

# Johnstown Parent Teacher Organization Inc.

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*Johnstown Elementary & Johnstown Intermediate*



October 2, 2023

5 pm

JES Commons

## **Executive Board Members:**

Ashlea Wentzel, President

Amanda Knicely, Vice President

Jasmine Gentry, Treasurer

Paula Rosser, Secretary

Roben Wagoner, JES Principal

Benjamin Jagger, JIS Principal

## **Members & Guests:**

Amanda Douglass, JES Dean of Students

Marci Parpart

Kendra Arbogast

Diana Camden

Alisha Wheeler

Taryn Stover

## **Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm by Ashlea Wentzel.

## **President's Report**

- Update from WalkaThon
  - Ashlea Wentzel thanked all the volunteers and staff for making this year one of the best.
  - Ashlea Wentzel said she has received so much feedback and everyone had a great time.
  - Ashlea Wentzel asked if everyone was agreeable to keep GetMovin FundHub for this event and everyone was in favor.
  - Ashlea Wentzel suggested for next year to schedule WalkaThon early and Main Events around April-May to get them which is cheaper than Family Adventures.
  - Ashlea Wentzel suggested to add more inclusive activities for those that can't use the inflatables. The suggestion was made to add a few yard games.
  - Mrs. Roben Wagoner announced next year she would like to invite parents to walk with their child at the WalkaThon. Discussion was made about adding extra security around the parking area and allowing toddler siblings and grandparents to walk also. A suggestion was made to inform parents of the times for each grade that will be walking next year.
  - A suggestion was made to extend the hours (was 45 minutes each grade) of the WalkaThon next year, so children have enough time to eat their Kona Ice and more time on inflatables. Discussion was made about adding more inflatables, running the track, then inflatables, then Kona Ice while next grade is getting started. Another suggestion is to have several grades walk at a time to give more time.

- Next event: Fall Party
  - Ashlea Wentzel informed that we usually purchase 2 pack Oreos and juice boxes for students, sometimes chips or Pirate's Booty popcorn per each student plus (2) gluten free snacks per school. Everyone was agreeable that these would be great for the Fall Parties.
  - JES has scheduled the Fall Party on October 31<sup>st</sup>. JES has a total of 503 students and 43 staff.
  - JIS has scheduled the Fall Party on October 31<sup>st</sup>. JIS has a total of 267 students and 28 staff.
- Planning for Winter Art Show:
  - Diana Camden has agreed to be Chairperson of this event.
  - The event is scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup>. A suggestion was made to have this event later in the school year, but with Spring Carnival, musicals, and sports it's hard to schedule at that time.
  - The theme will be determined once we find it if it will be done by Art teachers or Classroom teachers. Depends on if Art teachers will have enough time.
  - Suggestion was made to make the event longer due to big turn out last year. Time will be 6:00 to 7:30pm. We will be able to start setting up the event after 2:30pm.
  - Cost is free and we suggest a \$20 family donation at the door, but not required.
  - Carpet will need to be laid in gym for this event and tables delivered.
  - Last year we had a silent auction, ornament decorating, Santa, and cookies with hot cocoa.
- Sponsored Tee Shirt:
  - Ashlea informed us that she has a \$2,000 sponsor for both sleeves. Price breakdown of sponsorship; \$1,000 for logo on a sleeve, \$500 for logo on top back of shirt, \$200 for a small logo on the back of shirt. We would need sizes for students and staff. Suggestion was made to make each grade level a different color for trips. Everyone agreed.

### Vice President's Report

- Amanda Knicely thanked all the volunteers for all their help and support of the WalkaThon.
- Amanda Knicely suggested video recording meetings for parents that can't make it to the meetings. Discussion about having enough parents attend meetings to be able to vote could be an issue.
- Amanda Knicely suggested having a childcare alternative for parents who would like to attend but are unable to. A suggestion was made of asking Honors Society or Teachers Academy to volunteer for this.
- Amanda Knicely asked for feedback about using Remind to help remind volunteers of opportunities and parents of meetings. Everyone thought that was great idea and only suggestion was to keep everything on the PTO email. Ashlea Wentzel also suggested a school app such as ClassTag for getting information and reminders out to parents. Classtag has a free version option available.

### Secretary Report

- Paula Rosser suggested the PTO brainstorm some ideas and suggestions to make both school's playgrounds all inclusive. A suggestion was made that the playground currently has all-inclusive play areas, but Paula mentioned that they are hard to get to in a wheelchair with the mulch. Some suggestions were made of some yard games, musical drums or xylophone, or a chalk wall.
- Paula Rosser suggested that Meeting Minutes be available on the school webpage since we are unable to upload documents onto our Facebook page. Paula Rosser was suggested to get a hold of Craig McDonald that is the Communications Specialist.
- Ashlea Wentzel asked Paula Rosser to update the current Bylaws and to add Dean of Students and Vice Principals to the Executive Board and have updated Bylaws available at next meeting.
- Paula Rosser reviewed the September 5, 2023 meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** Ashlea Wentzel moved to approve the September 5, 2023 meeting minutes. Diana Camden seconded the motion. All votes were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

## **Treasurer Report**

- WalkaThon totals: The total raised of now is \$29,108.32 and the total expenses are \$8,226.29.
- Jasmine Gentry informed us that the monthly storage fee is \$113.
- Jasmine Gentry informed us that we will discuss the yearly financial budget at the next meeting and a suggestion was made to put the report on screen to be viewable by everyone.
- The official financial report is attached to the minutes for reference.

### **Financial Report:**

|            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| JES & JIS: | \$6,186.25        |
| General:   | \$2,663.59        |
| OVERALL:   | <b>\$8,849.84</b> |

## **Principals Report – Mrs. Roben Wagoner**

- Mrs. Roben Wagoner thanked the PTO and volunteers and staff for a wonderful WalkaThon.
- Mrs. Roben Wagoner announced she needs volunteers for painting the Sensory Paths. She would like to complete this week with the beautiful weather in the forecast. Mrs. Roben Wagoner asked if a SignUp Genius could be completed as soon as possible to get volunteers. Volunteers will not be working directly with children so do not need to have background check completed but will need the ID. Mrs. Roben Wagoner also asked if anyone would be available to pickup supplies at Home Depot, and Mr. Ben Jagger said that he could pick these items up and paint for JIS Sensory Paths.
- Mrs. Roben Wagoner announced that Red Ribbon Week is October 23-27<sup>th</sup> and asked for \$275.00 to purchase Poppit bracelets for this event.
- Mrs. Roben Wagoner informed us that she will have an Author visit in the spring. Ashlea Wentzel informed her that \$1800 JES and \$1200 JIS is allocated for school assemblies.

**MOTION:** Ashlea Wentzel moved to approve up to \$455 to purchase bracelets for Red Ribbon Week at both JES (\$275) and JIS (\$180). Paula Rosser seconded the motion. All votes were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

## **Principals Report – Mr. Ben Jagger**

- Mr. Ben Jagger expressed his appreciation for the fun and excitement at the WalkaThon.
- Mr. Ben Jagger informed us that the Connections Committee will take a field trip in November to The Works. The price per student is \$8 plus the cost of busing. Adults can go if the student/adult ratio is 7 or under.

## **OPEN FORUM:**

- Paula Rosser asked how long a background check is good? Parents background check is good for 2 years and teachers background check is good for 5 years.
- Ben Jagger informed us that each grade level is granted (1) field trip busing outside the district.

The next meeting will be November 6, 2023 in the JES Commons at 5pm.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Rosser, Secretary