**Washington Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes**

**10-10-16**

**Meeting Attendees:** Laura Bemel, Shane Baier, Diane Winegar, Jennifer Brunz, Sarah Peterson, Marni Moule, Alison Carlson, Chelsey Breilmaier, Angie Davis, Casey Neitzel, Ayleen Leonhard, Tracy Opie, Stephanie Wolff, Amy Cain, Dustin Ehlers, Leah Ries

**September Meeting Minutes:** Will be posted on the PTO website which is part of the Washington Elementary website.

**Treasurers Report:** *See attached.*

**Teacher Report:**

Amy Cain discussed the Literacy night that will be held on October 27. It will have an author presenting a book, a writer discussing the process of writing and an illustrator. There will also be firefighters and police officers reading in the library as well as other activities and a pizza dinner.

**Principal Report:** Shane Baier and Amy Cain went over the PowerPoint presentation about Washington/Title 1 school.

PAWS Applause has been replaced by the PAWS den. Teachers/Staff will hand out little applause “tickets” that can be placed into the den and be drawn out for prizes.

Shane suggested PTO involved parents and staff watch the video “Run Hide Fight” which is available on YouTube. It provides useful information in the event of a crisis situation in a public setting. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0>

Shane informed the PTO that Washington received a grant to help pay for staff training in the “Leader in Me” skills.

The school is starting to incorporate the 7 Habits of Happy Kids. Teachers and the school are incorporating school/classroom jobs to help create leadership opportunities as well as having restructured Student Council to have different focus areas and be able to incorporate more students in each group.

**Requests for funding:**

Leah Ries made a request for a music oriented rug for the music room. The total cost for the rug would be $794. The school will be able to fund a portion of the rug and her request to PTO was for $300 for the remainder of the cost. Laura made a motion; Marni 2nd. Motion passed.

Angie Davis made a request for a set of multi-cultural baby dolls. Diane made a motion; Chelsey 2nd. Motion passed.

Angie Davis also requested funding for a Kindergarten field trip to the Children’s Museum in Mankato. Not sure of the total cost needed. Jennifer made a motion; Marni 2nd. Motion approved.

**Committee Reports:**

**Yearbook:**  Nothing to report at this time.

**Book Fair:** The book fair that was held with the “Open House” on Thursday, October 6 brought in around $3000. Washington receives about 40% of those earnings. PTO was able to purchase over $1000 of books that teachers had requested. Will try to set up earlier for the next book fair so teachers will have more time to pull out books that they would like for their classrooms. Tracy will also make sure that we have at least 2 cash registers for future bookfairs. The next book fair will coincide with the February 9, Family Fun Night since Febraury is “I Love to Read Month.”

**Fundraising:** Jennifer will be submitting a shipment of Boxtops by November 1.

A flier will come home in Tuesday folders with info about fundraising opportunities at our school (ie. Boxtops, Campbells labels, Milk Moola) Information was presented about AMAZON SMILE program. Information can only be dispersed electronically so it will be posted on Facebook and possibly via e-mail.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/90-0542342>

**Conference Meals:** Diane discussed meals for teachers on the nights of Parent/Teacher Conferences. Conferences will be held on November 15, 17 and 21. PTO will purchase the main course of the meals and request donations of food items from Washington Families. “Sign-Up Genius” pages will be created to coordinate food being donated. It was decided that the meals would be 1)Soups; 2) sandwiches; 3) walking tacos

**Events:**

Walk –a-Thon: Marni needs to get a date set and is waiting to hear if there are any field trips, etc. that could conflict with a Walk-a-Thon on a Friday in May. Will get a letter drafted to be sent to area businesses and organizations to request donations, etc. for our Walk-a-Thon. Planning meetings will start in the near future.

Upcoming Family Fun Nights: January 13, February 9, March 9 and April 20 (math night)

**Misc.**

Looking for a group/organization that would be willing to provide free childcare during PTO meetings. If anyone has any suggestions, please pass them along to Jennifer Brunz.

Meeting adjourned.