

Jacob Wismer PTO Meeting
October 11, 2016
Staff Room

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 2:04pm.

Joan Mc Fadden, Tracy Bario, Bradi Gates, Angela Babst, Amy Charon and Sarah Sperbeck-Koenders were in attendance.

Presidents Report

Meeting Times – There is concern over the afternoon meeting time. Most of the board members are not able to make it then due to works schedules. Tracy Bario recommended starting at 6pm so the meetings don't run so late and people don't have to miss bedtime. All agreed to move forward with this idea.

Class Party Funds – The hope at this time is to fund class parties from money raised through the 2016 jogathon. The plan is to wait and see based on what we raise.

Secretary's Report

Merideth is making changes on the website to highlight the main focus at the moment.

Principal's Report

- 1) Elementary Boundary Meeting – The second meeting is Thursday, October 20th from 6-9pm at Jacob Wismer (cafeteria). There are six committee members that include three parents from Springville and three from Jacob Wismer. Jacob Wismer's members are: Josh Gates, Jyothy Vemuri and Jagan Srinivasaraghavan. The first meeting at Springville on October 6th included an activity with table groups that drew possible boundary lines based on geographic features and neighborhoods. Each group shared their plans and reasoning. The second meeting at Jacob Wismer will include possible scenarios based on the committee's and groups' first activity and

will include additional information from the district that was requested at the first meeting.

- 2) Conference Scheduling – A School Messenger email will be sent tomorrow with the link to sign up for conferences.
- 3) Photographs – If parents opted-out on the privacy form, this means that their child will not have a Dorian photo composite. It also means that their picture will not be included on webpages, hallways, classrooms, 5th grade yearbook, class photos, etc.
- 4) Tracy and Joan met with Karrie Kent for potential Artist and Residence. She does clay puppets. She would meet with each class 3 times for 50 minutes each. The quote was \$7,580. Tracy and Joan will present to Grade Levels but are not sure about the cost for what the children will be producing. They will be in contact with Ken Debenti.

Community Partnership Team

We have two projects this year that involve our community partners:

- 1) Translator Tree – We are recruiting bilingual parents to translate and send out email to families who do not speak English. So far, we have translators for Chinese, Japanese, Hindi and Gujarati.
- 2) Before-School Tech Club – Kathleen will be coordinating the volunteers for our Before-School Tech Club. Please see the Journal for more information.

PTO Liaison

Grade Level Reports – Get from Tracy

VP Fundraising Report

Jog-a-thon – The first collection was today! 17% of the school participated with \$8,636 collected and an additional \$2,500 online! This is such a great start!!!

Master George/Other – We received a \$500 check from Master George. He continues to be so generous to our school!

Marathon Running Club – The PE teachers are going to start a running club on Wednesday mornings. All grades are welcome to participate -

the first 100 students to sign-up will be involved. Volunteers will be needed!

5th Grade Activities – Money is needed for Biztown and we're not sure yet how to fund it. We have a \$2,340 request at this point, but there is also a transportation issue. In order to try and have more time there they would like to charter their own bus, which would be an additional \$1509! After some discussion, the plan is to ask 5th grade parents to pay admission for Biztown and then PTO will pay for the \$1509 extra bus fee. If 5th grade fundraising and Jogathon meet their goals, then the extra money will be put back into 5th grade activities. Amy Charon made a motion to fund the transportation cost and Angela seconded that motion.

VP of Community Events Report

Fall Barn Dance – The dance is only a few days away and we still need a few more volunteer slots filled. Otherwise, Wendy has everything ready for another fun Jacob Wismer dance!

Author Visits – Krishnamurthy Woonnmani wrote that he has confirmed Jim Cogan for a full day residency. The all day residencies can combine assemblies and workshops in a variety of formats that we can customize to fit JW plans and schedules. An exact date and time still need to be scheduled, but he has blocked off Jan. 9th (Mon) 10th (Tues) and 11th (wed) for us right now. We have to remember that a personal service contract is needed for the author visit.

OBOB – We are still in great need of many volunteers in order to make this program happen. A few ideas were thrown around as to how to make this happen – for example having it be a requirement that if you would like for your child to participate then you are required to help. Tina is going to continue to try and recruit people and we will revisit this. There is also talk of OBOB occurring at 7:45 in the morning.

Volunteer Coordinator's Report

The Change to MyVolunteerpage.Com Volunteer system has been going pretty well. We now have 555 volunteers (with confirmed background checks) in the system with pink badges. There is some learning curve with using the

MyVolunteerPage.Com application for signing up for events. It will improve with time as everyone gets used to it.

Jog-a-Thon - All slots were filled (except 4th grade)

Picture Day - Still need 7 volunteers (email sent)

Barn Dance - we are about 60% filled

Parent figured out how to sign-in on phone... need to figure this out and relay it to people.

Treasurer's Report

5th Grade Biz Town – See above.

No other financial topics were addressed.

Member at Large Report

Joan is waiting to hear back about how the silverware was switched over.

Jyothy's Update:

I turned in the receipts from New Family Orientation expenses and put them in treasurer's mail box. Angela, please let me know if you need any additional details.

Attended an Eco school network meeting last week and found that Bethany Elementary has done away with plastic spoons/forks/knives and replaced them with stainless steel silverware in their cafeteria. I am looking into the possibility of doing the same at Jacob Wismer. I talked to Joan and she is checking with nutritionist to figure out whether there are any roadblocks to this proposal. It is still very early however, just giving you a heads up- it might become an agenda item at a future meeting.

My husband was able to get 8 gift cards of \$25 each (\$200 total) as a donation from Columbia Sportswear for Jog-a-thon. I handed them to Merideth last week- please let me know if any additional information is needed from me.

Grade Level Updates for October 11, 2016

Kindergarten:

Kindergarten is off to a great start. We have been working as a community to learn about school and being excellent Jacob Wismer Students! This time of year involves a lot of training! We have been studying about fall and the seasons, doing apple projects and are just about to begin our pumpkin unit. We are taking a field trip to the pumpkin patch! (We went today, October 11)

We are learning to navigate reading workshop, writing workshop and math workshop. It is going to be a GREAT year!

First Grade:

First grade is off to a great start! We have been practicing our daily routines for reading/writing workshop and working on our reading stamina. We are also learning about science inquiry. The first graders are were very excited for the Jog-a-Thon!

Second Grade:

- Started place value in math
- Multiple Presentations on Safety: OHSU is coming to do a ThinkFirst Safety Presentation next week, Human Society came last week to talk about dog safety, Poison Control is coming in Nov.
- Science - worked/ working through Skills handbooks on Scientific Method / What it means to be a scientist and Engineering and Design
- Starting Nat'l Symbols unit in Social Studies
- Working on thinking while reading / retelling

Third Grade:

The third grade team has begun Walk to Math. We will complete Module One this week and then move into a measurement unit. We are incorporating more time with iPads in our classrooms using Bookshelf, Zearn and soon, Chatterbox. Students are learning about the Scientific Process and Engineering Design, and studying the similarities and differences in urban, suburban and rural communities.

Fourth Grade:

Fourth grade is busy writing realistic fiction, going over place value strategies, and trying to germinate seeds for the garden. (If anyone is willing to lend gardening expertise, we are open for any kind

of help!) We are also preparing to hatch salmon eggs again this year, with a release date set for some time in December. Also, an opportunity for a field trip suddenly arose and we jumped at the chance. Hopefully we will have a trip planned for next Friday, October 21, where we will go to Astoria to see Fort Clatsop.

Fifth Grade:

Fifth grade is happy to begin our Walk to Math program the second week of October. We feel it's a great way for students to acclimate themselves to the experience of going to different teachers during the day and is a great prep for middle school. We are also super excited about our return to BizTown this year. This program encompasses important elements of community and economy, work readiness, financial literacy, and business management. As part of the program, we will spend the day at JA BizTown on November 8th. This on-site visit will provide students with an opportunity to apply what they have learned in a realistic setting. Each student will assume a job, produce and/or sell products, and manage a personal banking account. Throughout this program, students are encouraged to use critical thinking skills to learn about key economic concepts as they explore and enhance their understanding of free enterprise.

Maggie Patterson, Counselor

During the month of September, I did an introductory lesson in every classroom to get to know the students and share important information about my role at school and how to get in contact with me. Since there are many new students to Jacob Wismer, I also ran "new student mini-groups" during recesses where I pulled 3-4 new students at a time and did a fun activity to connect and make new friends. The school year is off to a great start!

ESL:

We love our PTO who makes us feel appreciated and adored!!! they are always willing to help out...
If anyone is interested, we would love to have a monthly volunteer to help with us or other specialists.

Music:

The 2nd graders are busy preparing for their performance of Zoo-Rific! on Tuesday, November 15th from 2:00-2:30 in the cafeteria.

Honor Choir News:

Four honor choir students have been nominated for the All-State Elementary Honor Choir which holds their rehearsals and performance during the OMEA (Oregon Music Educators Association) conference in January. It is an extremely competitive field since teachers from all over the state can nominate their students, and we are only guaranteed that one of our students will be able to actually attend. However, it is good audition experience for those students who are interested, and it was a wonderful chance for me to be able to hear some of my students individually. We will find out who will be going at the end of October.

The Honor Choir is performing and leading music at our Spirit Assembly today (October 10), and will be leading the upcoming sing-a-long that will open our school day on the day before our December break (December 16th).

There was no new business addressed at the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:56 pm.