

Willis Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 10, 2019

Starting Time: 8:45am

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 Update
2. Upcoming Events
3. PTO Board Elections
4. Administration Update

Financial Update

1. Dawn Barbour went over the latest financials. We are in a great place with Business Partners going into next school year. She already has three new Business Partners for next year; two Platinum and one Gold.
2. Staff Appreciation is going well and the PTO is receiving a lot of positive feedback.
3. Casino Night was a success with a net total of \$13,900.
4. Walk-A-Thon has a net total of about \$75,000 after all prizes have been completed.
5. PTO will provide summer training to staff. Based on teacher surveys, Mrs. Price would really like to provide teachers and staff with some team building workshops.
6. The Spring Book Fair didn't bring in as much as the Fall but isn't intended to be a big money maker. As part of the PTO Kindness Initiative, Willis provided 680 books to students at Moody Elementary. The students will each be able to take a book home for summer reading.
7. Possible future PTO purchases may include new playground equipment for both playgrounds (funnel ball) and outsourcing uniforms starting this coming school year.

Upcoming Events

1. Field Day will be Friday, May 17th. Tara Merino is already in planning mode and is looking for volunteers. As always, it takes many volunteers to make this day happen!

2. On the Lake will be Tuesday, May 21st, which will conclude all WAT activities.
3. Mrs. Price has a start date of June 3rd.

PTO Board Elections

1. Mrs. Fintel thanked the PTO for the purchases made this school year and shared that “Being a Writer” has made a big impact on the students at Willis. Administration is seeing a lot more writing being done in the classrooms.
2. Manatee County district observers came into the classrooms to see how teachers are using the new materials. Mrs. Fintel is so appreciative that we purchased these materials early on and now we can impact other children at other schools.
3. Mr. Stenger applauded Mrs. Fintel for her extensive research of the PTO funded programs and for identifying the needs at Willis.
4. Mrs. Fintel shared the PTO Board Election process and asked for any nominations from the floor. With no incoming nominations, the current Board agreed to continue as PTO Board members for the 2019-2020 school year.

Administration Update

1. Willis has several teachers retiring this year and the hiring process has already started. Mrs. Fintel and Mrs. Price are looking for applicants that are collaborative, relationship oriented, and active in the community.
2. The county has granted Willis another SSS (Student Support Specialist) in addition to Mrs. Johnson. We have also received an additional PE Coach.
3. Manatee County is very focused on improving and maintaining student well-being, mental health, and school safety.
4. Administration was required to complete a full day training on mental health and now perform monthly checks on students exhibiting specific behaviors. It is understood that at some point, teachers will undergo mental health training as well. Administration isn't sure what that training will look like just yet.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45am