

Willis Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 12, 2018

Starting Time: 8:30am

Board Members Present: Deb Hossenlopp, Valerie Demino, Dawn Barbour, Liz Johnson, Bill Stenger, Billie-Jo Fintel

Other Members Present: Listed separately

Minutes Submitted by Liz Johnson

Agenda:

1. Financial Overview
 - a. WAT
 - b. Being A Reader
 - c. Math
 - d. Teacher Incentives
2. Administration Update
3. All Pro Dads
4. Upcoming Events
 - a. Mother/Son Outing
 - b. Father/Daughter Dance

Financial Overview

1. **WAT**
 - a. The WAT logo for the WAT t-shirt was approved by Mr. Stenger and Mrs. Fintel. Shirts will be ordered as soon as possible.
 - b. Dawn and Deb are still waiting on corporate matches and a couple of outstanding checks. As of now WAT brought in \$82K. If all funds are received, that total will be \$88K.
 - c. So far the WAT Prizes have been successful. The Ninja Warrior Experience was a huge hit again and the Ice Cream Social is this upcoming Monday.
2. **Being A Reader**
 - a. Administration is interested in purchasing "Being A Reader" for K- 2nd grade, using PTO funds. This is the "learning to read" aspect and is a necessary foundation for when students get to third grade.

- b. Some teachers are interested in taking the “lead” and begin using mid year to “pilot” the new program. The “Being A Reader” component has a differentiated structure which the teachers like.

3. Math

- a. Mrs. Fintel was on the committee for choosing Math options for next school year. There were five vendors at the conference, where each presented their materials and each committee member had a rubric to “grade” each one.
- b. The district narrowed the selections down to two options for Math for next school year. (Envision and Houghton Mifflin)
- c. Teachers will use “sample” materials here at Willis and then majority vote will go to the district from our school.
- d. Parents may begin to see new/additional materials come home with their children.
- e. Math manipulatives will be temporarily put on hold until we know which series that district will adopt. That way we know what we already have and what we may additionally need.

4. Teacher Incentives

- a. There are 52 units for teacher incentives. PTO will receive teachers’ orders and place them hopefully before the holidays.

Administration Update

- 1. Mrs. Fintel shared more details and answered questions regarding the Math series adoption and also the Reading gap that will happen for the 2019-2020 school year. The district will continue using Wonders and Willis will supplement with “Being A Reader” and “Making Meaning.”
- 2. Mr. Stenger thanked PTO for helping fund staff development. He truly feels like the teachers really enjoy it and that it’s an important part in supplementing any curriculum.

All Pro Dads

- 1. Mark Gordon was the guest speaker. He shared information about All Pro Dads, which meets one Friday a month at 7:30am. Mark is currently looking for more volunteers to take over the chair positions and also possible speakers for these breakfasts.

Upcoming Events

- 1. **Mother/Son Outing**

- a. Asya Stolz and Jen Danahy are chairing this event. They have a tentative date of Sunday, May 5th at Dave and Buster's. Admission price to be around \$20-\$25 per guest.
- 2. Father/Daughter Dance**
 - a. Currently receiving many sponsors and donations. More information to come!
 - b. Instead of raffling off Ritz donation, Mr. Stenger is wondering if we could use it for the Spring Gala.
3. Casino Night (March) will most likely be held at the new Grove Restaurant in Lakewood Ranch. Karen Jordan will be looking for several volunteers to help with this event.
4. Courtni Darpino shared some information regarding Family Nights. The Marauders game is scheduled for April 20th. They are still working on the logistics for the gecko painting and will know more after Winter Break.
5. Deb Sharpe chaired the Holiday Shop once again. Willis made about \$1500 less than last year but Mr. Stenger chooses to use this more as a service for our students rather than making money. Leslie Toscano will be the new chair for the 2019-2020 school year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25am