

**April 2, 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 April 2, 2024 in person and via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. About 10 people were in attendance in person along with Student Council. About 11 people attended via Zoom.

**Secretary's Report**

Secretary Rachel Fowler shared that the minutes from the last PTA meeting held on March 12, 2024, are posted on MemberHub (Givebacks).

**Student Council: Reading Garden Presentation**

The Student Council is looking for funds for a reading garden. Student Council represents the students and plans upcoming and future events. Students would like a place to relax, read, and enjoy the space. Some classes do reading buddies, and students can go to the garden with their buddies. It would be a good place to learn outside the classroom about nature and science.

The Woman's Garden Club could possibly donate to the Courtyard Garden, around \$250. With funds, they'll buy plants, tables, benches, and décor. The area is between the kindergarten wing and 1st grade windows. The PTA will help out to create the garden.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Taryn Mueller shared in March, there's an opening balance of \$25,408.19 and a closing balance of \$25,139.28. The receipts we had were from Spirit Wear and STEM Night. Disbursements this month were from classroom support, the Safety Patrol field trip, and STEM Night. The difference is - \$268.91.

**Principal's Report**

Mr. Dart reported on school reading steps, and the next WE Wednesday is Extreme Beach Adventure in May 24. They are looking for many volunteers that day. There will be planning meetings on April 23 and May 14. The Quarter 3 assembly was before Spring Break.

Student Council has the school store on Thursday, April 4. Choir is starting again, and there will be a performance in the spring. Field trips for each grade are happening now as well.

The last Math Contest is April 3. Early dismissal is April 17 with a Bike Safety Assembly. The D45 Art Show is April 19. The Westmore Open House is April 25, 4:30-5:30 p.m. STEM Day for 5th grade is May 2.

**Committee Reports**

**D45 Art Show & STEM Day:** Ande Ngola and Kris Castaldi reported that D45 needs volunteers for STEM Day on May 2. The Art Show needs a volunteer to help with set up at 3:30 on April 19. Each school is asked to provide one volunteer.

**Restaurant Nights:** Raquel Mahoney reported that the next restaurant night is at Chipotle on 83 and St. Charles, April 17 from 4-8 p.m. PTA will receive 25% of the proceeds.

**Yearbook:** Rachel Fowler reported that yearbooks are still on sale. The theme is Westmore Island Adventures. Custom pages in yearbooks are due April 21. Last day for free shipping is April 29.

**Staff Appreciation:** Raquel Mahoney reported that Staff Appreciation Week is May 6-10. The theme is Taste of Lombard and Villa Park. You can email Jenny Jahn for more information and to help out at [jennynoldan@gmail.com](mailto:jennynoldan@gmail.com).

**End of Year Bash/Book Fair:** Raquel Mahoney reported that the End of Year Bash/Book Fair is May 10, 4:30-6:30 p.m. There will be a book fair as well, and we need two volunteers to help with cash registers.

### **New Business**

**Safety Patrol:** Kris Castaldi reported that Safety Patrol makes sure kids cross the streets safely. We'd like to reward them with a field trip to Kane County Cougars. PTA would like to amend the budget to \$1,300 in case the buses or tickets cost slightly more. The money will move from other line items in the budget (i.e., president's contingency and other line items).

Kris Castaldi made a motion to amend the budget line from \$750 to \$1,300 to support the Safety Patrol field trip. Taryn Mueller seconded the motion.

Ande Ngola made the amendment to find the funding to support the Safety Patrol field trip. Ande amended that \$300 come from president's contingency, \$100 from playground equipment, \$25 from 5th grade t-shirts, \$50 from Yearbook, and \$75 from Family Game Night, for a total of \$550, to bring the new budget to \$1,300. Caisey Schneider seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**Nominations:** Kris Castaldi reported that she nominates Ande Ngola to be PTA president. Ande accepted the nomination. The current nomination for vice president is Caisey Schneider. Elections will be at the PTA meeting on May 14.

**Membership Dues:** Ande Ngola reported that the current and recent past dues have been \$7. \$2.25 goes to National PTA, \$2.75 goes to Illinois State PTA, and \$2 goes to Westmore PTA. The dues to National PTA will go from \$2.25 to \$4. The proposed dues for 2024-2025 school year are an increase to \$10 per person or \$17 per family. \$4 does would go to National PTA, \$2.75 to Illinois State PTA, and \$3.25 to Westmore PTA.

Taryn Mueller reported that \$10 would be easier to handle with transactions. She also would like to do a Membership Drive next year—a stuffed animal sleepover for kids. Become a member, and staff would take pictures of their stuffed animal at school.

Ande Ngola made a motion that the new dues starting July 1 will be \$10 per person or \$17 per family. Taryn Mueller seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

### **Field Trips**

Dawn Peterson reported that she is part of the Jackson Middle School PTA. She recently asked about the funding of field trips. District 45 funds buses for one field trip per year, per grade. In middle school, they have more reward-based field trips. When you exit 8th grade, the district would reward that field trip. Assemblies and field trips could be looked at a bit more by PTA when thinking about the budget for next year.

### **Announcements**

April 3—Math Contest

April 17—Chipotle Fundraiser

April 19—District 45 Art Show  
April 29—Yearbook: Last Day for Free Shipping  
May 2—STEM Day  
May 3—Movie Night  
May 10—End of Year Bash  
May 11—May Day  
May 14—PTA Meeting  
May 17—5th Grade Social

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for May 14 at 6:30 p.m.

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