



AGENDA

Gene Witt Elementary PTO

Date: March 6, 2025 6:00 PM

Location: Gene Witt Music Room

In attendance:

Jennifer Alcantara, Laura Anastasia, Jon Ayo, Jolie Ayo, Karen Barrett, Keary Bartlett, Ashley Brown, Jessie Brown, Krystle Bruck, Ryan Bruck, Amanda Cannon, Kiley Cannon, Emma Cecil, Shannon Cooley, Connie Dixon, Ann Draper, Michael Gibson, Michele Hange, Crystalle Holmes, Kristen Klei, Joanna Metcalf, Callie Pikcilingis, Carla Santoro, Pearl Sinkler, Nicole Smith, Rachel Smith, Laura Thacker, Allison Wykes

Meeting called to order at 6:25 p.m.

### **WELCOME (Kiley Cannon)**

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### **PREVIOUS BUSINESS (Kiley Cannon)**

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- **Sweetheart Dance**
  - It was a dream to spend the night in wonderland with Gene Witt ladies and their special guests. The dance was a big success.
  - Chair - Stacy Piazza, she also had great volunteers, both moms and dads, who helped with preparations, set up, and cleanup.
- **Panda Express Spirit Night**
  - February 19
  - 50% of total sales were returned to Gene Witt PTO
  - PTO earned \$1,353.27
  - Chair - Cara Misciewicz

### **NEW BUSINESS (Kiley Cannon)**

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- **Running Club**
  - Thank you to our Gene Witt runners and parents for facilitating this weekly
  - Chair - Kristen Klei

Kristen Klei: We meet every Wednesday morning at 7:40. We have 92 runners. In February we ran a combined 265 miles. We have amazing parent volunteers. Open to staff, teachers, administration coming to run, walk, or cheer any Wednesday. We could do a teacher tunnel for students to run through. Mrs. Dixon is coming April 2 - we're calling it "Go the Distance with Mrs. Dixon."

- **Memory Bricks (Kiley Cannon)**
  - Forms will be going home on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> in teacher mailboxes
  - Will be due back on March 31st

- Chair - Carla Santoro  
Payments will all be made electronically through Zeffy (no cash or checks accepted), but parents will also have to return a paper form specifying what they want on their bricks.
- **Walmart Spark Good**
  - Shop Walmart online or through the app and round up to the nearest dollar to donate funds back to Gene Witt Elementary PTO.
  - Shannon has been working to set this up since August. The first time you do it, you'll need to find and select Gene Witt Elementary PTO as your donation recipient. After that it should be saved.
  - This works through Walmart online or Walmart app, NOT in store. There is no planned ending to this.
  - Step-by-step instructions on how to set it up are posted in the Gene Witt PTO Facebook group.
  - We don't think it has to be local, out-of-town friends and family can also choose us as a recipient - as long as they search by our zip code to find it
- **2025-2026 PTO Board Nominees**
  - Accepting nominations from the floor at this time for Gene Witt PTO board positions for the 2025-2026 school year
  - This meeting is the last change to nominate yourself or someone else.
  - Each position was read aloud, with pause for nominations. Only one person was nominated for each position:
    - President – Crystalle Holmes, nominated Shannon Cooley
    - Vice President – Shannon Cooley, nominated by Crystalle Holmes
    - Treasurer – Kiley Cannon, self-nominated
    - Corresponding Secretary – Rachel Smith, self-nominated
    - Recording Secretary – Emma Cecil, self-nominated
  - Current and Incoming Board members will meet following the April meeting to discuss roles to facilitate a smooth transition for new board members

Laura Anastasia: Since there are no contested positions, the election at April's meeting will be a voice-vote only, no paper ballots, and no Election Committee is needed. To be eligible to vote, you must have attended at least one PTO meeting this school year prior to the April meeting, so please make sure you sign the attendance sheet.

- **Sons Plus One (Kiley Cannon)**
  - March 28 at Gene Witt Elementary
  - Glow Party,
  - Co-Chairs - Laura Anastasia and Krystal Bruck, have a committee, open to additional help. This event will have a ticket cap for space.
- **Donuts with Dads**
  - April 5 – this is a Saturday, 730-930, stop in any time,
  - Chair - Ann Draper. She is looking for help with it. Ann is also look for dad jokes, find her to share them.
- **Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night**
  - April 8, Tuesday, Creekwood at 70, will go all day as well. The percentage we receive is tiered depending on total sales.
  - Chair - Cara Misciewicz. Cara has chaired all our Spirit Nights so far this year and has more in the works.
- **Family Fun Day**
  - April 26, 11-2 p.m.
  - Please contact us at [GeneWittPTO@gmail.com](mailto:GeneWittPTO@gmail.com) if you would like to assist with preparations for this event – looking for raffle baskets, if you would like to submit a basket or take a basket on.
  - Chair - Shannon Cooley

Shannon Cooley: Dads are going to do the cooking, so the plan is to do hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and drinks as in the past. We do need a lot of volunteers for this to blast kids with slime. If you have a 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grader that will stay with you and not turn slime sprayers into weapon, they are welcome to spray slime with you. We are going to make it a birthday celebration for Gene Witt with it, inviting former teachers and staffers to spray slime as well.

We are collecting auction items, also asking if any parents want to volunteer to do a class basket. We'll have a registration deadline, but since it's outdoors, no cap for attendance.

- **Family Game Night (Kiley Cannon)**
  - May 9
  - Bring your family and join us for dinner and game night!
  - Chair - Emma Cecil
  - Currently looking for donations of board games, afterward, everything we can reuse for green parties we will save, anything else will be donated to the school. Families cannot bring their own games to the game night.

## **APPROVED MINI GRANTS –February**

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- N/A

## **TREASURER'S REPORT (Shannon Cooley)**

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### New Mini Grants

- From: Amanda Cannon, 1<sup>st</sup> grade: Requesting the IXL program for language arts for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades; 240 students total. (3-5<sup>th</sup> already have it). This would run through September 16 and would cost \$825.
  - Connie Dixon: Noted these programs are usually run for 12 months. Asked whether it would make sense to wait until fall.
  - Amanda Cannon: Explained that the teachers want it for center time for a fun way for kids to work on ELA skills including phonics because the county removed some other programs they used to use.
  - Karen Barrett: Explained that the district used to pay for IXL for all schools, but this year, they just bought it for Title I schools. She expects they will need PTO funding next year to get IXL up and running for all grade levels.
  - Shannon Cooley: Will check in with IXL to see if this is a pro-rated amount and see whether they would do a free trial period.Mini grant TABLED.
- Keary Bartlett: The Celebration Committee is looking to create a tile mural of 36 titles featuring the winners of the student art challenge drawing eagles. In addition, they would like to get two flags – both winning designs by students from a competition at the start of the year. The mini grant is just for the cost of the flags and the tiles, they have someone who can install them for free. The flag will be double-sided. The cost is \$443.04 for all the tiles and \$201 for the 2 flags, altogether totaling \$644.04. APPROVED.
- Shannon Cooley: Lace Cortese, a K/1 para, is requesting an electric stapler, it will be kept in the workroom in building 2 for everyone to use. \$30. APPROVED.
- Shannon Cooley: Michelle Sharp, ESE K-5. This is an annual ask that benefits the entire school. She is requesting supplies for a school garden to be used along with grade-level science curriculum, offering hands-on science. She is asking for soil, covers for the beds, fertilizer, and for seeds to grow items including mint, cilantro, dill, basil, and cucumbers. \$393.75. APPROVED. (Kiley Cannon offered that she may be able to donate some of these products from her husband's work.)

### Budget (Shannon Cooley)

- The budget was handed out. Shannon asked for any questions.
- Rina Becker: A question from 5<sup>th</sup> grade team, will we be getting AR incentive moneys again for next year and how much?
- Shannon Cooley: Yes, it was removed as a line item this year because last year it was not used consistently and we did not know if AR was still going to be used. But we are still covering it this year and will bring it back as a line-item next year. Please get teacher input on what grades need it and how much they need.
- Kristen Klei: Asked where running club is in the budget, with 95 runners each paying a \$25 fee, (minus the cost of t-shirts).
- Shannon Cooley: I believe it is under Fundraising, but I will double check. In years past we had had a line item for it and we combined it to shorten the budget.
- Shannon Cooley: We still have Tidal Wave car wash certificates for sale. \$10 certificates get you a \$30 wash. It's a one-time use coupon. Going to open another Zeffy form for that.

### **SAVE THE DATE (Kiley Cannon)**

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- March 7 - Early release at 1:50 pm -

Jessie Brown: Can we go back to early release stickers the day before to remind parents?

Kiley Cannon/Shannon Cooley: PTO has a machine that we can do them. Will look into a brightly colored one.

- March 13 - Q3 Celebration - Kona Ice
- March 14 - Early release at 1:50 pm
- March 17 - 21 Spring Break
- March 24 - Hurricane makeup day
- March 28 - Sons plus one event
- April 3 - SAC/PTO Meeting
- April 4 - Donuts with Dads
- April 8 - Chick-Fil-A Spirit night
- April 18 - Good Friday - NO SCHOOL
- April 21 - 25 -Teacher and Staff appreciation week
- April 23 - Running Club ends
- April 26 - Family Fun Day

Any questions, please reach out to us at [Genewittpto@gmail.com](mailto:Genewittpto@gmail.com)

Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm

### **PTO INFORMATION**

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#### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

President - Kiley Cannon

Vice President - Crystalle Holmes

Treasurer - Shannon Cooley

Corresponding Secretary - Rachel Smith

Recording Secretary - Laura Anastasia

**EMAIL - [GENEWITTPTO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GENEWITTPTO@GMAIL.COM)**

**FB GROUP - GENE WITT PTO** (be sure to answer questions before requesting to join)

**ONLINE – GENEWITTPTO.COM**

**GENE WITT FACEBOOK GROUP**

- Please answer the questions and join the GENE WITT PTO FB Group to stay up to date with all things PTO.
- [www.facebook.com/groups/genewittpto](http://www.facebook.com/groups/genewittpto)
- We created this group for security reasons.