 **Willow Hill Elementary School PTO Meeting**

 **Parent Teacher Organization** January 17, 2024

 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—Secretary, Kelli Pearson –Co-Secretary, Amira Aliu – Assistant Secretary; Ryann Kahn—Communication and Technology

**PTO Meeting Minutes from November 8, 2023**

# Welcome, Introductions & Announcements Erin McIntosh, PTO President & Moderator

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. with Erin McIntosh introducing herself, and then each member of the board introduced themselves. She noted that the Fund Hub met the goal of $12,000+ and the bubble arrival, silly hair day, and other rewards will be upcoming. After reviewing upcoming dates, Erin introduced our speakers from Girl Scouts and The Breathing Room.

Attendance: Priya Patel; Stacy McDonald; Monica Fielder; Helle Hagge; Blair Saba; Jennifer McKeever; Damon Jordan; Kelli Pearson; Justin Williams; Ryann Kahn; Jessica Mason; Keira Thompson; Nichole Parsons; Cheryl Alexion

Calendar Review

11/9/23: Parent-Child Book Club

11/15/23: Math Night

11/20 and 11/21/23: Parent-Teacher Conferences

11/20 – 11/22/23: Half days

11/23 and 11/24/23: School closed for Thanksgiving holiday.

11/29 – 12/5/23: Holiday Shoppe

Maryanne Ford provided a presentation on Girl Scouts. Girl Scouts is open to only girls. Their goal is for girls to be the best they can be. In Girl Scouts, they can earn all types of badges and journeys. They are actively recruiting, and they had 19 girls attend their recruiting event at the Ice Cream Social held in Keswick Village. She noted there was a new Brownie Troop (grades 2 – 3) that only has 3 girls, so the troop is looking for new members. Please join! Girls decide on activities within their troops. The annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale helps fund troop activities. She reviewed the levels of troops: Daisies—Kindergarten and 1st grade; Brownies—grades 2-3; Juniors—grades 4 – 5; Cadettes—grades 6 – 8. Any girls interested in joining can contact her directly: maryanneford@hotmail.com.

Colleen Knoble from The Breathing Room presented next. She is the Director of Development and a parent of an Abington School District student as well. She noted that Willow Hill has been partnering with them for years for the annual food drive for Thanksgiving. Over 560 families need Thanksgiving food and dinners this year. She noted that their organization helps support local families who have a family member with cancer. Since 2018, they have given over 25,000 rides to cancer patients to their treatment appointments. Most of their money is made through fundraising. She noted that anyone can help, and urged people to come up with their own ideas, such as make cards, make Spanish language cards, etc. She urges teachers to reach out to them with ideas on how classes and students can help. They serve all of Philadelphia, Montgomery and Bucks Counties, and parts of Chester and Delaware Counties. She shared her contact info: colleen@breathingroomfoundation.org

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

Dr. Jordan introduced himself to the group and thanked everyone for their support of the Book Fair, dance-a-thon, and for their continued engagement. He noted that the track team did well today. All of the 5th grade went to spectate. Willow Hill placed 1st in 11 events and 2nd place in 5 events. Next week is American Education Week, and he noted that correspondence was sent last week. He then reviewed some upcoming dates:

1. 11/15 Math Night 6 – 7pm
2. 11/9 Parent-Child Book Club
3. 11/10 Hawk Assembly at 2pm
4. 11/20 – 11/22 12:20pm dismissals
5. 12/13 Winter Concert at 2pm
6. 12/22 Basketball Holiday Classic—5th grade vs. teachers will be at 9:30am. Only grades 4 and 5 will be attending to watch. Parents of 5th grade students are welcome to attend. Game will be livestreamed to K-3 classrooms.
7. 12/22 Classroom Winter Parties will be at 11:55am
8. 12/25/23 – 1/1/24 Winter Break, return on 1/2/24

**5th Grade PAC Report Crystal Jones and Nichole Parsons, 5th Grade PAC Representatives** Crystal and Nichole reported that the Special Person Dance held last week was successful and was a successful fundraiser as well. They thanked all the volunteers and complimented the DJ on doing a great job. The Bake Sale held yesterday during Election Day was also successful, but a long day. Then thanked Erin McIntosh and Crystal for their presence at the Bake Sale. They noted that they were putting together dates for the Bingo. They are looking for any ideas and suggestions, and implored parents to please share. Sign-up sheets for donating and volunteering for Bingo will be coming out once the date is solidified. They are open to any donations of tickets to shows, sporting events, etc. They highlighted the upcoming food drive for Thanksgiving to benefit The Breathing Room Foundation led by the Student Council. They requested donations, and donations of extras if possible. They shared that 11/17/23 will be a $1 day where students were to wear their favorite sports team. $5 Wawa coupons are an ongoing fundraiser. No specific due dates. The activity fee for 5th grade can be paid on the website. Pretzel week is this week, and this can also be paid online or via the order form to be sent in by Wednesday for Friday delivery. Despite a slow start in the beginning of the school year due to weather challenges, fundraising is now going well and is profitable. They noted the money raised goes to fund the 5th grade class trip, yearbook, t-shirts, and the class donation back to the school.

# Review of PTO Meeting Minutes from October 18, 2023, Monica Fielder, Secretary

1st – Stacey McDonald

2nd – Nichole Parsons

We all unanimously accepted the Minutes.

# Treasurer’s Report Alison Jaglal, Treasurer

Review of Treasurer’s Report from September 1, 2023, to present.

Ms. Jaglal noted that most transactions were from PAC. She noted that PTO paid for t-shirts for the track team. Book Fair will be reflected in the next report. 50% of upcoming author visits are paid for. Briar Bush visits were paid last year—dates of these visits are still being scheduled. She shared that there will be new designs for Spirit Wear, and there will be a special of current stock where an adult size is ordered, get a mystery spirit items for free! PTO will be paying for the upcoming Platinum Night and highlighted as the upcoming Holiday Shoppe. She urged parents to please volunteer for the Holiday Shoppe and volunteer for extra classes.

1st – Kelli Person

2nd –Ryann Khan

We all unanimously accepted the Treasurer’s Report.

# Teacher Liaison Report

No update was provided as Mrs. White-Burroughs was unable to attend.

**Final Announcements & Adjournment**: Ms. McIntosh asked for any suggestions for guest speakers, to please email PTO with any ideas.

Monica Fielder, Co-Secretary

Willow Hill PTO

2023-2024

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