



WILLARD PTG

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Willard PTG Meeting

October 18, 2021

Attendance

Liz Colgan, Matt Lucey, Jamie Ring, Robin Baughman, Darcy Heintz-Perkins, Susannah Benner, Karisa Lorenz, Janet King, Yumi Suarez, Tracy DeTora, Amy Casher, Kristen Lester, Kieran Nicholson KC Camp, Jeanne Fahey, Reem Alzahabi, Megan Lynch, Jaleh Mostaghim, Ann Thornley, Jon Smith, Nicole Saia, Emily Lines, Danielle McKenna, Emily Frost, Frank Taylor, Christina Steiner, Chelsea Chaudhary, Meagan MacNutt

Presidents' Welcome and Recap - Liz Colgan / Robin Baughman

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm. Motion to pass September PTG minutes, Tracy seconded motion to pass minutes, minutes are approved. It is great to see events coming back to life at Willard: Ice cream social was a success, book fair started today, 5th grade celebration team is meeting to start planning. Welcome to Jon Smith – the new PTG teacher representative.

Principal and Teacher Update - Matt Lucey/ Jon Smith

Mindful of COVID but this year it is not dictating us. Pool testing is now moving along well with CIC. Some challenges at the start given new provider, some enhancements to the process have been made. Big thanks to Patsy Sullivan who has taken on certain aspects allowing us to handle more of the process ourselves. 450+ participants in pool testing at Willard- most participants in the district. More activities returning such as singing (with masks) inside.

Tents can't be out past mid-November. Transitioning back inside for lunch. Student style desks will be placed in cafeteria and each student will have a separate seat that is numbered for contact tracing/easy to find for students. More robust menus will be offered as well.

Staff at Willard is fully vaccinated. Ideal to have more masks in backpacks....kids want to wear their masks and when they break it's great to have backups. Question about whether there may be vaccine clinics if the younger cohort is approved for vaccination by FDA like the other age cohorts. No decision yet but a possibility.



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Growth versus achievement is what staff is focusing on right now after missed schooling/lack of in person opportunities over the past year and a half. Staff is working to assess what students know and what they can do. This will be a theme in parent teacher conferences in November for parents to hear from teachers where kids are and where we hope they will be at year end and what plans are in place to address gaps.

Intervention programs are being assessed and implemented; we have the resources and right people to do the work. We will do everything we can to help our kids this year.

Jon indicated that lack of community building during COVID is on the minds of staff- things like taking turns, listening to others, working together, being motivated by peers were all absent while children were virtual. Teachers appreciate the eagerness of our students this year- these kids are excited to work together. Teachers are also appreciative for PTG support.

Tents will come down in November and go back up in April.

In closing, the joy is very much back in the building- the Willard kids are eager to learn and be in school.

PTG Committee Guidelines

All chairs should have received committee guidelines and the budget for your committee for the year. Make sure to check emails in google suite. Any budget overage needs to be approved by the board. Feel free to get more volunteers as needed as plans come together this year.

PTG Committee Updates

Staff Appreciation - Karisa Lorenz

Meeting this week to plan fall events. Will also talk about winter break item for teachers (last year was mug filled with candy). Looking for another takeaway item.

Room Parents - Tracy DeTora



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Great news- all classes have 2 room parents. Had a meeting at Willard last week to review key roles of room parents and give people a chance to meet and connect.

Willard Weekly and Website - Samantha Jaddou

Business as usual for weekly and website. Weekly is being opened under 60% of the time subscribers-would like to increase the pickup. Some issues with PTG mail going into promotions folders and not being easily found by parents. If you want to send something to the Willard Weekly, please ensure there is a blurb included and not just a forwarded event flier, etc. Feel free to use the website for promoting events!

Treasurer's Report – Liz on behalf of Collen Currier

Halfway to annual appeal goal. Directory fees are up from last year and sponsorships exceeded budget as well. Teachers have submitted for reimbursements.

School Photo Day – Mr. Lucey on behalf of Meagan MacNutt

Photos are this Thursday and volunteers will be assisting. Class pictures will return including a full 5th grade class photo!

Annual Appeal - Yumi Suarez

At 47% currently. Another reminder going out next week. At end of October will reassess and see how else we can engage families.

Fundraising - Susannah Benner

Team raised more than budgeted in sponsorships in the directory. Lots of hard work from the team. Working on auction items with help of Jon Smith and teachers. Plan is to hold it November 13th-20th using a new platform. One of the biggest items in 2019 was a weekend away- if anyone has a second home and can donate a night or two let the committee know. Golf was also successful if anyone can help with that. Principal for the day IS on the list this year. Please contact auction@willardptg.org if you have ideas for items or have something to donate. Shutterfly/Tinyprints code will again be used- need to enter the site through the link to count towards Willard. Minted code also available.

Social committee- Darcy Heintz-Perkins/Nicole Saia

Ice Cream social was a success- well attended. Will wait until Spring for a parent social. Suggestion to offer name tags in the future to help people meet each other.



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Book Fair -Darcy Heintz-Perkins

Started today and is going well. Working with Silver Unicorn who curates the list focused on diverse titles and reflecting on the world around us. Added adult reads as well as sticker/activity books. We have included a donation button to help increase potential profits. Thanks to the library team for including the display books this week- kids are excited to pick out their books during special this week and tell parents about books they are interested in. Book fair runs through 10/23 and a reminder that teachers have completed their wish lists if you are able to help support.

Charity and Service - Janet King

Please share any ideas with charity@willardptg.org

November: Halloween candy drive will take place and we will be dropping off candy for Treats for Troops.

Coat Drive will be taking place as well. Box is at school so kids can bring them in.

Coats don't need to be clean but do need to be in good condition.

Food drive for Open Table will be 5th grade charity event in November

December: Considering holiday cards for seniors

International Festival- Jeanne Fahey

Handful of volunteers already. Determining if it will be virtual or in person or some hybrid (i.e., virtual cooking demonstrations, trivia).

Assemblies- Danielle McKenna

No all- school assemblies this year. Author visits are being revisited to possibly be held outdoors in Spring (Value of these is the workshop aspect). Team is looking at enrichment opportunities possibly with Drumlin Farm for hands on outdoor programs. Several initiatives being explored.

Before/After School- KC Camp

Concord Rec asking if we want to do Trunk or Treat this year on Halloween from 2-3:30 on October 31st. 100 people expected to attend. Timing of it being on afternoon of Halloween is not ideal for families – group is going to pass this year.

General Membership Questions/Comments

None



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Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm