and help out the school. There are various jobs that they do like organizing the library, help with recess, help with arrival, and other jobs. The dads sign up for one day for a couple hours. They might help out in the classroom/teacher, work with some kids, go to PE with them, eat lunch with them, etc. If a dad has multiple kids, they will split their day with each child. The form is in the weekly wire and in the school's website.

Committee Report: *Melissa Jeszka*

- Ongoing fundraisers: Box Tops, Coca Cola Give and Amazon Smile are all things that the PTO can earn money on. Please download the Box Tops App and scan your receipts. For the Coca cola give you can give the PTO the codes from the bottle caps or the boxes. Send them to school with your child marked PTO.
- Philanthropy: The chairperson is Rebecca Villegas. She is looking for volunteers, 2 or 3 more people and ideas. Last year there were 3 projects and they hope to do the same this year.
- Beautification: (*Tiffany King*)
 - Tiffany and Beth have mostly finished the front of the building. Need help on pulling weeds. Looking for volunteers to commit monthly or asking teachers of older classrooms to pull weeds. All the watering is done, but will still need help for the weeding. A parent mentioned that maybe we can have some older kids (Middle school and High School) come and help so they can fulfill their hours requirement.
 - Mr Schafermeyer, Tiffany and Beth went to Lincoln Elementary to look at their outdoor classroom space /recess area. The PTO board has talked about how to bring an outdoor learning space to Walker's Grove. Lincoln's principal said that the original intent was to have an outdoor classroom but it is used more in recess. They play sitting games or read. For now the PTO is planning on doing a patio and some tables to start. It will be outside by door I. Still don't have a budget and are in the early phase of planning. It is a big project and will be a multi year project.
 - A special thanks to Kim for doing the outdoor chalk drawings to welcome the kids.
- Cape meeting review was a couple of weeks ago. A principal from each school level comes and speaks about what is happening in their school level. The superintendent speaks. Mr Hernandez usually speaks but was absent. Talked about homecoming a lot. Spoke about Young Hearts for Life, they really need volunteers for Sept 13th. The training is Sept 12th. There is a link on the CAPE facebook page to sign up.
- There is going to be another assembly this year. Friendship Assembly on February 14th with Matt Wilhelm the BMX bike rider
- 14 Green Water Cups with Walker's Grove logo were raffled to the 159 PTO members. It was a random drawing and the names were called.

Questions/Comments:

- Philanthropy:

Maybe doing something for Tom Hernandez like a fundraiser.

Mr Schafermeyer suggested maybe doing something for veterans day. Maybe doing something to recognize veterans. Someone mentioned that maybe have a small assembly that the veterans attend or a photo slideshow of the veterans and their families. Another person mentioned having boys and girls dressed in uniform holding little flags line up to welcome the veterans and have coffee and donuts for them.

- Is there going to be a music assembly? Yes but don't have any information on it yet.
- Will there be any field trips this year? Yes, but as long as we get transportation. The availability of buses is limited.
- What is the homecoming theme? Movie Adventures
- Write On is back this year. Volunteers are needed. It will be starting soon. This is where the kids write books and the PTO publishes them. Volunteers are needed to proofread the books, guide the students, interview them, etc.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:41 p.m.