

September 2020 General Meeting Minutes

9.15.2020 9:30 AM Via Zoom

Pre-meeting Items:

Julie Cavanaugh offered a welcome and asked attendees to please check their zoom box name for attendance

Today's Agenda was shared on the screen.

Reminded attendees to....Join today!

<http://whitelakemiddleschoolpta.weebly.com/>

Choose "Become a member" and then "Sign up Online" = Memberhub site

OR - "Membership details" = form to fill out and return to school

Handouts are on our Weebly Website and included May meeting minutes, today's Agenda, Cash Flow Statements from last year and this year, and a Budget (We shared these on the screen as we discussed them)

In attendance: Julie Cavanaugh, Michelle Chotkowski, Todd Kalmbach, Jen Nelson, Leslie Fitzgerald, Angela Moyer, Chris Ebert, Dave Witt, Perry Kontourio, Colleen Wellman, Laura Buehner, Kelly Alicandro and Jennifer Calhoun.

Meeting called to order at 9:35am by Julie Cavanaugh

May Minutes were shared and reviewed on screen for approval

Jen Nelson motioned to approve the minutes, Angela Moyer 2nd, all in favor, none opposed - motion passed

Julie reviewed the Nation PTA's Mission Statement: PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

What does this look like in a Covid World?

This year, we are challenged to think outside of the box (the physical school building box)

What can we do as parents to engage families and our community to enhance the educational experience for the students of WLMS?

Introducing a Virtual trip around the world....150 countries in 150 days! We start on September 14th and will travel each school day until the end of May.

The plan: Post a country each morning. Parents and families may comment with fun facts they know or research that day, photos of vacations when they have traveled to that destination, maybe even a long lost recipe from a relative from the country of the day. It will be interactive. Families can suggest the country of the day (we have the hopper pass, no need to go in any order) Posts will use the Instagram, Twitter and Facebook platforms.

All board positions and current officers were reviewed as they are all annual volunteer positions and up for election or appointment between now and our October meeting.

Board positions at-a-glance

President – Julie Cavanaugh; presiding officer and official representative of the association responsible for leading the organization toward specific goals chosen by its members

Vice President – Jennifer Nelson; assists the President in leading the organization toward the goals chosen by its members

Secretary – Jennifer Calhoun; Responsible for taking meeting minutes & posting them to the website

Treasurer – Danielle Yackley; Writes maybe 6 checks and makes 6 deposits a year; keeps track of the budget and all income and expenses

Secretary - Jennifer Calhoun; takes meeting minutes and provides them after each meeting to be posted to our website

Communications Chair – Karla Clevenger; helps update Weebly website & PTSA Social Media

Membership Chair – Angela Willis; promotes membership, files monthly roster, collects dues

Health & Wellness Chair – Lisa Sutton; Serves as a liaison between the PTSA and the community regarding health-related issues with the goal of building a healthy school

Legislative Chair – OPEN Gets on the MI/National PTSA email blasts to keep us up to date on what we need to know

Reflections Chair - OPEN notifies parents, teachers and students of the various grants and scholarships available through the National PTA

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - All positions are annual renewal (We need to appoint and approve in October)

No nominations were made at this meeting but personal invites will be made before October

We went around the Zoom boxes and had each person introduce themselves and tell us who's their child(ren) at WLMS

Other Volunteer Opportunities:

Plan themes and Create Sign-up Genius for some staff appreciation events - Angela Moyer volunteered

Create Sign-up Genius to solicit gift cards and prizes for the lunch room games and raffles - Angela Moyer volunteered

8th Grade Farewell Chairperson needed – We won't make plans for any activities until after January 2021 but brainstorming can begin now and a committee of 8th grade parents will be needed - Kelly Alicandro and Leslie Fitzgerald will head up this committee

Parent District Council - we send 2 reps (Jen Nelson and Angela Moyer - possibly Jen Calhoun as an alternate)

Bike Rack research - need a parent to research commercial bike racks for WLMS and then fundraising - Jennifer Calhoun submitted info after the meeting

Membership Report – Angela Willis (not present - Julie reported)

Currently 5 members. Membership applications available today. Send to school or apply online. Check out all the resources available to you as part of this organization. Our goal is 25 to keep the 501c3 status (Update - 15 members as of 9/18/20)

Treasurer Report – Danielle Yackley (not present - Julie reported)

Review of last Year's Revenue/Expenses - see attached financial review

Budget Presentation - this will be a work in progress determined by Covid restrictions

Vote to approve budget in October - we will publish it on our website and give access through the newsletter

Audit needs 2 volunteers – we will make plans to meet to review last year's financial reports

Chris Ebert and Jennifer Calhoun volunteered to help with this before October's meeting

Health & Wellness – Lisa Sutton (Not present - nothing to report)

Legislation Report – position is currently open

Communications – position is currently open

Website has been updated – whitelakemiddleschoolptsa.weebly.com

Check out our social media platforms - travel with us this year!

Facebook - Ptsa WLms

Instagram - ptsawlms
Twitter - @ptsa_wlms

Principal's Report - Mrs. Chotkowski & Mr. Kalmbach

School year is going well so far. Welcomed the 8th grade back into the building this week. No temperature check alerts yet. Building seems empty with only ½ the population in at a time. Lunches are much quieter. Staff is working exceptionally hard to provide the in class instruction as well as the remote classroom activities. Some of the staff also teach in the HVVA. Administration is trying to be supportive in any ways possible. We were reminded as parents to send encouraging messages to the staff throughout the year to help keep morale up.

Mr. Kalmbach made mention of how he wanted to make sure the HVVA students felt connected. They were getting emails from Oak Valley and not WLMS and they were working on that. Need to be in the loop for sports etc out of WLMS.

Teachers have more than enough wipes, sanitizer etc.

Julie made mention that the Ptsa is here for them if they need anything

Mrs. Chot announced the virtual curriculum night.

Open Discussion & New Business

Don't forget to invite a friend to the next meeting, join the PTSA today via memberhub, and consider taking one of the board positions for this school year.