

**Parker Woods Montessori PTO
March 2017 General Meeting Minutes**

Date, Time, and Location: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 in the Parker Woods Montessori media center

Meeting called to order by Co-President Brianna Leavitt-Alcantara at 6:09 p.m.

Attendance: There were 33 in attendance, including Principal Simmons and several staff members

Officers in attendance were introduced

NEW BUSINESS

Upcoming Events:

- Fri. 3/10: Coffee & Chat with Dr. Catherine, Media Center, "Character Strengths".
- March Reading Madness: Off to a great start. Lots of books have been gathered so far, and distributed to classrooms.
- Everything But The House: Fundraiser for PWM, Chase & St. Boniface Schools. Drop off: Sat. 3/11, parking lot at Hamilton Ave. & Lingo (across from Northside Tavern)
- Faces of Parker Woods Montessori: Slow start but we've almost collected enough to have each PWM student represented. All self portraits will be turned in next week to be transformed into tiles. They will be returned before the end of the school year. \$300 still needed in order to have each student represented. Still collecting payments and donations through Science Saturday.

Follow ups:

- CommUnity Dinner & Dance was a great success!! Amazing response, and fun was had by all.
- Flying Pig kickoff was Wed. 2/28. Great turnout. Flying Pig practices are Wednesdays after school: 3:45pm-4:15pm on the back playground, and Friday mornings 8:40am-9:00am on the small playground. The Final Mile on the Flying Pig course is on Saturday, May 6th.
- Scott Stoll book project: "Mirabella the Monarch" is the name of the book. PWM students are asked to wear black & orange (monarch butterfly colors) on Friday, 3/17 for the group portrait. There will be a celebration on April 21st. In addition, the credited students (those students who've named a character or drawn a picture) will participate in a book signing.

- The celebration include a bake sale and culminate in a Movie Night that evening, 4/21.

Concerns:

- Someone expressed a concern about the huge puddle on the playground. Principal Simmons advised those in attendance that the work order has been submitted; Facilities Dept. has to address it.
- Someone else expressed a concern about the amount of compacted leaves in the “first” parking lot as you enter PWM property. The amount of compacted leaves near the forest end of the parking lot make it difficult to see the front of the parking space, creating a potential safety concern. Judy Ganance shared that the garden crew would like first pass at gathering the compacted leaves, for use as compost in the PWM garden.

Funding Request:

- \$34.32 requested to purchase a replacement burner for the PWM gas grill. Approved.

Other Business:

- PayPal is working and is linked on the PWM PTO website: www.pwmppto.org
- Amazon Smile is up & running. It is listed under “Winton Montessori” -- pick the one on BEECH HILL in Cincinnati. PWM gets a percentage of sales if buyers select “Winton Montessori” on BEECH HILL in Cincinnati through Amazon Smile.
- Kroger Rewards program: On hold until PWM gets the name changed from Winton Montessori on the account.
- Box Tops: Erin Wales, the Box Tops Coordinator, advises that PWM will soon receive a \$200 check for Box Tops submissions. She advises that PWM has received about \$900 from collecting Box Tops this school year!
- Kurt Froehlich made a pitch for a laminator-- a large one is needed in order to laminate posters, etc. Co-President Kate Demske suggested we put it in the PTO budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

End of Year Celebration is on Saturday, May 20th. There will be 3 bouncy houses, jousting, obstacle course, a popcorn machine, snow cone machine.

Planning meetings are still needed to plan for raffle baskets, small games, etc. We normally ask Kroger for a significant donation towards food for the EOY Celebration. We will also utilize Restaurant Depot.

GARDEN

Judy Ganance and Teres gave the update: "Working meetings" usually involve working in the garden and occur on the 2nd Thursday monthly at 4:00 pm, and every 4th Saturday from 10am-12noon. They obtained a lot of great quality compost for only \$100.00. Someone said they've been in touch with a seed bank, where PWM can get seeds for free.

GREEN CLUB

Green Club begins next week (week of 3/13) and accepts 12 students who will go on nature walks, participate in gardening, and watch fun movies.

CIVIC GARDEN CLUB

Civic Garden Club took place on March 8th. PWM PTO is a co-sponsor, along with the Kostner Garden Fund.

COMMUNICATIONS

Asks that everyone please **LIKE** all of the PWM PTO Facebook posts!! This will help increase visibility. The page name is Parker Woods Montessori PTO.

VITALITY - no report

SCIENCE SATURDAY, SAT. 3/11, 11AM-2PM

NYPD Pizza gave PWM a great deal so the total pizza cost will be \$270 instead of \$350. Science Saturday will include many activities and demos, including participation from Happen, Civic Garden Center, Ethicon, Library (Static Electricity demo), Glow Show in the media room, music teacher Ms. Thomas playing the harp in the 3-6 wing, Cincinnati State (Chemistry), Scott Stoll, Maurice Lamb (Virtual Reality demo), Make & Take (planes, candy chemistry. Rachel Morgan will shop for the paper products. We are over budget (free food, etc...) but we'll have a donation jar displayed at the event to encourage donations. The PTO must pay for a custodian, copies. Also must pay Happen (\$150), Rafters (\$150), Civic Garden (\$50).

**Student Projects: To help encourage participation, there will be some chemistry and Robotic kits given out to students.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT by Principal Whitney Simmons:

Family feedback meeting for the hiring of the new CPS Superintendent, presented by Parents for Public Schools. These Listening Sessions will occur on several dates,

including on Tuesday, March 14th at Parker Woods Montessori. Doors open at 6pm, the Listening Session is from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

Other dates & locations: March 13th: Rockdale Academy, March 15th Covedale School, March 16th Pleasant Ridge Montessori.

Important Dates

3/16: Scouts cancelled

3/17: Students wear orange & black

Week of 3/20: 3rd-6th grade have formal state testing

3/20: Spring Picture Day

3/27 - 3/31: Spring Break

4/3: School resumes

4/24-5/12 Testing. Specific testing dates by grade will be announced later.

Fri 4/14: Spring Program, by the 2nd floor "200" classrooms, 10:30am & 2:30 pm

5/4: Conference Evening 4-7pm

5/5: PTO Dance-a-thon

5/12 3-6 program (Kindergarten), 10:30am & 2:30pm

More testing in May...

5/18: Field Day

5/18: PWM 6th graders go to Kings Island completely free!! Principal's Fund will cover the cost.

5/24: 6th grade Recognition

5/24: Last day for **preschool** students

5/25: Last Day of School

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Minutes compiled by Angela Jones.