

Winchester Schools PTO

Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2021

MINUTES

Location: Virtual (Google Meet)

Attendance: Rachel Incillo, Bryan Sundie, Kelly Mosher, Kimberly Tripoli, Jen Scacca, Rachel Gangi, Ashley Incillo, Sara Guenther, Renetta Waldron, Kelly (unidentified)

Start: 6:15 p.m.

Business

R. Incillo nominates Kimberly Tripoli to serve as PTO treasurer. Second, B. Sundie

Vote: Unanimous

Discussion

- R. Incillo describes web site features, availability of agenda, meeting minutes and meeting registration document;
- R. Waldron expresses interest in forming a TGS PTO (if one doesn't exist), brief/general discussion about communication between WPS and TGS parent groups;

Reports from Committees, etc.

CHAMPS: (via R. Incillo) A few spots available for ski club, and scholarships available. A few spots remain open for Tetris tournament, and CHAMPS will host other e-sports events in the future. Drama club is at work. After school program at maximum capacity. Finishing fall round of art club. Hoping for a Pearson talent show (spring) but must determine COVID restrictions.

Beardsley Library report: unavailable

Yearbook Committee: (J. Scacca) Discussion on whether to charge parents for yearbooks, which would be a departure from past practice. Or subsidizing some of the cost. Could be necessary due to use of a new vendor whose production prices greater than those used in past. Discussed strategies to raise money to pay for the yearbooks to alleviate parent cost, also starting ad sales program that would be used in the future. More discussion research on this topic is needed.

Scholastic (S. Guenther): Book fair to run from Nov. 29 through Dec. 3, week of parent teacher conferences. Expect it to be an in-person event. Are there enough volunteers to

run three book fairs simultaneously (at all schools)? R. Incillo indicates several people have reached out to volunteer. K. Mosher and R. Gangi express interest in helping. Scholastic committee also holds a book giveaway two to three times a year.

Social enrichment committee (R. Incillo): No events planned for the fall/winter, must figure out COVID restrictions. Generally speaking, these events are popular; in the past, they have included teacher appreciation and an end-of-year barbecue. Discussion around PTO involvement in upcoming Veterans' Day event—no PTO help requested.

Fundraising committee (R. Incillo): Chairman needed for fundraising committee.

Treasurer's report (R. Incillo): A. Incillo and S. Guenther have been refamiliarizing themselves with PTO financial management application. S. Guenther over the past few years has led fundraising efforts. Current balance: \$30,471.50. Solid balance attributable to the fact that during SDE receivership WPS had more money than usual and didn't need as much assistance from PTO.

Principal reports: Tech problems prevented principals from joining, but R. Incillo summarizes principal reports. Implementation of curriculum has started. Of note, third graders are studying how the Flood of '55 changed Winsted's landscape, and 5th graders elected their Kid Governor candidate: Jaden Sevrenson.

Family resource center: In-person play groups are being held (outdoors, when weather permits.)

Adjourn: 7:15 p.m.