



Meeting Minutes

West Sedona School PTA General Assembly Meeting

September 19, 2022

3:30 pm

1. **Welcome & Call to Order:** Basil Maher at 3:36pm

Roll Call (Sign in sheet available)

Board Members in Attendance: Basil Maher, Mimi Maher, Theresa Zaun, Mel Monahan Bruesch, Luke Bruesch, Laura Allen, Georgiana Parker, Allie McInnis

2. **Principal's Report:** This is Elizabeth's 6th year in WSS, first year as a principal. She is making an effort to visit every classroom every day to have a presence and be involved. As well as focusing on communication & collaboration, working to communicate with staff and families. She loves all the kids and thanks us for sharing them! There have been many new students and a few new teachers too this year. There is currently 253 students this year, last year there was 230s, so there has been positive growth. PE & STEM programs are in place as well as the new Math envision-it is the same platform as the reading platform so not entirely new. Also programs for EL & ESL, reading, and a new math teacher for support are underway. The Wildcat Extended Day has also seen an increase in attendance and enrollment, there are a total of 141 students enrolled which translates to 40-50 students in attendance daily. She has been in contact with the Sedona Rotary Club to additionally support the Wildcat Extended program with volunteers. Staff & students are excited for this school year, after covid- looking forward to start again field trips, events, etc. She also encouraged and invited everyone to volunteer in the school during the day and events.
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes made by Theresa Zaun, seconded by Mimi Maher. Passed unanimously.
4. **Reports of Officers**

- a. **Board Members Introductions:** Board members introduced themselves to the families present.

Basil also gave an overview of attendance in recent years, he explained attendance went low when Big Park school closed but then as covid hit and WSS stayed open, many students came back. Funding is based on number of students, so if number of students goes down, funding also goes down with it. The district was struggling in years past and is now on the road to recovering. As it recovers, there is more teachers, more facilities, more opportunities and things to do. The PTA has been helping & working on raising the image of the school and hopes to get everyone involved in it. There is currently good momentum.

- b. **Financial Review & Treasurer's Report:** Report given by Theresa Zaun. Budget was presented and discussed. Motion made by Mel to accept the report, seconded by Mimi Maher. Passed unanimously.
- c. **President's Report:** Given by Basil Maher. He echoed our principal's sentiment on positive growth. Also mentioned how with a new principal and new PTA members, come fresh ideas. Also with new parents, more people, more volunteers, bigger community. He also urged everyone to

volunteer and get involved.

- d. **Membership Report:** Given by Theresa Zaun. Last year there was a total of 70 members. There is 40 currently. Almost every teacher has joined- the PTA gives the teacher's money for their classroom. It was calculated teachers can spend approximately \$3,000 on classroom materials, pizza parties, mother's day projects, etc. The PTA helps bridge that gap for teachers. Teachers must join the PTA to be recipient of PTA funds.

Flyers to join PTA went out last Friday. There was also discussion of advertising, 'Join the PTA and get a free gift' with the gift being a WSS bumper sticker.

5. **Report of Committee:** Wildcat Carnival Update - Laura Allen gave an update of the carnival, happening 10/22/22. There will be a booth at the carnival using dum dums lollipops as a take on a pencil pull, she asked if anyone can bring those lollipops to please do. Sam's has dum dums on sale right now. Also encouraged people to bring coupon cards & gift cards for spin the wheel & to donate items for the silent auction. Items are to be brought to the front office with from who and value. There are donated tickets for Out of Africa that will be used for the silent auction too. A Haunted Room was approved, in the 900 building- she suggested to put a crew together to decorate the haunted room, to share the responsibility for it. Kid friendly but a bit spooky. Permit from the city for the Carnival has been approved.
 - a. Basil gave an overview of the activities offered at the carnival.
 - b. Sponsorships for carnival: Theresa Zaun presented – There has been \$24,600 in sponsorships collected. \$2,500 in in-kind (trade) donations for a total of – \$27,100. Taylor Waste is also donating 15 trash cans for the carnival. They will take care of the pickup as well.
 - c. Mel talked about the themed gift baskets for the carnival. About 15-20 kids from each classroom bring items for it, it makes for a big basket. Some basket themes are: Chocolate, legos, cooking, etc. Volunteers are needed for assembling the baskets. Mel has also been trying to find pizza to be served at the carnival. Famous Pizza won't give us a deal this year, gave us a \$500 sponsorship instead. Domino's Pizza is willing to take \$6 off per pizza. Moondogs manager has not been able to be reached by phone after multiple attempts.
6. **Fundraising:** Basil talked about incentives offered to PTA members like discounts in different businesses. The Bashas community card was explained as well as Amazon Smile & Fry's. SpiritWear was also discussed, attendants were reminded Wednesdays are 'Wildcat Wednesday' where everybody is urged to wear the school shirt.
7. **New Business:**
 - a. Laura presented the pumpkin carving contest flyer. The prizes were approved. Prizes will be awarded in cash.
 - b. **Movie night for families:** Swank movie licensing is \$480 for a year, \$912 for 2 years (5% savings) & \$1,300 for 3 years (10% savings). That covers the fee for all their movies. There are different movie catalogues for indoor and outdoor. Mel has order form and can move forward as soon as approved. As far as equipment- screen is about \$170, but then there is the projector & sound system. Some equipment the school might have. We would be allowed to charge for admission as long as the proceeds go to the PTA, which they would. It was suggested \$7 for an adult non-PTA member, \$5 adult, PTA member & \$3 for kids. Popcorn, sodas, etc can also be sold. Facilities use form would need to be filled out. Mel has the flyer for family movie night made out already. Was proposed perhaps 2 or 3 movie nights could be carried out this school year. People from cottonwood, charter schools, etc could all be invited.

It was suggested we try the licensing for one year. Perhaps look at second hand equipment. Also suggested was to have different movies in different classrooms to have more options and take advantage of the classroom equipment already in place. Also, maybe rent equipment from cottonwood since they have the

outdoor movies. Also mentioned, how in years past they had 'activity nights' Friday nights at the gym. Sue Herrera would organize them. That could be another idea as well as a 'Date night' for parents,, providing childcare.

It was motioned for proposal to move forward and get more details on equipment and things to move forward. Motioned by Laura, seconded by Theresa. Passed unanimously.

- c. **Bingo night:** There is some concern about Bingo considered gambling and thus maybe not being able to have it. It was suggested to have prizes instead of money, to take the money component out.

Mel presented the flyer for it.

Tickets were proposed at \$12 in advance, \$15 at door. This would include- 2 slices of pizza, 3 bingo sheets, & an ink stamper. Popcorn, sodas, etc. could also be sold.

Bingo night will be further discussed at our next meeting and approval will be considered then.

- d. **Chest freezer for cafeteria:** The cafeteria used to have Dipping Dots ice cream, they provided a chest freezer. Once Dipping Dots was taken out of the cafeteria so was the freezer. The cafeteria would like a chest freezer for ice cream & popsicles. A 5.0 cubic chest freezer from Home Depot was proposed for \$199. However Basil & Mimi have a spare one they can donate. They will donate it and bring it to the cafeteria

8. **Announcements:** Next PTA meeting Dates -

- Board Meetings:

- Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 3:30pm
- Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 3:30pm
- Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 3:30pm
- Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 3:30pm

- General Assembly:

- Tuesday, October 18, 2022. Time- To be Decided. At the school library.
- Tuesday, November 15, 2022. Time- To be Decided. At the school library
- Tuesday, February 7, 2023. Time- To be Decided. At the school library.
- Tuesday, May 9, 2023. Time- To be Decided. At the school library. **Elections for PTA officers for the new school year (2023 - 2024) to be held then.**

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:51pm. Motioned by Allie seconded by Theresa. Passed unanimously.