

PTO MINUTES (MARCH)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Those in attendance were Renee Balcerak, Carol Metz, Rob Chase, Christy, Andrea Franklin, Lauren Hys, Amy Newgard, Ms. Maurra, Kary Bowman, Brenda Burgad, Mr. Romine, Mrs. Rice and Janine LaMonte.
2. We approved and seconded the January and February minutes.
3. We received a brief overview of the Camp Invention program which will be happening at Edgerton Elementary from July 7th through the 11th. The program will go from 9 am to 3:30 pm and is offered for students entering grade 1 to grade 6. The program is taught by certified teachers with high school and college helpers. There is a 1:8 student - teacher ratio. The cost is \$185 - \$205 depending on when you register. There are scholarships and reduced rates available by application. The program will accept 110 enrollees but needs at least 30 to make the program happen. Anyone interested can reach Brenda Burgad at 414-525-8565 or at burgad@whitnall.com.
4. **Special Education Presentation** – These teachers offer extra instruction for identified students. It is available from age 3 up until the child reaches age 21. They help the students prepare to be independent learners. Each Special Ed teacher has a specific grade level(s) they focus on. The referrals are reviewed annually. A student can be referred by a teacher or parent. Mr. Petric is the case manager. The teachers also thanked the PTO for their support.
5. **Food Service Director (Andrea Franklin)** – The new food service group is Taher. Andrea addressed the phone system which is currently out of order. Anyone interested in complaining must approach the school board to complain since the decision to continue or improve this is theirs. The e-mail option which you sign up for on the internet that reminds you of a low balance is working. Some parents have had trouble accessing their bank account online because PIN numbers were changed or not working. Your pin number should be the last 4 digits of your phone number. There were suggestions of a sample day for the students for the new menu items. This is being considered. Portion sizes are regulated by the government. Recently, this issue has been addressed with the staff to correct imperfections. A parent requested knives for spreading butter. The veggies in the salad bar are rotated regularly. All in all the feedback appeared to be positive about the program.
6. **Principal's Report** - Mrs. Komas informed us that there will be weather and safety drills coming up soon. The school newsletter addressed some of the issues discussed at the recent coffee with the principal. Mrs. Komas is considering a May "Coffee with the Principal" meeting occurring from 2:15 to 3:15 pm. A flashing light on Janesville road alerting drivers of the school is being looked into by traffic legislation. The entrance curbs to the parking lot will soon be painted to let parents know not to park there. Registration for the '08 – '09 school year will be changing from a central registration to a mail in registration. This will occur in June. Pictures will return to being taken after school starts.

7. Presidents Report –

* Mr. Z's will be our new fundraiser for next year. This company was chosen because it is local and offers good food and non-food items. The prizes offered seem to be better and include gift cards. The company also packages all orders for delivery including prizes. The internet order option will be available for non-food items. * There was a staff and parent survey drawn to ask questions about PTO related events and issues. Carol is asking for any suggestions to add to the survey. There was a suggestion of quarterly volunteer list handouts to get volunteers and possible committee chairs.

* A nomination for Lauren Hyps to be vice president next year was accepted and seconded.

8. The treasurer's report was approved and seconded.

9. Committee Report – Last Day of School Entertainment: Lauren Hyps has had contact with David Seebach who is a musician at many Milwaukee events. Those who have seen him have enjoyed his show. There was a vote taken to have him do the picnic at the end of the year as long as he fits 2 shows into our \$900 budget. We will request two shows with a helper. Lauren will handle this.

10. Business Not On the Agenda -

* A parent asked for the school to have a parent board either in poster form at the school or on the internet. This board would hopefully improve parent to parent communications. There has to be investigating done to see if this is possible.

* There was also a suggestion for a drop box for issues someone may wish to have addressed by the Principal anonymously.

* The 4th of July committee is looking for the local schools to make floats for the parade.

* A school wide moral boosting balloon release was suggested. It is believed that privacy issues would nix this suggestion.

11. There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm which was seconded.

Respectfully submitted by Renee Balcerak, Co-Secretary.