

Wilder PTSA General Membership Meeting – 4.15.10
Meeting notes

Chairperson Thank You's - Math Adventures: Becky Spelman, Nancy Lauer; Math Enrichment: Julia Hilbun; Spring Theatre: Heather Cramer; LINKS: Carrie Steedly, Shelly Torset; Field Maintenance: Hans Zunker

Staff Report: Julie Doherty spoke on behalf of the staff. The staff is grateful for the support they receive from PTSA and appreciates that their concerns are being listened to by leadership. Several staff members are participating in the **Arts Fest** at the end of April. The IAs wanted to thank the PTSA for their support. They have noticed an increase in the number of kids jumping rope at recess after the Hot Dog USA Jump Roping Assembly.

Principal's Report:

- State budget has been finalized and **no cuts are expected for the district**. Steve said he interprets as this means no changes to staff/classroom sizes but we don't know for sure.
- New carpet will be installed this summer. The carpet is 20 years old.
- **Field maintenance** on the baseball field is in the works. The district grading machine is broken with no intention to fix it so there may be a work party. Due to scheduling this may not be until mid-May.
- **Parent Input forms** will be available next week. Information you provide does help with placement for next year. If you have specific teacher concerns then please talk to Steve directly. Initial groupings will begin May 5.
- Mrs. Peterman's class piloted one of the **new math programs**. The finalist will be chosen at the end of May. Teachers will then get a sense of what transitional material will need to be taught and where staff development needs to occur. This is an area PTSA can help and Suzanne French will be working with the staff on how the remaining \$10K in the math fund can be used to supplement these areas. Parent Experience with the piloted program was fabulous.
- **MSP is the new WASL**. Testing will be in May for grades 3, 4, 5 & 6. Results could be as early as June.
- The **new grading system** will go into effect next Fall. The June report card will be in the new format. Education on the new format will be at curriculum night in the Fall.
- For Volunteer leads, teachers need to stay with their classes when students attend Art Docent or Watershed. Math Adventures is ok because it stays in the building.

PTSA Council Report

- The district PTSA Parent Education lead has scheduled many wonderful parent ed opportunities. The communication on these offerings has been much improved this year and information about classes for the next school year should be available in the Fall.
- We got an in-depth look at the **new grading/conference system**. Next year conferences will be in October & January and report cards will come out in January

& June. October conferences will include the students and will be goal-setting conferences. January conferences will be mandatory rather than optional to allow more parent face-time with the teachers. Rubrics will be set up so teachers/parents can see exactly what it takes to receive a grade in each category. There is also a .5 system for those approaching the next grade but not quite there.

Legislative Report

- See the district website for Dr. Kimball's announcement of no budget cuts for the district. There were cuts to the district but with the approved Levy Lid Lift the district will be able to collect more money from taxpayers. The increase was already worked in to the last vote and will be enough to cover next year. However, the following year the district will lose approximately \$7M in federal stimulus money that will need to be made up as well. Not out of the woods yet!

Treasurer's Report – is on the website for your review. Copy & paste this link to your browser: <http://www.lwsd.org/school/wilder/PTSA/PTSA-Board-Info/Pages/Treasurers-Report.aspx>

Auction Update – there are one or two expenses to pay yet but we raised **\$62K/\$63K** from the auction. The focus of the auction did change through the year from a smaller goal to raising as much as we could due to the uncertainty of the state budget. We wanted to position the PTSA to be able to make up for cuts made to our school.

2010 Executive Slate

- The Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers for next school year and the slate was approved as is. Co-Presidents, Deb Zimmerman & Heather Lund; Treasurer, Kim Allen; Secretary, Joy Glassberg; VP Communications, Cara Torrey; Co-VPs Enrichment, Tracy Ray, **OPEN**; Co-VPs Volunteers, Stacy McCannon & Silvana Barbieri; VP Legislation – Jason Rothkowitz; Co-VPs Ways-n-Means, Lisette Kienecker, Mary Haynes.
- The Nominating Committee will continue to work on finding a Co-VP of Enrichment and there will be another vote at the June GM meeting. Please contact Tracy Ray if you are interested.

Funding Request from 6th Grade teachers - \$152.43 was approved to be spent from surplus to purchase a teacher's manual for the 6th grade writing curriculum.

Survey update

- Thank you to the more than 130 parents who took the parent survey and 23 staff members. The survey will be the basis for our budgeting and planning meetings which begin on April 19.
- We will provide a survey summary to the parent community once we have had a chance to go over the surveys.

Communications update

- For those submitting PO requests, please include the text you would like and how long to run the PO.
- Cara is looking for ideas for the newsletter. The next newsletter will go out next week and will include March & April content.

Volunteers update

- Many **open positions** on the org chart for next year. See PO and contact Stacy or Silvana for information.
- Stacy & Silvana will be working with chairs to update How-To-Manuals for each org chart position so they can be placed on the website for the next chair to refer to.

Committee Updates

- Special Needs is sponsoring a **Disability Awareness Fair** for grades 4-6 on Friday, April 23. Anyone is welcome to check out some of the stations students will be exploring that mimic special needs. Contact Silvana if you would like to help with the event. Special Needs is also partnering with Rosa Parks on some parent ed speakers. The first one will be at Rosa Parks. Details to come in PO.
- **LWSF Luncheon** is on April 28. We could use more table mates! Please contact Melissa Rogers if you are interested in attending and/or supporting the LWSF. The foundation supplies grants to schools/teachers/programs who can't afford many of the "luxuries/extras" Wilder has and the PTSA can afford to fund.
- Nominations are being accepted for the **Silver Wolf & Golden Acorn Awards**. Sheets are available in the office and are due April 30.
- The **Arts Fest** is ready to go. There will be displays of student art, parent art as well as many teacher demonstrations in specified locations. Plan to attend this great community/family event at our school!

Calendar:

April 19 – Budget meetings begin for Exec. Committee
 April 23 – Disability Fair sponsored by Special Needs
 April 28 – LWSF Fundraising Lunch
 April 29 – Arts Fest sponsored by Art Enrichment
 May 3-6 – Staff Appreciation Week
 May 6 – Spring Event
 May 7 – LEAP Day, No School
 May 13 – Science Fair
 May 13 – PTSA Mtg to discuss draft budget
 May 27 – Volunteer Breakfast put on by Staff
 June 11 – School Barbecue
 June 16 – Last Day of School!!!!!!!!!!