


WALNUT GROVE
ELEMENTARY
PTO 
General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 6th, 2022
9:30am

- I. Meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m.
- II. Approval of Minutes from General PTO meeting Nov. 8th – motion made by Amy Childress, seconded by Jenny Fisher and motion unanimously approved.
- III. Principal's Report- Dr. Calvin
 - a. Dad's Club was a huge success! We had massive participation.
 - b. Thank you for those who contributed to Thankful Thursday and The Gifting Project. We appreciate your support.
 - c. Mrs. Timmerman is pleased to make an upcoming presentation on behalf of Walnut Grove and Carroll ISD regarding the Quest Program.
 - d. Come check out our Family Night tonight from 4:30-6:00 and see the cardboard box challenge games that students have made.
 - e. Dana Gamache and Mrs. Dudley will be retiring at the end of the semester. The retirement party is today after school in the library. We expect a big turnout and want to honor them.
- IV. Officers Reports
 - A. President---- Corie Brown
 - i. Donuts with Dad was a huge success. Thank you to Katie Valentine for chairing the event and thank you to all who helped make this event possible.
 - ii. Target Gift Card Program- Thank you to everyone who contributed. Thank you to Amanda Orr for leading this project. We raised over \$24,000 this year.
 - iii. The Gifting Project- Thank you to everyone who provided groceries and supported our angels. We helped over 50 families.
 - iv. Sheri Dudley and Dana Gamache are retiring. A party will be held in library today, Dec. 6th for anyone who like to help celebrate. PTO will

supply cake, cookies and flowers. A gift will also be supplied by WGES staff. Students and families are welcome to attend.

- v. WGES Cardboard Challenge will be held in the gym today from 4:30-6:00. Please enter through the front gym doors by the bike racks.
 - vi. Watch D.O.G.S. sign-up genius is still available and looking for more volunteers. Thanks to all who have already participated. Going forward, we will proceed with volunteer opportunities for Dads to work the drop-off line on Fridays. Dads can also sign up to help on a child's birthday.
 - vii. Braggin' on a Dragon signs are in. We have enough quantity to get through the first nine weeks of next year.
 - viii. Landscape- Wendy Home held a discussion regarding updating the front beds for winter to maintain the beautification that took place earlier this year. The cost proposed is \$1190. See printed estimate. Motion made by Jenny Fisher, seconded by Lindsay Mcshea, motion approved.
 - ix. Jessica Tyler is looking into pricing for new gym floors. We will check on the \$500,000 improvement project to see if our floor is listed on the district list as a safety item. New and improved products are available. We have looked at replacing the floor last year and decided to try and patch the floor. The patches have failed, therefore, we would like to proceed with getting multiple bids for replacement. Dr. Calvin will reach out and send records that Nurse Hogan has regarding accidents related to the floor.
 - x. Spirit Shop is looking to get funds earlier this year to start pre-ordering over the summer. Projected budget for next year is \$41,275.05. Looking to approve \$20, 637.53 for start-up budget to start this spring so they can make purchases over the summer and be prepared for community day in the summer. Motion made by Bryanna Roop and seconded by Jenny Fisher, motion approved.
 - xi. We will have the Polar Express train for the whole school to enjoy at the winter party this year. Texas Sumo will cost \$890 for 4 hours. Motion was made by Meridith Lippe, seconded by Tina Wilkins, motion approved. We will have snow machines as well graciously provided by Bianca Hyun.
- B. Treasurer---- Erin Jewel
- i. P&L, balance sheet, income and expenses were reviewed.

- a. We need to look at Dad's Club expenses. Chick-fil-a has become very expensive.
 - b. We need more volunteers helping out as well as potential sponsors if we want to keep Dad's Club going.
 - c. Dr. Calvin suggested we look into different package and pricing options with Chick-fil-a.
 - d. Motion made to skip January Dad's Club by Celina, seconded by Jenny Fisher, motion approved.
- C. VP Fundraising----Val Patel
- i. Spirit Night with Evereve will be this Thursday, December 8th from 10am-8pm.
 - ii. If you are ordering anything from Minted, please use code FUNDRAISEWGESPTO. You will get 20% off your order and 15% will come back to WGES. Coupon code applies all year long.
 - iii. In 2023, we will begin restaurant spirit nights.
 - iv. Per Lindsay McShea, Ame B. is an option to contact for a spirit night.
- D. VP Volunteers----Tara Britton
- i. Winter Parties will be Dec. 16th. In addition to class parties, there will also be hot chocolate and trains. Homeroom moms will not be needed for the trains (just the class parties). Tara will send out a reminder to homeroom moms to remind them to provide the teacher's gifts at the holiday party.
 - ii. Parents will be able to sign their kids out directly with their teacher following the holiday party.
 - a. Kindergarten- 8:00-8:45
 - b. 1st grade- 8:15-9:00
 - c. 2nd grade- 11:15-12:00
 - d. 3rd grade- 10:00-10:45
 - e. 4th grade- 12:00-12:45
- E. VP Community ---- Erica Willis
- i. Thankful Thursday- thank you for contributing gift cards. A card and bunt cake were provided to every staff member.
 - ii. January- Multicultural Event will be held January 26th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Please consider representing a country/state/region or come by and enjoy the fun!
- F. VP Communications---- Bryanna Roop
- i. Communication update-none

- G. Advisor's Report---- Danielle Gibson
 - i. Site based requests
 - a. Please see the attached requests.
 - b. A motion was made by Amanda Orr, seconded by Illeana Lutkenhaus, motion was approved.
- H. President Elect---- Wendy Home
 - i. Volunteers of the month- Gisella Sowin, Lauren Biery, Abby Ward for the Gifting Project and Katie Valentine for Donuts with Dad.
- I. Secretary---- Jessica Tyler
- J. Thank You's- Mrs. Athans, 2 from the Kinder team, 2 from the first grade team, 2 from the second grade team, 1 from the third grade team, Science/Stem team and SPED team.
- K. New and Unfinished Business- Dr. Calvin
 - a. We are losing a paraprofessional on the ACE Team. This position has been filled.
 - b. We have an interview scheduled for a school counselor.
 - c. We have a replacement for Mrs. Dudley who will begin shortly.
 - d. Dr. Calvin will be having a meeting with principals from Southlake, Colleyville and Grapevine to discuss advocacy and things impacting schools such as school finance. PTOs are the most powerful lobby in the state. Every parent is a tax paying voter, so please listen to Mr. Johnson speak about school finance and understand what is taking place. With all of the property tax increases taking place, this should have created a windfall for the state. If the formula for funding schools does not change, the state keeps the money. Specifically, we are asking for an increase in the daily allotment paid to our schools.
 - e. This Friday, PTO is providing all teachers with a 10 minute slot to get a massage.
- V. The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.