

Westchester PTA  
General PTA Meeting Minutes  
September 14, 2021 at 8:15 am

Call to order: Carli Suarez called to order the general PTA meeting at 8:22 am on September 14, 2021. Meeting adjourned at 9:21 am.

Agenda: The agenda for the current meeting and minutes from the meetings on May 11, 2021 and August 31, 2021 were posted online and distributed at the meeting. Geri motioned to approve the minutes. Stephanie Pelaterri 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approve. None oppose.

Updates:

Committees: Carli provided information about the different committees.

- Field day is in December.
- Raquel is the head of fundraising and any ideas should be directed to her.
- Stephanie is the head of the Giving Tree. This year, we will be adopting whole families, not just Westchester students. Giving Tree will start just before Thanksgiving and we are looking for people to help.
- Holiday Store will begin before Thanksgiving and we need volunteers.
- The Hospitality committee helps with events for teachers and students.
- We need volunteers for Title I. Ms. Conde is the Title I representative. Volunteers would attend trainings and events. Geri can provide more information. At the moment, workshops are virtual and we need three representatives.
- The PTA website committee is looking for volunteers. Tamara is the head of the committee.
- Carli is the temporary head of the school supply/t-shirt committee. We are looking for volunteers.
- Geri and Mike are heads of the yearbook committee. Volunteers for this committee would help with yearbook and school pictures.
- Book fair committee needs volunteers to help students shop during the book fair in fall and spring.
- MaryBeth is the head of sponsorships and partnerships. Marybeth Provided the information.
- The Dads committee is a new initiative to provide a community for father figures.

Budget: The financial report was posted online for review and paper copies were available at the meeting. Danielle presented the financial report. The only new expense was renewing insurance for the year. There was income from banners, Amazon Smile, supply packs, memberships, and shirt sales. Heather Zardus motioned to approve the budget as-is. Geri Newman 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. None oppose.

Principal's Report: Ms. Geraine provided the update.

- There are around 1100 students enrolled.
- They are hiring new staff – a new guidance counselor and new teachers.

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- The guidance counselor doesn't have testing responsibilities.
- The Zen den will be up and running at some point.
- They are working on making arrival and dismissal faster.
- Dads bring kids to school day is September 22, along with Donuts with Dads.
- Peace week will be the week of September 21.
- Covid
  - The form sent home is medical. The first box is for basic first aid, not Covid testing.
  - If a student has asthma or a sinus infection, they will not be automatically tested.
- Parents need to fill out back to school forms, which are located online.
- There is a cap on aftercare due to staffing. There are currently 217 students in aftercare at the moment with 26 on the wait list.

Security Update: Officer Kerner introduced himself. Arrival and dismissal times are leveling off and getting better. There have been issues with parents parking in the apartments across from the school. Cars parked there for pickup or drop-off are getting booted and next they'll start getting towed. To suggest changes to the car line procedures, email Broward county traffic control.

Yearbook: Yearbooks are \$25 and you can preorder online. Order before January 29 for free name embossing on the cover.

Upcoming dates:

September 16: No School

September 21-24: Peace Week

September 22: Donuts with Dads from 7:30 – 8:00 am

September 24: Room Parent Meeting & Orientation at 8:15 am

September 28: Chipotle Night

September 28-29: Individual Pictures at School

October 4-8: Book Fair

October 6: SEL Night at 6:00 pm

October 6: Walk to school day

October 12: Next PTA Meeting at 8:15 am in the Cafeteria

Meeting adjourned by Carli Suarez at 9:21 am.