

Woodside Middle School

PTC Meeting Minutes 10/10/17 8AM

In attendance: Anna Ross, Chris Perez, Cindy Otten, Beth Price, Jerry Schillinger

Meeting called to order at 8:04AM

Mr Schillinger began by saying he thinks the budget looks great, teachers are looking forward to grants being available again this year, communication on the Everybody Eats days is being improved. Mr. Schillinger offered Rm. 128, available in the past, for Book Fair, but Chris Perez says thank you, but she thinks the commons gives us more room to spread out and all agreed. Teacher grants timeline is yet to be determined, but fall semester is when this usually happens.

1. **Guest Speaker Stacy Fleming, SACS Communication Director** presented regarding communications updates at SACS. Upgrade was result of survey done last year during registration. Over 3800 people responded fairly evenly from each of the SACS schools. That survey showed most received information via email and most preferred email except for in emergency situations in which case most parents preferred to receive a text message. That was the impetus for an upgrade so we could do texting. Learned that most would use a mobile app and we needed to improve website to be mobile friendly and be ADA compliant.

Ultimately decided to use School Messenger Co. to maintain progressive nature of communication and is a system which is integrated with powerschool.

New Website- Phase 1. Priorities were clean layout, important information easily located, and quick links. There was a delay in launch over the summer while staff was learning how new website would work, which is still a work in progress.

Phase II-Notifications: email, text, and voice messaging launched September 27th for school delays/cancellations, important information, and emergencies. If there are changes in information regarding cell phone number or email, parents must go through school secretaries due to security reasons.

School Messenger sent an opt-in message; if parents did not receive it for some reason and they would like to receive notifications, they should first text Y or Yes to 675-87. A second course of action would be to contact the secretary at their school. All of this information is on the website under "connect". Schools will send something out about texting service and Dr. Downs might as well or in lieu of.

Voice messaging is still being sorted out as to who would want to receive a phone call with voicemail notifications and when. That capability currently exists if it is decided to be necessary or beneficial.

Texts and emails were utilized recently when Aboite Elementary students were evacuated due to gas leak behind the school building.

What's next? The APP! An App by School Messenger online now but it is not useful yet. Teachers need training and parents will be able to pick what notifications they want. There will be groups for each building that can be selected so that parents don't have to receive information that is not relevant to their student or not of interest. School Messenger App is expected to be useful on Jan. 1st; but teachers won't roll out their using of the App until 2018-2019 school year.

2. **Treasurer's Report:** Cindy gave a report with current balance. A few purchases were made for Staff Appreciation to round out the donations that were made by parents. A new reimbursement form was created and will be stored in the office in our mailbox and one is also available online. Receipts can be mailed or scanned and emailed if originals are not needed. It was decided to make things as easy as possible, that photocopied or scanned and emailed receipts sent to treasurer are adequate for our records.

Re: budget for 6th grade carnival on May 18th: Kona Ice will come out and if we buy more than \$200, we get 20% back of the sales. No fee to come out. They may be available for the Red Warrior on May 12.

Kroger Cares: checks will come to building from Kroger and school treasurer Kristy Bowers gets the email which she will forward to Cindy about how much we are receiving. Office Depot gives store credit when WMS families shop there who join the program. Agreed this should be promoted for the benefit of WMS school supplies.

3. **Committee Reports:** Chris Perez will need change for the book fair and volunteers to help. The sign up genius has been sent out.

4. **Traffic Issues:** Anna Ross spoke about the road closure. An email was received from a parent with concern about the delay this is causing. Parents wondering if there could be a second drop off location at Covington during the construction, but all agreed this would be unsafe for students to be walking across the crowded parking lot. Part of the clog on Monday 10/9 was due to sixth grade science fair project being due adding to the number of drop offs. Stacy Fleming reminded everyone money is often allocated for construction projects that must happen during certain times of the year, working around frozen ground in the winter or maybe needing to be done by

the end of the calendar year. In any case, SACS has control over whether this construction project happens during the school year. Meanwhile, Mr. Schillinger is recommending that next year maybe the science fair project be due on Red Day and White Day rather than Pink Day to help with the congestion of drop off. Parents are advised to plan for delays, stop when sign comes out from buses, and always keep student safety as the most important thing.

5. Upcoming Events: Everybody Eats Chick Fil A tonight

Book Fair Oct. 16-20

Staff Appreciation Oct 19-20

PTC meeting Nov. 8th at 8AM

Everybody Eats at Pizza Hut Illinois Road-November 8th from 4-9

6. Other business: January PTC meeting date change

Wednesday January 17th at 7PM with Dr. Downs in the cafeteria

Meeting adjourned at 9:30AM

Respectfully submitted by Beth Price, secretary