

**Westchester Elementary School PTA**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 4, 2018 at 7PM**

**PTA Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/westchesterpta>

**PTA Website:** <http://westchesterpta.org/>

Attendance – Sign-in sheet available upon request.

PTA Minutes – Motion to approve minutes from the last meeting: Approved

Treasurer's Report – Balance at end of last month: \$31,331.

We have almost twice the cash on hand than we did five years ago. It's great to have the flexibility of having money on hand, but we should find a way to spend the money on the kids—perhaps Green Team will have costs? We probably do enough assemblies and it's too late for this year to add more. Can we expand the fun run into a spring festival? Maybe a hydration station at field day? Mr. Byers will take it to the staff and come back with some suggestions.

Administration Report –

Maryland Board of Education has a new rating program for schools. It's a star-system—one through five. There were 22 elementary schools with 5 stars. We are the one school in the western part of the county with a 5-star rating!

The administration has been asked: what are we doing for our 20 year anniversary? We are going to do a 25 year and that will be bigger; we'll do a time capsule and have a celebration. We want to keep it small but fun and meaningful for 20 years. We'll have a presentation put together with lots of pictures. On the last day of school before winter break, we'll have a school-wide assembly to share that presentation and do a winter-song sing-a-long. Then, in January, we have our winter concert for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and we'll take the time between performances to share the presentation with 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents. The power point will be uploaded to the website so anyone can view it.

Committee Reports (only those with updates and/or representatives present are listed below):

**Bingo Night** (Kara Goldheim) – February 21. We will need parent volunteers for that night. We will collect donations during the last week in January in the lobby. Each grade will donate specific items for a themed basket and those will be the big prizes. Look for information on-line and in folders in January.

**Pancake Breakfast** – February 9. We need teacher and parent volunteers for that. Look for information on-line and in folders for that in January as well.

**Spirit Night** – Peace A Pizza fundraiser is tomorrow night. The Maker Practice craft night is this Thursday.

**Spirit Wear**– Orders came in and were distributed.

**Book Fair** (Brian Dial reported) – Despite the snow date, it was the highest-earning yet: \$15,923 in sales. \$7,961 in scholastic dollars to the school.

**Literacy Night** – Mr. Byers reports that feedback from parents was all positive. The visiting author who came to sell books did sell a few and was able to give a donation to the PTA.

**Membership** – Brian Dial reports that membership has tripled. We are having issues with getting the member cards; Melissa Schwartz is working on it.

**Yearbook** – Still in need of photos. The teachers who are heading it up are making a big effort to take a lot of photos as well.

**Grandparents Breakfast** – A huge success despite the weather closing and delay issues. Should we move back to a single day? We will keep it at two; that keeps the crowd more manageable (parking, lines, and Book Fair!). We need more parent volunteers no matter what.

**Green Committee** Mr. Byers reports that the Green Team is slow to get started, but it should kick in to high gear by Spring. We have a pretty large group of kids and four teachers getting it together.

**Kids Clubs** – Melissa Manthorne just sent an e-mail looking for feedback from teachers who led the clubs this Fall. By the end of January, she should have sign-up available for Spring.

Old Business:

No additional

New Business:

Screenager viewing that we spoke about at the last meeting: Melissa Schwartz reached the PTA president from the high school. She said that the County sponsored a screening a few years ago there and the PTA didn't have to pay for it. She will get in touch with the contact from the county and see if they could do it again for a new audience.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25PM

