

September 10, 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 Sept. 10, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. About 11 people were in attendance in person.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Rachel Fowler shared that the minutes from the last PTA meeting held on August 19, 2024, are posted on MemberHub (Givebacks) and are also on the Westmore PTA website. There have been no noted changes or corrections.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report

Treasurer Taryn Mueller shared that the opening balance was \$22,483.02, and the closing balance was \$25,223.85. There was the Pool Party, and we are waiting for another invoice from them. There's around \$5 in donations from Givebacks. The District PTA distributes certain funds at the end of the school year to the member schools.

Principal's Report

Mr. Dart reported that the school has read 7,000 steps already. Attendance is at 96% currently. The school just finished up MAP reading and testing. Parents will most likely receive the reports in 2-3 weeks. Teachers are now establishing ERLA levels of reading. The school finalized the school charter: safe, included, confident, and supportive. Matt Wilhelm, BMX biker, will be at school on September 25 for an assembly. Picture day is Friday, September 13. PTA members at the meeting shared that overall Curriculum Night went well. Early dismissal is September 25.

Committee Reports

Pool Party: Vice President Ande Ngola shared that there were 330 people who came to the party. The process worked better this year with the volunteers and card reader.

Parents Night Out: Taylor Thinnes shared that the event went well. It cost over \$10,000 and we made \$555. Out of pocket it was \$495.

Kindergarten/First Grade Social: Taylor Thinnes shared that this is at Lufkin Park with a food truck. It's from 5-7 p.m. on September 17. There will be raffles, too. Teachers are interested in coming as well.

School Pictures: Kendra Risley shared that she has four total volunteers for Picture Day on September 13. They will come in a little earlier to help out. PTA will post on social media about it.

Movie Night: Nikki Sheehan shared that this is September 27 from 6-8. The movie is Inside Out 2. There are 10 total volunteers. Snacks and a popcorn machine are being donated to the event. The snacks will be free and popcorn will be \$1. Water bottles will be encouraged. There are 150 snacks, and 100 students are able to attend the event.

Spiritwear: Nikki Sheehan shared that there is a Spiritwear website that can be done in less than two weeks. There are designs right now. Designs on Division is the vendor. Shirt turnaround time would be no more than two weeks.

DQ Restaurant Night: Ande Ngola Simek shared that September 23 or October 7 are possible dates for this.

Trunk or Treat: Kris Castaldi shared that flyers have been created for this event. The teacher's parking lot is full of cards with trunks where kids walk around and trick-or-treat. A food truck was there last year. Spoon Burger could be an option. There will be a Dessert Dash as well.

5th Grade Committee: Kris Castaldi shared she has 5th grade shirts ready to go. A CheddarUp page will be set up. She will go with short-sleeved t-shirts, long-sleeved t-shirts, and hoodies.

Membership: Jacqueline Luna-Montes shared that there will be a PTA membership table at the Kindergarten/First Grade Social. She will reach out to those families who have not renewed from last year. There are currently 50 members. She would like to share the importance of joining and switch around the messaging—focus on supporting students instead of the PTA. She'd also like have posts scheduled for the year on social media.

New Business

Kris Castaldi shared that the District 5K is on October 19. Every school gets a kickback at the end of the year, and this supports the District STEM Day. This also covers the art show. They are looking for a volunteer from every school to act as a contact point, to help sort packets on October 16.

President Ande Ngola shared that the Read-a-thon will launch next week. Everyone will get their invites tomorrow night, September 11. There will be a link to the base page in the newsletter on Friday in case any email addresses are missing. This will be classroom-based instead of grade-based.

Announcements

September 13—School Pictures

September 16—Read-a-thon pledges start

September 17—Kindergarten/1st Grade Social • 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. @ Lufkin Park

September 23—Restaurant Night at Lombard DQ

September 27—Movie Night

September 30—Read-a-thon starts

October 8—Next PTA Meeting

October 19—District PTA 5K

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 8 at 6:30 p.m.

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