



WOODLAND HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 6, 2020

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Media Center

Attendance: Kelly Meyer, Emily Dunlevy, Ali Shinnick, Lauren Davis, Kristen Wenger, Melissa Marshall, Jessica Shaffer, Sherrie Comitz, Principal Kristie Spenner, Cristy Wagner, Stephanie Coggins, Jordan McCray, Hannah Nimblett, Maddy Huyler, Kirsten Smith, Lauren Huff, Tiffany Botkins, Candice Austin, Alyssa Berglund, Lyn Briggs, Danielle Walker, Jordan Bentley, Brittany Barker, Tiffany Tamminen, Alison Todd, Jodie Elliott, Kristina Cabral, Tristan, Valerie Landers.

- 1. Introduction.** Ali Shinnick welcomed everyone, and turned it right over to Kristie Spenner.
- 2. Principal Update.** Excited to have students back 5 days a week! There are some students still virtual as well. The first two days back have been very busy but good. Kids are still doing great with masks. Car rider line is about ten minutes behind what it would be in a normal year with all students present. We appreciate having kids ready to hop out in the morning before they pull up to the curb. We know the longer line and subsequent wait time is frustrating. The best solution to shortening the line in the morning and afternoon right now is to delay your arrival by 5-10 minutes. The more people that wait to come until later, the shorter the overall line will be and the shorter those people's waits will be. Safety is number one and we ask that no one tries to go around the line on Forest Lake Blvd.
- 3. SIT Vote.** SIT team is similar to the PTO but is entirely school-focused. There are always two parent representatives on the team who serve staggered terms. PTO board members elect the incoming team member. Four people put their names in the hat to be considered for the position: Valerie Landers, Melanie Chrencik, Tiffany Coscia, and Robert Murphy. All candidates submitted bios, which the board read prior to the meeting. Board members voted and Cristy Wagner collected and counted the votes. Melanie Chrencik will be the new SIT parent representative. Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the position and congratulations to Melanie!
- 4. Sign Update.** Ali Shinnick said that our school sign on Forest Lake Blvd and Brawley School Rd has been completely renovated and it looks beautiful. Thank you so much to Dr. Joel Sugarman, Heidi Sugarman, and Lake Norman Dermatology for their generous donation of the renovation. Ali acknowledged that the enormous bushes are a problem, as they partially block the sign. She volunteered her husband, Conor, to trim them back last week. We are waiting until late February to

cut them all the way down to the ground to let them regrow and allow us to maintain them at a more manageable size.

5. Attractions Guide Update. WHE profited \$2,078 from the Attractions Guide sale.

6. Family Event Update. Jessica Shaffer and Ali Shinnick proposed a Trunk or Treat event. The event has already been cleared by Mrs. Spenner and the school district, so long as social distancing and mask wearing is stressed. Jessica and Ali were ready to announce today that the event was officially happening, but both got cold feet out of fear of public backlash. They decided to propose the event instead and requested feedback. Details: Saturday October 30, 2020, from 4:30-7pm. (Rain date: Sunday, October 31st from 1-3:30pm.) A Sign Up Genius will be sent out for trunk participation. We can only have 25 trunks and sign up is first come, first served. There will be prizes for best trunk. Trunk participants should arrive at 4pm to set up. All attendees must register for the event and it is open to WHE families only. To promote social distancing, families must choose a time slot for their arrival, which will be sent out via a Sign Up Genius. Gloves and masks will be mandatory for everyone handing out candy. There will be a sanitation station at the entrance and exit of the Trunk or Treat loop, and everyone will need to get a squirt of hand sanitizer before starting. After sharing all the details, response from everyone in attendance in-person and on Zoom was overwhelmingly positive. No one expressed a negative opinion. Several mentioned local churches and shopping centers that are holding Trunk or Treats this year as a comparison. It was agreed that this would be a very safe event and that those who are uncomfortable attending wouldn't come. The board decided to move forward with the Trunk or Treat and will send home flyers soon.

7. Fundraising Survey Update. We received 183 responses to the student survey regarding what the kids want to see added to our school. 77% of students want an outdoor obstacle course. We received 32 responses from teachers, which were spread out across several choices. The top two teacher choices were the outdoor obstacle course and equipment for video announcements. Other suggestions were shade sails and an outdoor learning space. Ali turned it over to Alyssa Berglund, our fundraising chair. Alyssa contacted Barrs Recreation to get a quote for different outdoor obstacle courses. She chose two that seem like good preliminary options to use as examples. First option is \$77,000, the other option is \$58,000. While we can continue to explore options, it seems likely that if we choose to fundraise for an outdoor obstacle course, it will be a 2-3 year fundraising effort. No decision has been made on our fundraising goal, as more information needs to be obtained.

8. Spirit Night Update. Melissa Marshall said that our next Spirit Night will be on October 21st at Brooklyn Boys. It will be all day and Brooklyn Boys will be donating 15% of WHE-supporting sales.

Next PTO Meeting. It was scheduled for November 3rd, but Sherrie Comitz pointed out that that is Election Day. A new date will be announced.