



**Watts Middle School
PTO Board Meeting
February 9, 2021
7:00 PM – Zoom**

I. Call to Order (Emily Denlinger)

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm. A quorum was present including PTO President, Vice President and Secretary.

II. Secretary's Report (Robyn Bueltel)

The minutes of the November 23, 2020 Executive Board meeting were presented and approved. They will be posted to the Watts PTO website.

III. Treasurer's Report (presented by Brian Miller)

- The current PTO bank balance is \$2,497. PTO spending and teacher requests have been limited.
- No active fundraisers have occurred due to COVID. However, PTO earned \$213 from Kroger Community Rewards, and the office has received \$190 in donations for the conference meal.

IV. Vice President's Report (Brian Miller)

- 160 out of 730 students remain remote; this number changes slightly each week, with more returning to in-person learning.
- In the first 1-2 weeks after the return to in-person learning, little contact tracing was needed. However, it has increased this week. Grouping students by pod seems to have reduced numbers.
- Due to staff receiving their second vaccinations on February 24, parent/teacher conferences are being spread out across the week of February 22. Conferences will take place over Zoom; students should attend.
- There is a continued focus on students' social/emotional well-being. There has been much outreach to help families, and hundreds of devices and materials have been delivered to homes.
- State testing will take place mid-April through early May in Math, ELA and Science (8th grade only). The data will provide information on where students stand and how to move forward. MAP testing is also expected; this will provide a measure of students' progress and the level of summer intervention/mediation needed.
- Because this week contained a snow day on Tuesday and a teacher in-service day on Friday, students will follow the Block B Schedule on Thursday, February 11 so they don't miss an entire week of content.

V. Faculty Rep's Report (Tamara Bakan)

The staff appreciated the welcome-back lunch and bottles of hand sanitizer.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Business Partners (Brian Miller/Emily Denlinger)

Restaurant takeovers are scheduled for March 16 (Chipotle), April 14 (City Barbeque) and May 11 (Rapid Fired Pizza). The City Barbeque takeover is a competition amongst the middle schools. The winning school receives a free City Barbeque lunch for its staff.

B. Curriculum Advisory Council (Brenda Colton)

The curriculum department has been looking at revamping the math program and will implement the Carnegie Learning Math Solutions program next school year at the middle and high school levels. Additional information will be sent to parents this spring. The next meeting is on February 11.

C. Directories (Brian Miller)

Because there was no PTO membership this year, there will be no directory. Moving forward, the PTO is to discuss what membership looks like and how to serve its membership more effectively.

D. Fall Party (Emily Denlinger)

- The group discussed the desire to continue the tradition of a Fall Party in the 2021-22 school year but acknowledged that it will need to be modified due to COVID restrictions that will still be in place.
- Options discussed included hosting each grade on a different date (designate a lead parent for each grade) and/or holding the event during the school day instead of in the evening.
- Parent volunteers could be recruited during Open House; teachers might be willing to help too.
- Planning will most likely begin in summer and can be based on the COVID restriction information available at that time. In the meantime, email any ideas to Brian Miller.

E. Lunches for the Homeless (Brian Miller)

The hope is to reinstate this program next year based on information available at that time.

F. Membership (Brian Miller)

A Membership Chair is needed for the coming fall. Because this position is tied closely with the Directory, two people could work in tandem in a Membership/Directory position.

G. Parent Advisory Rep (Brenda Colton)

The usual Parent Connection meetings have not been scheduled due to COVID.

H. Scholarship (Brian Miller)

The PTO has received 20-30 applications in the past. Applications will be submitted in early April.

I. Hospitality (Robyn Bueltel/Emily Denlinger/Brian Miller)

- This year the PTO will only be providing lunch (on February 23) due to that week's COVID vaccination schedule and staff being able to conduct conferences remotely.
- The PTO will plan another lunch during Teacher Appreciation Week.

VII. Other Business

A. Open PTO Positions for 2021-22 School Year

Hospitality (combine with First Day Treats); Scholarship; Membership/Directory; Business Partners; Family Night Co-Chair (to shadow current Chair); Lunches for the Homeless

B. Spirit Wear Sale

- Maria Rigling volunteered to chair a spirit wear sale this spring. The goal is to have items available in time for students to show school spirit on the first day of state testing.
- The group also discussed fall/winter spirit wear sales. Ideal times to promote items include 6th grade orientation, Open House, conferences and Family Night.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 9 at 7:00 PM via Zoom