**Gene Witt PTO Minutes**

**October 6, 2022**

**2022-2023 PTO Board**

Carla Santoro – President

Sherry Pineno – Vice President

Shannon Cooley – Treasurer

Laura Anastasia – Recording Secretary

Cara Misiewicz – Corresponding Secretary

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**Call to order at 6:40 p.m.**

**Upcoming Family Fun Events (Carla)**

* Book Fair will be 10/10 through 10/14, 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
  + If children want to shop before school, they must be accompanied by a parent. Parents can also come during their child’s lunchtime.
  + SignUp Genius went out today. We are looking for people to volunteer to help the kids shop, find what they need, and help them check out.
  + You can pay using eWallet (you put a set amount of money on that they can send) or you can send your kids with money. Teachers can send kids during class time.
  + If you only want your child to buy books, you can send a note in with them specifying how much they can spend, what you want them to spend it on, and what you don’t want them to spend it on.
  + **Mrs. Dixon:** Will parents need to be Raptored in for the bookfair?
  + **Carla:** Parents will already be Raptored in if they are on campus. They should go to the main officer first and sign in. We usually get very few parents in the mornings.
  + Everything for the bookfair is arriving tomorrow. I’m going to help Mrs. Inners set it up.
  + This is not a PTO-sponsored event, so tax will be charged. Make sure you include enough money to cover tax.
  + **Dixon:** The school does earn something back from the book fair. Mrs. Inners can elect how to do it, whether a check for the whole profit or half profit and half books for classroom libraries.
* Monster Mash – Trunk or Treat – will be 10/28, 6 to 8 p.m. (Carla)
  + Flyers will be posted, possibly coming home at the beginning of next week. There will be a SignUp Genius for people to sign up to decorate their trunks. We have a contest for best trunk and might have one for best teacher trunk.
  + This is a totally free event, no entry fee. It was our first on-campus event last year and we had a great turnout. We usually look for 25-30 trunks. The PTO supplies the candy for the trunks to give out.
  + We are during food trucks, we have about two scheduled for it. You do pay for anything you get from the food trucks. There will be free games.
  + This will be just for Witt families. It is not a drop-off event, parents must stay with their children.
  + I have reached out to the high school for volunteers to help work the event.
  + Trunks should be appropriate, not too scary or gory.
  + Last year we asked for candy donations, but this year the PTO is supplying all the candy. We will have allergy-friendly prize buckets at 4 to 5 of the cars.

**Mini Grants (Shannon)**

* We had some mini grants that the board approved between meetings:
  + 3 soccer goals and an air pump for the PE department, $584.06
  + Chair pocket organizers for a third grade class, $376.85
  + Owl pellets for fourth grade, $299.94
* We have three new mini grants to vote on:
  + A lockable filing cabinet for the front office to help organize student information, transportation information, etc. (From Lisa Blakemore) About $350-400 w/shipping. (Mike Lynch asked if Staples had one cheaper. Shannon said it cost more there.): APPROVED
  + Donuts for students who achieve honor roll. Will be given out three times this school year, the first on 10/14. Donuts are about $9.99 a dozen. Estimating cost at $200 each time, therefore $600 for the year. (From Lisa Blakemore on behalf of Connie Dixon): APPROVED
  + 7 replacement tether balls for the grades that requested them. (Submitted by Shannon Cooley on the teachers’ behalf) $100: APPROVED (Nurse Angie Meyer warned that she does see kids needing ice packs after getting hit with tetherballs.)

**Budget (Shannon)**

* Otis update: Orders are in. Due to hurricane delay, the last ones were picked up yesterday. There are still some Ocean Pals that will be fulfilled. The coloring contest will be judged next week, the office will be in charge of that. With rough calculations, guessing we will make about $26,000 off the fundraiser.
* Family Fun Events – Bingo Night raised almost $2,000.
* Opt-Out fundraiser has raised $11,164. That will end up being little different because of expenses Shannon has to purchase for it: flyers, prizes, etc.
* Santa’s Workshop is just under $2,500 with the purchased items. That usually goes negative until we have the event and then it will jump up. They are almost done shopping for it.
* Spirit gear is negative at negative $50. The vendor does owe us a check. With each PTO event, we will sell more.
* Business Sponsors is at $10,028.50. Did order first round of banners for it. We maybe have a few more sponsors than last year. I still need banner info from several of them, will email them again this week.
* Teacher reimbursements are continuing to come in, about $3,340 so far. We will send reminders to teachers throughout the year.

**Mrs. Dixon:** We had a large black SUV hit our fence in the morning. Please remember the car rider parking lot and loop are a cell-phone-free area.

**Mrs. Alcantara:** Thank you to the PTO for the End-of-Quarter Kona Ice treat for the students and staff. Everyone loved it, it was the highlight of the day.

* **Shannon:** At the last meeting, we put off approving the budget so everyone could have time to review it. Any questions or suggestions:
* **Parent:** Are there any special projects you are saving for?
* **Shannon:** Any excess money we raise beyond what we have already budgeted to spend is usually able to cover the mini grants. We have also paid for the picnic tables and sunshade cover in the new family lunch area.
* Motion to approve the budget – APPROVED

**Question about spirit gear, Carla answered**: There are order forms on the PTO website. If ou want adult sizes or a size we don’t have, ou can order them online. We still do have inventory here that we’d like to sell off also. We accept cash, check, or Paypal. We only have kids sizes in stock here.

**Parent question about whether we can have school uniforms at Witt, Dixon answered:** If that is raised at the next SAC meeting, we can talk about it. WE can review the bylaws. The members can decide whether to take that decision out to the parent community. It would need 76% or greater approval from the parent community to move forward with it, then a whole committee that would need to be formed. A lot of students are wearing their school spirit shirts almost every day.

**Shannon:** Salty Dog has our logo so you can call on your own and get our logo printed on polos for your kids.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember (Carla)**

Friday, October 7 No School – Record Day

M – F, October 10-14 Fall Book Fair

Thursday, October 13 School Picture Retake/Makeup Day

(**Dixon:** We are hoping to get the pictures back before retake day. Otherwise we may push retake day back.)

Friday, October 28 Monster Mash Trunk or Treat

Wednesday, November 2 Early Release – Professional Learning

Thursday, November 3 SAC/PTO Meeting (6pm)

Friday, November 11 No School/Veterans Day

**Mike Lynch: Update on FBI stuff**

* The ADA picnic table just arrived, hoping to have that set up by next week. The memory bricks came in but they are a different size than the ones that are on the floor. Different in depth and size. It’s not a standard brick. Going to reach out to one of our previous business sponsors, MS Pavers, to see if he can give us a hand. Not a simple one-on-one replacement like we had planned.
* Will we reschedule the food truck rally?
* **Carla:** We are thinking about rescheduling it to mid-November or early December and donating the profits to Rye Road Giraffes, which suffered a lot of damage during the hurricane. The family is very good to the school, they donate their animals and time during our carnivals and don’t charge us a penny, they give all the profit to us directly.
* **Carla:** Carrabbas is doing drive thru meals again so I am reaching out to see if we can set up a date for that. Not lasagna this time. You fill out a form and pay and then pick it up in our car loop. We can try Bubbaques again. Texas Roadhouse never got back to me last year.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.**