

PTA Meeting 9/8/16 : Library, Wasatch Elementary

In attendance: Cory Pike (Secretary), Julie Livers (President), Julie Lewis, Rachel Preslar (Treasurer), Dawn Ann Bullough, Jen Levy, Kris Lipson (Vice President), Valerie Stormont, Lori Mercer, Mandi Blatt, Jen Bergman, Ruma Srivastava, Gina Roper, Nora Ericson, Holly Clark, Kumuda Vallis, Tane Williams, Jen Hughes, Stephanie Quintero, Racheel Taussky, Deborah Candler, Augusta Comey (Volunteer Coordinator), Brian Bevan, Brooke Scott, Nicole Parker

1. Welcome by Julie Livers, President

Introductions of attendees

Approval of 7/18/16 minutes - summer budget meeting

2. Announcements:

a. Holly Clark re: Halloween carnival - Need haunted house lead; *Holly will publish request in October newsletter; Augusta will do volunteer call-out; Vorn Bullough & Lori Mercer will take responsible for Halloween carnival starting in 2017.*

3. School Reports:

PTA would like to shorten the amount of reporting time so we can allow enough leave time to address agenda items; *Julie Livers will check in with Nicole Parker about SIC report since Nicole cannot attend meetings until 12p.*

a. Dawn Ann Bullough, faculty report/ SIC

i. Math facts decals for stairs - *Janice Farrell & Dawn Ann will research and present funding request to PTA*

ii. Scholastic Book Fair (SBF) will occur over an unusual time period this fall:

Items delivered and set up on 10/18/16;

SBF opens on Wednesday 10/19/16;

Reopens 10/24/16 after UEA break;

Dismantled on Thursday 10/27/16;

n.b. Halloween Carnival on 10/28/16 & parent-teacher conferences on 10/26/16 and 10/27/16

b. Principal Deb Candler's report

i. State law passed effective Sept 1 that states school volunteers may not be alone -ever - with children unless that volunteer has a background check or unless that volunteer is with a supervisor (with a background check); examples could include parent field trip drivers, chaperoning students on field trips in pull-out groups, or staffing classrooms without teacher/aid present; parents working with students in hallways is OK, as long as classroom doors remain open;

Deb, and all other principals are responsible and liable for enforcing.
Deb will publicize the new policy and procedure to survey and register volunteers via Star folder, FB, and parent email group.

Parent volunteers are responsible for the \$55 cost of the background check with the SLC School District; Jen Levy asked whether PTA could provide hardship money for background checks, and on what basis or distribution; *this topic will be a future funding request once Deb has a clear procedure in place.*

For more information, see the Utah Administrative code:
<http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r277/r277-516.htm>

ii. Review of SIP (School Improvement Plant) activities include 1) a Language Arts focus as opposed to a student behavior focus 2) emphasis on Tier 2 instruction (those students who need additional support, above standard level of instruction) and 3) family support for assisting their students with homework

iii. Questions to Ms. Candler related to ESL instruction, and current Wasatch student enrollment, which stands at 451

c. Julie Lewis - Arts Specialist report

i. Met with LDS Hospital, a positive and willing community ally to discuss partnership; printing facility at LDS may be able to do printing for art cards which could yield a higher profit for each card; currently cards are sold for \$1.00, and printing costs are currently about .20/card.

ii. Family art night will be end of Feb/beginning of March - dance & music theme; discussion of t-shirt silkscreen and t-shirt color choices; *Rachel Preslar and Julie Lewis will coordinate next order of school t-shirts*

iii. Cory Pike asked for clarification and a description of Fine Arts Committee (FAC) at Wasatch which is comprised of faculty members at most grade levels plus Ms. Lewis; Janice Farrell (4th) is 2016/17 Chair; Fine Arts Committee determines artistic themes for each year, promotes consistency, assists in developing an arts-integrated curriculum and promotes professional development opportunities for faculty via BTS;

Arts Showcase Chair is appointed by Fine Arts Committee; parent Jen Levy will serve as 2016/17 Chair and she will be mentored by Sherri Hutten, former Wasatch parent and long-time Arts Showcase Chair; Jen Levy will assemble an Arts Showcase committee comprised of parents and faculty; PTA supplies the Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator's services during Showcase.

d. SCC report - Stephanie Quintero

First meeting of year to be held 9/15/16 in the Library; on the agenda is emergency backpack organization and coordination, election of Chair/Vice Chair, and setting the 2016/17 SCC meeting dates; election ballots for three open SCC seats are due Monday 9/12/16;

e. SIC - Nicole Parker

i. Staffing changes include 1) Hadleigh Craig, technology coordinator; she has aftercare experience and is great with kids and enthusiastic 2) Ellie Hughes, PE specialist and aide

ii. Wasatch needs headphones for all students, or class sets of headphones; we have 60 existing laptops and 20 more on order, so at least 80 sets of headphones; is it possible for students to bring their own sets to use? *Julie Livers will contact local company Skullcandy to see if they can donate/provide any headphones (not ear buds)*

iii. Veterans Day production by 6th graders - 9a school / 11a parents - Nicole will invite new SLCSO Superintendent

f. PTA Treasurer's Report - Rachel Preslar

i. Rachel distributed the 16/17 proposed budget (also previously posted) for group vote and approval;

ii. PTA workroom in process of reorganization and de-cluttering; first round is complete, and Rachel Preslar will bring discarded items after meeting to DI;

iii. How shall we handle old unsold Wasatch T-shirts and sweatshirts? Rachel conflicted about donating them out of respect for members of the community who purchased them; suggestion that Wasatch kids in need can use in-house and *Deb Candler will contact local places who send their kids to Wasatch e.g. Odyssey House, House of Hope and Ronald McDonald House, especially for adult sized items*

iv. PTA will fund additional chairs to add to the new rack in the auditorium

v. Kris Lipson motioned / Valerie Stormont seconded and all in favor to approve 16/17 budget

Discussion items

1. Whitney Childers, RallyMe founder and Wasatch parent

a. RallyMe is the online vendor for PTA fall fund-raiser which kicks off 9/23/16 and spans three weeks; for the first time ever, our fund-raiser will be direct donation-based as opposed to students selling items from a catalog: **YAY**

b. Target goal is \$25000 but we will most likely move to \$40000 as a motivator; if 25k earned, then all-school party; there will be a specific grade level (not classroom) award for participation

c. Questions & comments:

- i. Online payment confirmation includes tax information
- ii. Offline contributions work, too; donators may bring contributions to Wasatch office
- iii. Who sees "back data"? Valerie Stormont, Fundraising Chair, and Deb Candler
- iv. Wasatch takes 92% funds raised; 8% goes to RallyMe (3% credit card processing + 5% administrative fee)

d. Whitney created wasatchpta.com, a direct link to our online campaign and created a strategy for the 3 week fund-raising campaign; she also created a handout to be distributed in Star folders that describes the campaign and our goals

e. Valerie announced our kick-off party on 9/23/16 at 12p in Auditorium - PTA members most welcome to attend; event intends to drum up excitement about the campaign; students will receive postcards with sample scripts about asking for money; video production of kids describing the importance of arts education in their own words and stories;

f. PTA members are champions for this campaign; we can make it happen!

Next meeting October 7, 2016; Kris Lipson (sweet) & Lori Mercer (savory) on snack

Meeting adjourned at 1250p