

# Westchester Elementary PTA Meeting

“50 Years of Kindness”

August 20, 2024 / 8:30 AM / PTA Room

## Call to Order

Danielle called to Order the General PTA Meeting at 8:35 am.

## Agenda & Minutes

The agenda for the current meeting was posted online before this meeting. The minutes from the May 2024 meeting were also posted online. Danielle motioned for approval, Debbie first, and Noelle second. All approved, and none opposed.

## Financial Report

The May and June financial reports were posted online for review prior to today’s meeting. Stephanie motioned to approve the May financial report and Yani 2nd. Ali motioned to approve the June financial report and Ashley 2nd. The 2024-2025 School Year budget was posted online and presented. Danielle explained wording changes in the spreadsheet and the reason for the increased fundraising goal of \$20,000 to reflect the upcoming 50th Anniversary celebration. Veronica motioned for approval and Noelle 2nd. All approve, and none opposed.

## Principal’s Report - Mrs. Geraine

- 50th Anniversary - the school started as a portable site
  - Kindness Challenge - “50 Years of Kindness”
    - Dress up days, say something nice, etc.)
- Enrollment around 980 students, hoping to get it up to 1,000
- “Eight is Late” Campaign to encourage ontime school arrival
- Would like to get the Safety Committee back up - work in the past SRO Pesicek
- PTA Fundraising from last year: Privacy fence and the painted mural, and positive affirmation on the stairs in the two-story building
- New “Buddy Benches” are arriving on the 30th and will be placed in both recess areas
- Working on dates for: Literacy Night, STEAM Night, Life Skill and Wellness, etc.
- Open House for PreK-2nd grades (5th Grade: Silcox, Steward, Martin) and on August 21st, 6-7pm and Open House for 3rd-5th grades on August 28th, 6-7pm
- Would like volunteers to help with photocopies

### Title I: Ms. Condee

- Needs three people to sign up for activity emails
- Has specific tasks to do throughout the year to keep Title I Funding
- PM1 Testing (Grades 3-5) - testing window will be given out during Open House, but specific dates will be in September
  - Reminder to parents: students are testing on what they **will learn** this school year
- Sign up for **FOCUS** to keep up with testing information (<https://www.browardschools.com/focus>)
- iReady diagnostic testing is open for some grades

### Counselor: Mrs. Knight

- Focuses on life skills and wellness
- Promotes togetherness, kindness, and respect everybody’s differences
- Dresses up for the students and enjoys doing so!
- Giving Tree - (November/December), working on finetuning the wants/needs of the students
- HEART Program - works with families in transition

## Committee Updates

Danielle provided the update:

- JOIN PTA Membership - helps support the programs throughout the school year
  - Trunk-or-Treat, 50th Celebration, Teacher Appreciation Week, etc
- Volunteers/Committee Sign-Up sheets will be available at the Open Houses and on the PTA website (<https://www.westchesterpta.com/get-involved>)
- Currently have 105 PTA Members and would like to reach 205 members
  - Parents/Guardians/Grandparents/Community Members
  - There will be an ice cream party for the classes with the most members
  - When you join, make sure to list all children so that your membership counts all of their classes
- Apparel (Noelle): The current sale of spirit wear ends on September 8th and will be delivered to the child
  - Field Trip/Class shirts will be on sale starting in mid-September
  - Still looking into selling additional school merchandise (shorts, scrunchies, etc)
- Room Parents (Rachel): Sign-up sheets will be in the classrooms during Open House
  - Rachel requests teachers give the room parent names by September 6th
  - Rachel will contact parents the week of the 9th. First Room Parent meeting is September 24th (all remaining Room Parent meetings will immediately follow a PTA meeting)
- Reflections (Debbie): “Accepting Imperfection” - starting this week
  - National Program that goes through several levels for students to express themselves through the Arts (PTA.org\Reflections)
    - Independent, individual activity - NOT a school assignment
    - Students **can** submit more than one piece to be judged
    - Deadline is November 8th (PTA/School Committee will blind judge)
    - Top 3 in school (K-2 and 3-5) – County – State – National
- PTA Board Members: Danielle (President), Alicia (Membership/Volunteers), Kelsey (Secretary), Rachel (Treasurer/Room Parents/Book Fair), Ashley (Fundraising), Jackie (Social Media), Veronica (5th Grade/Holiday Store), Hailey (Programs), Yani (Banners & Sponsors), Staci (Bulletin Boards/Harvest Drive/Giving Tree), Noelle (Apparel), Tanya (Website), Nadia (Hospitality & Kid of Character), and Jessica (Yearbook)

## Upcoming Dates

- 8/21: Open House PreK-2 (two sessions: 6-6:25p and 6:35-7p)
  - 5th Grade: Silcox, Steward, Martin
- 8/27: Fundraiser Night - Wings Plus (15% back) from 5-9p & Magic Cow (20% back) from 6-10p
- 8/28: Open House 3-5 (two sessions: 6-6:25p and 6:35-7p)
- 9/5: School Spirit Wear Sale ends
- **9/10: PTA Meeting @8:30a**
- 9/24: Room Parent Meeting
- 10/7-11: Fall Book Fair - Volunteers will be needed (Two shifts will be available each day)

Danielle adjourned the meeting at 9:21 am.