



### Willard PTO Meeting

Monday May 2nd, 2022, 8:45am  
via Zoom, per Pandemic Regulations

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3542037976?pwd=VGIJMFVSeU5jUnVXb2tQRVgxOEplQT09>

Meeting ID: 354 203 7976

Passcode: 406490

1. Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 0849.

2. Report: Superintendent (Dr. Ed Condon)

WSCE Art Expo was last Saturday. Some of our students showed their work. It was covered and protected from the rain!

Thank you to the PTO for supporting our equity and collaboration event.

May 17<sup>th</sup> is our annual safety meeting in collaboration with RF police and fire department.

Summer school will be hosted at Roosevelt and Lincoln this summer.

We have been offering a tutoring program at Willard in collaboration with the YMCA and the High Schools. These students have been tutoring our Willard Wizards and the program has been well received.

Early registration is open for next school year and there is an early bird discount.

Thank you to Diane for all the work she has been putting in on recruiting new candidates for teaching positions next year. She has been doing outstanding work and has been interviewing for positions with high demand.

The district is hosting a recruiting fair this month.

Thank you for an outstanding year. It has been an unusual journey over the last several years but your leadership has helped students and administrators alike feel involved and included.

Q: Are teachers and staff incentivized and how is the word pushed out for recruiting? A: We assess our recruits and ask how they found out about the positions. We do not incentivize but we look thoughtfully at how candidates become aware of positions. We are also trying to cast a net to make sure we are increasing our efforts at hiring people of color and make sure we are reaching as many candidates as possible.

Diane shared that hiring is perhaps the most important work she does and that the entire hiring team takes their time and is thoughtful in their decisions. There is always a balance looking for established candidates as well as those who have new and important ideas.

Student Artists were honored in Town Hall this morning as well.

3. Report: Principal (Diane Wood and Christine Gerges)

We have 2 friends who are sharing a presentation on Gaga ball from Ms. Szostak's class – Abbott and Quinn! Abbott and Quinn shared a wonderful slide show presentation with us from their persuasive essay section. The presentation explained what Gaga ball is and why a Gaga ball court would be beneficial for our playground.

Stephanie asked the students to share the presentation with her so she could reference it when we buy our very own Gaga ball court.

Q: Why wood? A: It is sturdy

Q: Where should we put it, what would the best location be? A: Wood chips or foam

Thank you for the coffee, bagel and Dunkin' Donut treats! The banners are new and very pretty. This is staff and teacher appreciation week.

MAP testing is going on this week for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders.

Ms. McLeese is retiring and Ms. Wood has been sharing how to show our appreciation for her.

There are sheets for kindness pledges, posters being made and a video with testimonials from all who have been helped and impacted by Ms. McLeese. Please spread the word in the community since so many have been impacted.

Please send your child in layers because we are still going out with the changes in temperature.

Q: Is the 4<sup>th</sup> grade clap out at 3:10 or is it a half day? A: Ms. Wood will look into that, the clap out is at end of day, whatever time that may be.

4. Report: Presidents (Stephanie VanDerSchie and Anna Parks)

Stephanie apologized for missing Administrative Assistants Day and they are being honored this week.

Today is the PTO job fair. Stephanie has made a handbook with all the PTO roles and their duties and time commitments. These handbooks will be available today after morning kindergarten and after school. Stephanie would like to connect with the new younger families and hopefully make some good connections.

Thank you for my wonderful tenure as PTO president and I have enjoyed working with everyone!

5. Report: Secretary (Erin Llanes)

Minutes have been sent out and I didn't receive any corrections. Stephanie moved to approve the minutes, Anna seconded.

6. Report: Treasurer (Carrie Ryan and Ursula Canli)

Reinstatement of field trips has made the month fairly busy. There has also been money coming in from the Spring Fundraisers.

4<sup>th</sup> grade recognition, staff appreciation expenses and yearbook expenses need updates.

Q: Can we place a link in the Weekly to our budget reports? This has been one of the feedbacks we have received, that our budget is not easy to find and those in the community would like to know how we are spending and receiving money.

7. Report: Vice President of Volunteers (Rachel Dardis)

An email will be sent to Room Parents about the end of year party and teacher's gifts.

Q: Will parents be allowed into classroom for end of year parties? A: Because it is outside, most likely Room Parents will be allowed to join but this will be up to each individual teacher.

8. Report: Vice Presidents of Technology (Ginny Sara), via Stephane

Yearbook price increases by \$5 today.

9. Report: Vice President of Communications (Gretchen Radach), via Stephanie

Summer newsletter will be digital this year. This will save Willard PTO \$1000 and is better for our environment.

Q: Do we have a plan that the PTO aligns with? A: There is a strategic plan that is updated every 5 years.

10. Report: School Board Liaison (Katie Avalos)

No report

11. Committee Reports

Please provide a brief update (no longer than five minutes) for the following committees:

- **Girls On The Run** (Sara Smith)

Girls love the program. Parent volunteers are excited. Sara will be in charge of Girls on the Run next year as well! Ms. Till has been involved.

- **Staff Appreciation** (Kelly McCauley and Anne Mastropietro)

Faculty and Staff Hospitality and Appreciation will be the new combined committee encompassing Staff Appreciation and Hospitality. This combined committee planned the week long event that is going on to appreciate our staff and provide lunches and snacks. Carrie asks that we have an updated budget for the larger, combined committee.

- **Big Hearts Little Hands** (Rachel Dardis)

Ms. Beck is working on a virtual concert that can be shown in senior homes. Teachers today will be receiving a letter detailing what each grade level's job and participation level will be.

- **G4G** (Lindsay McIntyre)

Lindsay has really revived this committee. Bike exchange was highly participated in. Walk and Bike to school week was successful. During Earth Week, parents recorded Earth themed books and teachers loved this program. The students loved seeing their parents reading to them!

- **Fundraising** (Meredith Maienza)

Spring Fundraiser raised \$2610! The 2 \$100 amazon gift winners will be sent out today. Meredith was also thinking about starting a yoga fundraiser and will discuss off camera. Anna will connect on that.

Big thank you to Meredith for reinvigorating fundraising!

- **C4K** (Kelly O'Keefe)

Walking Wednesday starts this Wednesday through the end of the year.  
Conscious Parenting book talk is on 5/17. It is in person at Willard. You do not need to have read the book to attend. All D90 is invited.

- **Ice Cream Social** (Catherine Greendyke)

Prepackaged Brown Cow Ice Cream will be provided. Toppings will either be eliminated or provided in small containers so you can dress your own ice cream. June 7<sup>th</sup>, a Tuesday, the ice cream social will be run for an hour and a half.

- **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition** (Clelita Mathole)

Working on finalizing the end of year recognition gift.

The yearbook committee is helping provide pictures for the end of year video.

Q: How long will the video be? A: We are flexible and will work within the school's needs.

Maybe 15 minutes or less.

12. Old News

13. New Business

Laura Huseby is joining us at our meeting to talk about OPRF. There is what is called the Imagine Project currently in place at the High School. This committee works on improvements and renovations being made to the high school. We are all invited to come to the high school and view the Phase One updates and receive a preview of the Phase Two renovations. As taxpayers we are all stockholders and many of us will have students at the High School.

Monday May 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm

Ashlee Stapleton is a Willard mom and she is the head Engineer at the school!

Ms. Simmons would love information on the OPRF Imagine Project.

An ongoing project she is working on is a promotional video for D90 PTOs.

Q:What is going on with the croptops? A: Tshirt at waist is okay but the increased exposure of students belly buttons has become more prevalent. This is not something that we usually police but the level of exposure with today's fashion is increasing. If necessary, we can add a rule to the Handbook.

Q: Is the school agreeable to another pop of Fun Lunch? A: Yes

Q: Are we doing budget meetings before the end of the year? A: We can meet and discuss a better way to do these meeting going forward.

Anna and Stephanie are working on the 2022-2023 slate and the executive committee will hear from them soon.

14. Public Comment

15. Adjournment at 1001.

\*\*\* LAST MEETING of 2021-2022 School Year\*\*\*