

MINUTES

Marion Walker Elementary PTO

September 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Tara Ripka at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance

In attendance

New Business

New Executive Committee:

Tara Ripka is PTO President

Katie Baney is vice president and is doing secretary for Bikem who is in the hospital so say prayers for her

Bikem is our Secretary

Heather Huntsinger is our Treasurer

Teachers Cookie Jar Sign-up sheet 4-dozen every 2 weeks. Sign-up sheet is going around

Marion Walker PTO has a Facebook Page will be kept up to date by Bikem

We are working on updating our page on the Marion Walker School Website. Please be patient.

New Volunteer Requirements and Guidelines-Clearance

Mrs. Knepp and Mrs. Rossman retired after many years of service. The PTO will have bricks for each of them engraved. Tara will contact Natures Cover to see if they could engrave the bricks

Reading Counts Lab after hours. The PTO monitors the library Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for children to come into the library to monitor during this time to make sure that the children are following the rule for doing we would like to start October 6th and every Tuesday through November.

The school no longer has computer labs the school district now has Chromebook Carts for each child to use Chromebook in the classrooms with an extra Chromebook cart that floats throughout the school for areas where it is needed.

Tara represents the MW Elementary at the monthly Parent Council Meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Tara.

Mrs. Yontosh pointed out that at Kindergarten orientation that they would like additional serving of ice cream so that all students and any siblings wanting ice cream

Treasurer's Report

Book of the Budget reports from the executive Meetings needs reviewed and signed off by 2 people for approval. Heather gave a description of what the treasurer's report shows and what the budgets mean and the holding accounts – four of them; several Project Budgets that are to be used throughout the year. Heather is explaining that she is new. She is trying to figure out how to make reimbursement quicker by possibly doing online. Mrs. Yontosh pointed out that we need to add two special teachers to the budget

Tech person — Julie Henry

ESL Spanish teacher to be announced

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report

Erin Cernuska approved

Shannon Hillard seconded

Old Business

We gave a \$200 donation to the Governor's park fund

We replaced our slide with the funds that we raise and with a grant from the Bellefonte Elks

Committee Reports

Ways and Means: Michelle McConnell

Cookie Jar Sign up for 1st half of year was filled in tonight

Field Day: Kim Belcher, Kim Hillacker and Megan Kline

Discussion on whether to keep at the park or move back to school. There is much more room at the park

Fundraising: Cynthia Naspinski

Working on the packets for our first fundraiser — Great American. If you buy from Schwann and you order online, then a percentage of your order will go to Marion Walker.

Bag special- Larger for \$2 and Small \$1

If you sign up for the \$50 no Fundraiser membership fee then just through away the fundraisers that your child brings home.

Holiday Store: Danielle

They are crafting. If anyone is interested in helping with crafting please let them know. Date of the holiday store is December 11th. If you do crafts they need them in 20 items if you want to donate items. They need corks and clothespins.

Membership

Joy already has a stack of forms already. To vote and be a member of the PTO then you need to at least pay a \$1

SUNNY D and Book Distribution: Wendy Thomas

Winter Carnival: Tonya Januski, Bikem Oskin and Kim Hearn

Date: February 26th. Tickets will be available prior to the carnival.

Volunteer Coordinator — Need someone to coordinate

Yearbook: Andrea Harman

BOX TOPS: Robin Sweka

Explained Box tops and prizes for the students that bring 50 box tops in and for classes reaching a certain number of box tops donated to school

Fall Dance: Robin Sweka

Need more monitors and parents to help make sure that doors, hallways and bathrooms are watched to ensure that some structure and rules during the dance. A PA System and other items needed for the fall dance along with parent to volunteer to make sure that the fall dance is safe and fun for the children.

Labels for Education: Kim Belcher

Scripts-Gift Cards: Mrs. Hamilton

The main time for orders is November and December for holiday gifts. Tara brought up that the catholic school does a fund raiser with Weis Market gift cards. The Weis Gift cards are not offered in Scripts. The PTO would have to commit to \$1000 in gift cards to sell. It was motioned and approved by the majority of parents at the meeting for our PTO to do this. Weis Gift Cards — \$5 for every \$100 in gift cards from Tara

5K/1mile: Erin Cernuski

Sunday, October 11th 3p for the 5K and 4pm for 1 Mile at walker township Building

Teacher Representative: Patty Correll

Mr. Burrows — Expressed appreciation for parents and the school PTO. He pointed out that parents are needed to help with the Spring Bluebird Building event because of the use of nails, hammers, screwdrivers, and drills

Mrs. Yontosh

Thanks the PTO for the new slide and all that they have done for the school.

PTO is who helped pay for the Stage Curtains; bought every bulletin board in the hallways; the Promethean boards were made possible with the help of the PTO.

Our Field Trips our Classroom budgets all are possible by the PTO.

Volunteerism is huge for this school; this school has clocked in over 3,000 hours of volunteering hours in this school. What Mrs. Yontosh is showing how the school district is asking because of Act 153 Liz Stone is the volunteer coordinator for the school district. Any one that wants to volunteer at a school activity during the school day, when the children are present, then you must be a registered volunteer.

There will be a sheet that will show what PTO school events will require clearances. You do not need this if you are a guest speaker or a presenter then you don't need the clearances. Go to Bellefonte School District webpage, click on parents then Volunteer Clearances for more information: www.basd.net/Domain/84

All the paperwork must be submitted to the school board for final approval so it is better to do it early than wait right before you want to do something with your child's class. There is a section that shows you all the forms that you will need. Once given Clearances you will have them for 5 years. Volunteer clearances cannot be used for employment purposes. BUT employment clearances can be used for volunteer clearances.

Please don't let this process keep you from volunteering.

Other Updates from Mrs. Yontosh ... We are up and running there have been some scheduling glitches but we are working through it. The cafeteria is one area that we have to work through some things. Working with our school wide rule and school wide positive behavior. New Spanish teacher is starting K, 1, 2 this year. We have a new business tech person so that the curriculum for technology is being reached before the children know what to do with technology before they advance to middle school. We are starting a second 6 day cycle so remember that the school day starts at 8:10 a.m.

Back to school night is September 23rd 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mr. Burrows pointed out that 4th and 5th grade back to school night will be different. For 4th grade 6:30-7 p.m. parent are asked to come to the library. From 7-7:30 p.m. there will be breakout session. 5th grade will be doing something similar but because 5th grade is larger they will be in the cafeteria/gym from 6:30-7 p.m. with breakout sessions from 7-7:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be September 14, 2015 at 7 p.m. at Marion Walker Elementary School Library

Motion to adjourn meeting made by
Wendy Thomas (1st)
Patty Correll (2nd)

Submitted by Bikem Oskin