

**January 9, 2024 PTA Meeting
Westmore Elementary School**

Minutes are considered a high-level overview of the meeting.

For more information on any specific topic, please ask PTA officers.

The Westmore Elementary School PTA met on January 9, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. About 17 people were in attendance via Zoom.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Rachel Fowler shared that the minutes from the last PTA meeting held on November 14, 2023, are posted on MemberHub (Givebacks).

President's Report

President Raquel Mahoney reported that PTA has a new fundraiser idea for the kids. The PTA is also looking for a new president and vice president for next year. Please let President Raquel Mahoney know if you are interested. The nominations usually happen in March or April.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Taryn Mueller shared that the opening balance for November was \$18,969.17, and the closing balance was \$20,995.98. The biggest receipts were from Scholastic Book Fair, Restaurant Night, and the Opt-Out Fundraiser. PTA made \$2,026.81 to balance the budget.

For December, the opening balance was \$20,995.98, and the closing balance was \$21,393.99. Profit was \$1,101.37 from school photos. There were a few disbursements totaling \$703.36. The difference for December was \$398.01.

Principal's Report

Mr. Dart reported that the kids are transitioning back from winter break very well. December and January highlights: As of last week, the school had 118,000 reading steps. That is up 25,000 from last year.

The Book Beach: Over 100 grandparents registered to come. There were over 50 volunteers for the event. Mrs. Chambers reported that the event went well with great crafts, books, and volunteers. For next year, we could possibly have a volunteer take pictures of the grandparents with the students.

The quarter ends this January 11, and report cards are sent out on January 22. They are available online, but you can request a hard copy. The quarter #2 celebration will happen on January 24.

Smile Squad is coming February 12, the dental group that provides services to students. One Book, One School will be coming in February. MAP tests and Cogat tests will be coming up as well.

Make sure students have boots, snowpants, hats, and gloves for recess in the winter weather.

The Math Contest date has changed to January 31.

Committee Reports

Movie Night: Jim Mahoney reported that the next movie night is Friday, January 26. Volunteers are already signing up. Additional snacks and beverages will be provided. The movie will be Moana. Tickets are available now, and there will be a promo in the PTA newsletter.

Family Reading Night: Lisa Ticaric reported that One Book, One School will be in February. Family Reading Night will be Thursday, February 15. They will be looking for volunteers for that. They'll come up with fun things for the kids to do.

Next Assembly: Lisa Ticaric reported that the next assembly will be Wednesday, March 13. A Chicago-based travel journalist is coming to talk about her experiences and cultural empathy. She is willing to do it within the \$2,000 budget. There will be two 45-minute presentations: One from the younger kids and one from the older kids.

Coin Race: Treasurer Taryn Mueller reported that this will be a Super Mario Penny Wars called Coin Race. It will be February 5-9. Kids will bring in coins, and coins will be counted each day. A leader board will be updated. We'll have green pipes to put the coins in on the stage. Updates will be on social media, on WETV, etc. The big decoration will be rainbow road. It will be promoted via social media, flyers, etc. There will also be a virtual way to donate. Some incentives include a lollipop party, winning grade will get a pajama day/donut party, and if the school reaches a goal, school staff will wear mustaches.

Yearbook: President Raquel Mahoney reported that the yearbook committee is now accepting baby photos from the 5th grade students. They can be uploaded at www.westmorepta.com/yearbook.

New Business

Ande Ngola reported that the pool party for next year has been confirmed for August 23. The deposit will be in this week.

Taryn Mueller reached out to Scholastic to possibly do a one-day book fair at the End of Year Bash. A few volunteers will be needed once this is confirmed.

Announcements

January 26—Movie Night

January 31—Math Contest

February 5-9—Coin Race

February 13—PTA Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 13 at 6:30 p.m.

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