



MWE PTA Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 13, 2016  
8:08 am to 9:18 am

- I. Welcome/Call to Order - President Pamela Ferworn  
The meeting was called to order at 8:08 am.
- II. Establishment of Quorum - Susan Thomas
- III. Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Sara Vasut to approve the minutes as presented. Sara Norwood seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the membership.
- IV. Treasurer's Report - Sarah Laird
  - a. The treasurer shared the PTA balance sheet to show \$91,979.07 in total assets with \$52,853.03 in net revenue.
  - b. Revenue update
    - i. Silent Auction - \$16,117.90
    - ii. Carnival - \$39,349.91
    - iii. Children's Artwork - \$3,823.25 gross
    - iv. Sponsorships - \$34,589.00
  - c. Expenditures to note:
    - i. OT Specialist - \$1,350.00
    - ii. WITS - \$7,600.00
  - d. Letters to donors for tax deductions will be going out soon
  - e. Next month we will look at budget categories to determine if they need modifying
- V. Principal's Report - Dr. Pamela Redd
  - a. The district is applying to be a "District of Innovation." This frees the district up from following state regulations and gives more options to help students such as flexibility with timing, graduating students, and customized support. Superintendent, Dr. Muri has been coming to meet to discuss plans. An executive coach came to the district to discuss "top-down" versus "site-based" approaches in the schools.
  - b. Iowa Testing is happening next week. This norm-referenced test is in addition to and goes above and beyond STAAR tests.
  - c. An inservice was held for teachers at the beginning of January about sensory processing issues with students. This inservice was funded by PTA's project study budget and brought in an OT specialist. As kids get less hands-on experiences in schools, there is a rise in sensory processing issues. Teachers learned some make and take tools for helping the kids.

- d. A parent at the meeting expressed concern concerning the foul-smelling water at some of the school water fountains. Dr. Redd said it has been tested and the water is fine to drink. It is sulphur gas in the pipelines.

VI. Committee Chair Reports

- a. Watch DOGS - Kevin Rump: Donuts and Dads will be on January 14 from 7:00 to 8:00 am in the multipurpose room. This event is to encourage and promote the Watch DOGS program and get dads to sign up for spring semester shifts. T-shirt orders will be available and an online sign-up is coming soon. More grade levels are being incorporated into the program.
- b. Shirlanne Alexander-Gay: International Festival/Family Fun Night is next Thursday, January 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Currently it is very under budget and there are some fun activities lined up including an erupting Hawaiian volcano.
- c. Project Study - Laura Pena: This committee consists of 3 teachers and 4 parents. There is a budget of \$7,600 in reserve funds that can be used to provide opportunities and enrichment that benefit the students and do not fit into an existing budget category. Applications are due at the end of the month and currently none have been turned in for review.
- d. Spring Fundraiser/Boosterthon - Georgia Polley: This event will be held March 1-10 just prior to spring break. It raises funds for the next school year. Last year's event proceeds went to hiring interventionists this year.

VII. Other

- a. Motor Lab - Denise Stanton and Donni Blair are interested in helping get this program up and running. C-SHAC activities align with goals of motor lab: Nutrition education, gardening, physical fitness components. Wobbly chairs being purchased to help build core-strength.
- b. Jennifer Hammer is leading a MDUMC service project to beautify the front natural setting, pathways, and flowerbeds at the MWE entrance.
- c. Career Day - Allison Skoutelakis is helping coordinate guest speakers. Volunteers must have a degree/certification from a technical, 2-year or 4-year training program. It will be on February 8 from approximately 8:15 to 9:30.
- d. Chinese New Year dancers will be coming February 5 at 10:30 to perform in the mall area.
- e. Spelling bee was last Friday. The winners were Harrison Brooks and Sarah Schwartz.

VIII. President's Report - Pamela Ferworn

- a. A membership drive is ongoing this semester. Memberships are \$10 and can be accessed on the PTA website.
- b. PTA is allowed 6 free food days in which food outside the district school nutrition guidelines may be served. PTA is looking at ideas like pizza, yogurt, chicken nuggets, sno-cones, cupcakes, food trucks, etc to serve on days like Boosterthon, Valentine's Day, Field Day, etc.
- c. The School Bell Award given by the Council of PTA and awarded to an

outstanding staff member is coming soon. PTA members can nominate any staff member who goes above and beyond in their role at Meadow Wood Elementary. The winner will attend the district's Founder's Day Dinner and will be a nominee for the district level award. Nominations are due by the 15th of January and can be a few paragraphs as to what makes the nominee special and why they should be recognized.

- d. Teacher of the Year in an award given by the district to a teacher within the district and those nominations are due soon as well. Anyone may nominate a teacher.
- e. PTA will be applying for various awards. More information will be coming on the application process.
- f. A nominating committee led by Sara Norwood is being formed to find nominees to fill open PTA positions that must be voted on by the membership. These positions can be held 1-2 years. Open positions for next year include President and Secretary.
- g. The bylaws must be reviewed, updated and voted on every five years. There has been a 30 day review of proposed changes. These bylaws and standing rules can be accessed by the membership on the PTA website. A motion was made by Denise Stanton to approve the by-laws as they were presented. The motioned was seconded by Sarah Laird. 21 members were present to vote. 21 members were in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. The motion to accept the changes (see attached sheet) to the by-laws as presented was approved by the membership.

IX. Adjournment was at 9:18 am.

Susan M Biehl

MWE PTA Secretary 2015 - 2016