

Willard PTO Meeting

Monday, August 31, 2020 8:45 a.m.  
via Zoom, per Pandemic Regulations

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82065471835?pwd=dG1TWVWwT3B4cTY3SzBGbUJaVEhKdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 6547 1835

Passcode: 971849

1. **Call to Order** 8:48 a.m.
2. Report: **Principal Diane Wood** and **Assistant Principal Christine Gerges** arrived at 8:56 a.m.
  - a. Adjust time? Maybe 9:15? Apologies for being late!
  - b. So great to see everyone at supply pick up. Went really well! Energy was so wonderful. Only a few who couldn't come. Still working out logistics of Swap Days. Art is putting together supply kids. Music would like to send things home. Grades color coded. Detailed communication to outline the process TK. Thoughts on how to manage it? Rashida: Seems workable. Stephanie: Does each child have their own? YES.
  - c. Assessment process? Christine: Benchmark assessments in Pre-K-4. Reading level 1-4 and incoming K reader. Can be assessed virtually. NFA: Math conceptual K-2. Including everyone to assess children. Really want to target instruction to meet kids' needs. Will take place during asynchronous time during the next few weeks. Might assess during a 1:1. Grade level teams will meet.
  - d. Minimize visitors and to the building. Please email if you need to come to school. School is not closed. Thank you, Emily for being flexible on yearbook pick up.
  - e. Teachers had so much fun on Friday. Know there were bumps with logging on. Working on being Seesaw being the student tool. Everything for the child is on Seesaw. Feel free to look on Seesaw. Teachers will give feedback through Seesaw. The grade-level website is for resources for parents. Issues with technology: powerschool@district90.org. Very helpful team! Very responsive. Most were so lovely when working with the help desk. Communicate if you need support.
  - f. Looking for ways for teachers to connect with students. Extended SEL times. Looking for other in-person, safe ways to see the children.
  - g. Town Hall virtually every Monday. Talking to kids to invite kids on how to participate. Will be recorded, not live. (372 kids). Goal is to get out first thing Monday morning.
  - h. One-way on Ashland and Franklin are being enforced!

3. Report: **Superintendent Dr. Ed Condon** thanks for the welcome. Unconventional welcome to the year. Congratulate on the great start with supply pick up. Great to see so many families and meet teachers.
  - a. THANK YOU for the leadership from the PTOs. So appreciated.
  - b. Final discussions for open house formats. Finalizing decisions at admin meeting tomorrow (TUESDAY 9.1).
  - c. Started with remote learning, learning about access and accessibility. Being available to families. Please reach out to teachers or respond to email outreach. Will receive communication from district in SEL, survey about late spring and late summer remote learning. Please take the survey and submit.
  - d. Remote supervised learning 64 children being supervised. One small section of 90 employees. \$25/day. Grateful for partnership with YMCA.
  - e. Partnership with Village of RF around mask wearing. Try to communicate good habits to keep transmission rates in RF down. Work to get kids back in school. October 1 evaluative feedback. District convening COVID-19 task force of 30 people. Superintendent's Advisory Board. What do we need to be able to bring kids back to school. Protocols, etc. Community support. Meetings during September. Parents, PTO, faculty, staff, physicians whose children are in D90, students.
  
4. Report: **Presidents Rashida Dairyko and Stephanie VanDerSchie**
  - a. Have to change the meeting time. 9:30 or 10 for morning starts? Lots of help to get supplies out.
  - b. Cancel many of the activities. Cancel through January. Perhaps the end of the year we may be able to have some activities. Impact on the budget. Will have first council meeting this month. Nothing from Stephanie.
  
5. Report: **Secretary Brigitte Nold** no minutes from last meeting.
  
6. Report: **Treasurer Carrie Ryan**
  - a. Just uploaded budget to group chat. It's a PDF. Significantly reduced budget. Yearbook, school supply prepacks, welcome wagon, \$4,000 left. Recoup money on and pure expense (such as Hospitality). How will we make decisions about spending? Did set aside Fun Lunch for Family Care. Lots of extra kits! We do need to return some because the company sent too many. They will be put in the attic.
  - b. Committee chairs need to be alerted about budget. Creative ways? We are Zoomed out.
  
7. Report: **Vice President of Volunteers Elizabeth Stoker**
  - a. Not too many sign-up geniuses to prepare. Only Room Parents. Lots of families trying to figure things out. Went out in Weekly Wizard yesterday (SUNDAY 8.30). Changed for the year. Figuring it out as we go along. Hoping room parents (only asking for 2 per class) could funnel info to family groups that might be created.

8. Report: **Vice Presidents of Technology Virginia Sara**
  - a. Very quiet start to the year. Spirit Wear being off the web site. PTO dues were the only thing to set up.
  
9. Report: **Vice President of Communications Gretchen Radach**
  - a. Everyone received Weekly Wizard that now includes Diane's weekly note. Anything needs to be to Gretchen by Thursday.
  
10. Report: **School Board Liaison Lindsay McIntyre**
  - a. The minutes from this past meeting have not been posted. Lindsay to email Dawne to see if these can be posted more quickly post-meeting so they can be included (or at least a link) in the report.
  - b. D90 holiday break potential change. The calendar committee sent out a survey to all parents asking their opinion on the change.
  - c. BOE approved current face mask covering policy for teachers and students
  - d. Committee of the Whole meeting is Tuesday; Lindsay requested the agenda (none posted)
  
11. Committee Reports:
  - a. **Supply** Pick up PTO set it up, will send back extras and some left at school.
  - b. **Welcome Wagon** committee purchased 100 yard signs for the incoming families to Willard and were delivered Tuesday and Wednesday last week, we hope you've spotted them around town. I saw a lot of first day of school photos taken with them which put a smile on my face. We spent \$630 and have extra to use for any additional families that enroll and can save the surplus for next year. The response has been very positive so we intend to continue in future years. Good way for new families to see who else has students at Willard. Helpful for delivering yearbooks with the 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - c. **Yearbook** distribution went out with supplies. There was a group of books with teachers. 50 left and to be picked up at Emily's house. All went out. The books can be colored. Not sure how to do a yearbook this year, but we'll figure it out!
  - d. **Parent Groups** idea came out of PTO council meeting. Everyone needs a place to turn. Assign by class. Random selection. NOT picking. Need a list that includes emails. Parents can opt out, completely optional. Best way to get email addresses? Any way for parents to opt in? Can we ask teachers? As long as we send the same message. Stephanie will write and send to Diane.
  - e. **Belongingness: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion** Megan Hodge: Thrilled to do this job. Came from the teachers. Million and McFarlane. Working group includes each grade and admin groups. Reached out and asked if there could be a PTO liaison. Goal to create conversation with parents and broadly in community. Talked about what to name the group. Goal to have everyone belong. Heightened awareness right now. Ideally expand conversation. Coordinating with a similar group at Lincoln. Sending a survey to families. How comfortable

are people having these conversations? How can we engage and be comfortable but not too comfortable. Interest level? Advisory panel. How do people want to be engaged?

**Barb Hickey:** Thank you for all you are doing in these challenging times. Reinventing the community for our children is an important job. Board is very interested in hearing in an on-going basis to support this journey. Really hoping we can get the children back in the building. There will be thoughts and concerns. The feedback is priceless. Information from those actually affected. Please reach out via email, Barb especially. Board will make resources available. Connection is so important. Please keep us in the loop. The more information we have, the better our decision-making can be. Hope all is going well with the kids. Optimism is heartening. Look forward to hearing from you!

13. **Old News**

14. **New Business**

a. Change meeting time. 10:30? 10? Morning is best.

15. **Public Comment** None

16. **Adjournment** 9:45 a.m.

\*\*\* Next meeting October 5, 2020, 7:00 p.m. \*\*\*

## BOE MEETING NOTES

### Public Comments (Summary):

Students and teachers to meet on playfield, even better if they can meet in person every week or twice a week

Can the gym teachers encourage the kids to do more indoor and outdoor activities?

Reduce the amount of homework

Class/school schedule is unclear for elementary school — childcare options are opening at 8 am, which makes start time at 8am too difficult; prefer 8:15 a,

Match D90 calendar with OPRF calendar that just came out

Experienced teacher — concerned about possibility of teaching remotely — reduce teacher salary or teach the same hours in school.

Consent Agenda: Included minutes, payrolls, treasurer's report

Board Committees/ Outside Meetings: Listed individual committees and their chairs; also included any relevant outside meetings, which board member will attend and the dates of these meetings if known

District Calendar Review:

Ed: Public comment on calendar; winter break for OPRF is Dec 24-Jan 8 2021, students to return Jan 11.

Dr. Hawley: D200 tries to make semesters balanced with the same number of days. By adding the remote learning days to the fall calendar (total of 5), they wanted to make sure they will have all their finals before winter break. In doing so, they pushed the last day of class before break to Dec 23.

Judy: Pushback from teachers?

Ed: We have not heard if D97 will be making a change yet

Katie: Any downside to the shift?

Allison: No downside from an instructional standpoint

Barb: It makes sense to take time to consider this and think about it a little bit...

Ed: We will reconvene with calendar committee... there are parents involved in that committee to inform

Superintendent's Report:

Face coverings: Page 64 in board packet: corresponds with state guidance and IDPH guidelines; drafted by D90 attorneys; includes an employer requirement to wear masks at all times

Rich: What is the guidance for teacher's teaching outside?

Ed: Depends on the circumstances; if you have two classes out in the tents, his recommendation is to not take the masks off; however, if that isn't the case and there's a 6' min., then teacher discretion; may have challenges during outdoor games like tag; mask breaks can be helpful for kids when safe; perhaps start with a stringent approach then ease up as needed.

Katie: Will there be any kids who have IEPs that will potentially be in the building before then?

Ed: Sept 8-14 students may be in the building

Katie: Is there any risk for waiting until the next board meeting to decide

Ed: Limited risk; IEPs will dictate who can and can't wear masks

Judy: Do we want to revisit in general when we do have everyone back in class?

Ed: There are changes constantly, but I feel good about the current verbiage that acknowledges

change in guidance

Ed: The majority will be governed by our employer rule ... we are protected, very little exposure

BOE approves policy on face coverings

Second Reading of the 2020-21 Budget:

Expenditures increases due to benefits and salaries with new hires, increase in board expenditures 6k for contact tracing ...

Maintenance expenditures is decreasing due to reduced lawn maintenances

Does not include final hiring or child care for staff; will have additional changes to share in Sept. board meeting

Numbers are still high in aggregate for K-5 on enrollment with slightly down on Roosevelt

None of the class sections are on the cusp of needing additional teachers. No risk to add sections.