 **Willow Hill Elementary School PTO Meeting**

**Parent Teacher Organization**  October 19, 2023

1700 Coolidge Avenue 6:30 P.M.

Willow Grove, PA 19090

215-657-3800

Dr. Damon Jordan, Principal

**PTO Board: Erin McIntosh – President (Moderator), Kimberly Fortson – Vice President, Alison Jaglal - Treasurer, Monica Fielder & Kelli Pearson – Co-Secretaries, Ms. Ryann Khan – Technology and Communication, & Amira Aliu – Recording Secretary**

**PTO Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2023**

# Welcome, Introductions & Announcements Erin McIntosh (Moderator)

The meeting was called to order by the moderator at 6:34 p.m., and she welcomed everyone present to the first PTO meeting of this school year. Then, moderator requested that members of the PTO Board introduce themselves along with all other persons present and they obliged. Next, the moderator announced that our biggest fundraiser will be in October of 2023. Then, the moderator mentioned that a volunteer badge is required to volunteer in schools at Abington School District and that the Box Tops for Education app is available for individuals to download on their cell phones. Moreover, the moderator mentioned the following upcoming Calendar of Events and hot topics:

09/21/2023 – Back-to-School Night is this week and a Flyer was sent home about it

09/25/2023 – Yom Kippur Holiday – Schools Closed

10/02/2023 – FundHub Fundraiser to kick off on this day

10/20/2023 – Neon Dance-a-Thon

10/25/2023 – Title I Meeting & Pretzel Order Date

10/9 – 10/13/2023 – Scholastic Book Fair

10/12/2023 – Evening Family Night for Scholastic Book Fair from 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

-Friend us on Facebook – Willow Hill PTO and visit our website at willowhillpto.weebly.com. You can order pretzels and Spirit Wear on our website.

-The PTO has put together a “Welcome Back” package to teachers.

-The Back-to-School Picnic was held but it got rained out.

Attendance: Ms. Cheryl Alexion (Educational Curriculum Specialist); Ms. Trina Hicks; Ms. Priya Patel; Ms. Racquel Young; Ms. Blair Saba; Ms. Kimberly Fortson; Ms. Jessica Mason; Ms. Kelli Pearson; Mr. Ernest Pearson; Ms. Stacy McDonald; Ms. Jennifer McKeever; Ms. Alyssa Devlin; Ms. Keisa Thompson; Ms. Alethia White-Burroughs; Dr. Damon Jordan (Principal); Ms. Megann Fischer; Ms. Megan Slater-Liberona; Mr. Gabriel Piedrahita; Ms. Monica Fielder; Ms. Amira Aliu; Ms. Erin McIntosh and Ms. Ryann Kahn.

**School Administration Report Dr. Damon Jordan, Principal**

Dr. Jordan welcomed everyone present and thanked the PTO and parents for supporting the school. Next, he noted that this school year will be his 16th year as principal of Willow Hill and that it will also be Mrs. Alexion 16th school year as Educational Curriculum Specialist at Willow Hill. Moreover, due to the rain, Dr. Jordan reported that the Back-To-School Picnic lasted for 90 minutes. Furthermore, he reported on the following school staff updates: (Sara Smith, new math Teacher; Angela Gerstle – Building Substitute Teacher; Ms. Saris is out on leave and Ms. Flor (4th grade Teacher) is in for Ms. Saris; and Ms. Micah, formerly Ms. Shenk, is our school counselor for 5 days a week. Next, Dr. Jordan mentioned that all Abington School District elementary schools are using a new math curriculum. This school year called Illustrative Mathematics (IM) and he then asked Mrs. Alexion to explain what IM is about. What’s more, Dr. Jordan mentioned some additional updates of staff, e.g., Ms. Howard now teachers Grade 2. Additionally, he reported the following; “Start for Hello Week” started this week and today is being an “Upstander Day,” i.e., tell a teacher or staff member when something is not right; tomorrow is Spirit Day; Compliment Day is on Thursday and students sign a Promise Pledge to keep the school bully-free; reminded everyone present that breakfast is free for all students this school year; so far we have 371 students attending Willow Hill; and Thursday, Sep. 21, 2023 is Open House (3rd to 5th grades from 6:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m., K – 2 grades from 7:20 p.m. – 8:05 p.m., and all specialist will be in the cafeteria from 7 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Finally, Dr. Jordan reviewed the following Calendar of Events:

**Calendar Review**

09/25/2023 – [Yom Kippur] Holiday – Schools Closed

10/19/2023 – Picture Day

10/25/2023 – 1st Title I Meeting [at 5:30 p.m.]

**5th Grade PAC Report Erin McIntosh (5th Grade PAC Representative)**

Ms. McIntosh reported that the 5th grade PAC helps out the 5th graders for the school year, e.g., they pay for yearbooks, 2nd class trips, graduation party, and graduation gifts. Furthermore, Ms. McIntosh reported that the order form was revamped for pretzels and to please fill out the forms by Wednesday, not Friday morning during the week of pretzel sales. She also reported that bake sales for Election Day are held by PAC and that there will be a booth at the Roslyn Car Show to sale baked goods and beverages. Ms. McIntosh further reported that you can donate food for the Bake Sale and that there will be a Car Wash held on 10/21/2023. Next, she noted that there will be a Sign-up sheet with Ryann for subcommittees and we will be selling Nothing Bundt Cakes vouchers that’s only good at the Abington location. Moreover, Ms. McIntosh reported that Wawa Coupons will be coming in and that the day and time for Designer Bag Bingo is to be determined. Lastly, she reported that Special Persons Day [Dance] will be held on the first Friday in November of 2023 and it is sponsored by PAC; however, it’s for the whole school and only children who attend Willow Hill can attend the Special Persons Day [Dance].

# Review of PTO Minutes from April 19, 2023 Amira Aliu, Assistant Secretary

1st – Ms. Alyssa Magill

2nd – Ms. Stacy McDonald

The PTO Minutes were unanimously accepted.

# Treasurer’s Report from Sept 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2023 Alison Jaglal, Treasurer

Ms. Jaglal reported that she has ordered additional short-sleeved Spirit Wear. Lastly, she reported that to show our staff appreciation, we purchased “Welcome Back” bags and teacher supplies and distributed them to the staff.

# 1st – Ms. Kimberly Fortson

2nd – Ms. Trina Hicks

The Financial Report was unanimously accepted.

# Teacher Liaison Report Alethia White-Burroughs, Teacher Representative

Ms. White-Burroughs thanked the PTO for their support of the teachers, students, and staff. Next, she mentioned that the PTO paid for Briar Bush for 1 visit for each classroom of all the grades at Willow Hill. With the latter stated, Ms. Jaglal reminded Ms. White-Burroughs to come up with a schedule for Briar Bush by the end of October of 2023. Next, Ms. McIntosh made a request that teachers ensure that the pretzel money be brought to the [PTO] office by lunch time.

**Final Questions, Announcements & Adjournment**: Next, the moderator asked if there were any more questions or concerns from those present. Since there were no further questions or concerns, the moderator reminded people that there are Sign-Up Genius links for the Book Fair. Next, Ms. Kimberly Fortson (Vice-President) mentioned about planning committees for May Fair. Lastly, the meeting was adjourned by the moderator at 7:14 p.m., with the next PTO Meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the Library of Willow Hill.

Amira Aliu, Assistant Secretary

Willow Hill PTO

2022-2023

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