West Middle PTO

October 11, 2022 Meeting

West Middle Library

**Call to Order:** 7:06 p.m.

**Attendance**: Lisa Tarter, Stephanie Stokes, Myriam Gitt, Jeanna Gossett, Dana Lorenz, Allison Bowers, Kate Deckelbaum, Hwei Chu, Liza Lampi, Pamela Betz, Lori Conran, Aurella Clinkscale, Melanie Ureta Granger, Ann Branch, Emily Schlick

**Approve September meeting minutes**:

Motion: Lisa Tarter, Second Motion: Jeanna Gossett

**Prop S Presentation: Pam Hill**

Citizens for the Parkway Community. Prop S. Pam started by thanking the West Middle PTO for their support to the Citizens for the Parkway Community. Pam has been a Parkway mom for the past 10 years. She is proud of the education Parkway provides to students. This is her 2nd proposition she has worked on. The reason she continues this work is to support our schools, students and property values. It is a zero increase. It will NOT increase our tax rate. The bond will fund projects for the next 6 years. 265 million dollar bond issue. West Middle was built in 1971. Most of the schools in Parkway are 50 years old. At West Middle, the school does not have a fire sprinkler system. 13 roof sections replaced. The way the list is created is through Project Parkway (PP). PP starts talking to the community about the needs and wants. The vast majority of the bonds are needs not wants. High school swimming pools refurbished. Building a new early childhood center in the South area. What is she asking? Vote Yes on November 8th. 2nd: Sign up for a yard sign, volunteer, or share information with your friends and family. The school district will be adding information on social media. Please share! The kids are off school on November 8th. Volunteer with your kid to stand at the poll. Yes on S! If you are future ideas please attend Project Parkway meetings.

**President’s Update: Julie Wyatt**

* Special Project Update - Gaga Ball Installation.
  + TBD – hopefully in the next week!
* Teachers have expressed their gratitude for the snacks, dinners and access to the grant process.
  + The PTO board is doing a grant review at our next meeting. We will be doing a mass vote of grants at this time.
  + The PTO board approved the Archery club monies for arrows needed for an upcoming tournament.
  + Mike Per, reviews the grants.
* We are working with the school and suggestions from the 9/13 meeting to purchase bike racks and basketball pole pads.
* PTO is open to suggestions of capital projects and are working with the administrators for their suggestions.
  + Please share your ideas! We need a goal for our fundraising efforts.
  + Dr. Kelean ideas:
    - Upgrade sound system in the cafeteria – it is used daily.
    - Upgrade outdoor sound system – this can be used for concerts.
    - The playground by the blacktop is an eye sore.
* Bylaws have been revised and a vote will be held at the general meeting November 15th

**Fundraising Committee Update:  Jeanna Gossett and Pamela Betz (needs a shadow)**

* Direct Giving Campaign
  + Goal of 12K.
    - Current: $1665K.
* Spirit Wear- Carrie Chapman
  + $10K goal.
  + $7714 sold YTD.
  + Dr. Kelean requested quarter zip and polos for next round of sales.
* Papa Johns and Ballwin Sno-Cone
  + Papa Johns spirit night took place in September. We did not receive a check as of the meeting.
  + 35.00 earned from Ballwin Sno-Cone.
* Pretzel Sales- Carrie Bowers
  + Friday, October 14 is the first pretzel sales.
  + Pretzel sales being offered 5 times this school year.
  + 1 card has 5 pretzels. $5.00.
  + 1 card has 5 pretzels and cheese cup. $8.00.
* Rock and Roll Bingo- Saturday, April 1, 2023
  + Theme: TBD
  + Volunteers needed.
* Amazon Smile
  + Add Amazon Smile to your account.
  + $74.08 donated YTD.
* Misc: Jeanna and Pamela are graduating from West Middle. Shadows are needed for the 23’-24’ school year.

**Communications Update**:  **Jen McCurdy**

* The newsletter comes from the Membership toolkit.

**Community Update**:  **Anne Branch**

* Early Release Snacks- Kate Deckelbaum, Lori Conran, Angie Stevens
  + Adopt a Staff member, 97 of 120 teachers responded.
  + Sign up genius was created – shared on social media and through newsletters.
  + It has been posted for 5 days.
  + 50 of staff members have been adopted.
  + Every staff member will get adopted.
  + Budget allocation from PTO who did not get picked up by a family.
  + At Dr. Kelean’s old school, they had a church partnership within the community. Whichever teachers were not adopted the church stepped in to provide teachers gifts.
  + Lisa Tarter mentioned she could share an email through Membership Toolkit.
  + Thank you to Charity Devlin for cleaning up after early release snacks!
  + TBD on the next early release snack.
* Conference Dinners- Lori Conran
  + Well received by the teachers!
  + Great amount of donations. Thank you, families!

**Community Update cont.**

* + We learned we have access to tables, ice chests, and ice for events!
  + Thank you to the Custodians for chipping in with set-up!
* Homecoming - Andy Seavy
  + Andy has agreed to lead the committee for the 23’-24’ school year.
* Food Truck Friday- Liza Lampi
  + Friday, September 30th was Food Truck Friday.
  + Attendance: 285.
  + Previous year: 100.
  + Next year recommendation: adding drinks.
* Government Relations: Jennifer McGillivary
  + Not present.
* 8th Grade Celebration: Mandy Kelly, Kristen Meriman, Robyn Hayes
  + Not present.
* Cotillion- Jamie Gumpel
  + Not present.
* Winter Family Event: **Needs a Chairperson** 
  + **January 27, 2023. More details coming out in November.**
* Longhorn Pride/ Beautification: **Needs a Chairperson**
* Fun Run- Robyn Hayes
  + New event coming to West Middle!
  + March 23’. TBD.
  + Theme: Lucky to be a Longhorn.
  + 3K
* 6th grade reps- Stephanie Stokes and Myriam Andrews
  + Winter Party date: December 2nd, 330-530.
  + In the past this event was called a mixer. The name has changed to a party.
* 7th grade reps- Aurealla Clinkscale and Angie Stevens
  + Winter Party date: Date: November 18tH, 330-530.
  + 7th and 8th grade are combined.
  + If a parent volunteers they must be fingerprinted.
* 8th grade reps-  Kate Deckelbaum and Lori Conran
  + Date: November 18th, 330-530.
  + Same details as 7th grade reps.

**Treasurer Report:  Emily Schlick**

* **Emily needs a shadow. Her daughter is graduating!**
* Insurance renewal is coming up in October.
* Only expenses received has been for Homecoming and Food Truck Friday.
* Expense report form is up on the PTO website.
* Please send in receipts in a timely manner.

Income:

* Direct Giving: $1665 against a goal of $12,000
* Spiritwear Sales: $77514.81 against a goal of $10,000
* Pretzel Sales: $479 against a goal of $1600
* Amazon Smile: donation of $74.08

Expenses:

* Direct Giving: $38.12 against a budget of $400
* Sprirtwear: $3,409.34 against a budget of $5000
* Pretzel Sales: $31.23 against a budget of $800
* Grants Executed/Planned: Budget is $5000
  + $500 Archery grand in process
  + $10,000 Gaga ball pit reimbursement (21-22’)

We currently have approximately:

* $73367.83 in bank accounts
* $7414.97 in PayPal
* $80,782.80 in Total

**Principal’s Report- Dr. Kealen**

* Thank Liza for hosting the Food Truck event! This was his vision come to life – a community!
  + Dr. Marty – sent an email the following Monday – it added to the positive culture at West Middle.
* TY for the Adopt-A-Staff member. It will provide encouragement throughout the year.
* In the Longhorn Way, he started a Parent Talk series –
  + Internet responsibility.
    - He receives email when students search bad things on their Chrome book. As a staff they deal work with the student.
    - Next topic: Kids still need you to be present!
    - Future topics: He is open it up to suggestions.
  + Red Ribbon Week. Coming up, October 24-28th.
    - This week has been planned out led by students and PE teacher. Lots of fun, spirited items on the calendar.
  + Book Fair during P/T Conference week.
    - Sold over 600+ books.
    - Raised a significant kickback from Scholastic to the school – the monies were allocated for books to the library.
  + 6th Red at camp.
  + 6th grade tailgate.
    - 5-7pm at the Middle School.
    - Student Cornhole tournament starting at 530
    - PTO has graciously donated hot dogs and water.
    - Food Truck will be present.
    - Selling tickets for hot dogs, snow cones – 100% profit will go towards the Parkway Food pantry.
    - Any 6th grade who donates a can of food will receive a t-shirt until supplies last.
  + Vocal concert: 25th.
  + 7th/8th grade: 27th.
  + Half Day on the 27th.
  + In person Veterans Day. November 11th.

**Old Business**

* Pretzel cards donation.
  + 30 Cards have been donated from PTO and families.
    - 10 cards per grade.
  + Counselors have identified kids in need.

**New Business**

* **None**

**Next meeting:** November 15, 2022 at 7pm in the Library