

## Willett PTA Meeting Minutes for September 21, 2021

Erika Pickles, President, calls the Executive Board Meeting of the Willett PTA Meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Willett Quad.

This is the first meeting of the 2021-22 school year and everybody in attendance is asked to go around and introduce themselves.

Erica sought a motion to nominate Kristine Cohen as the new Willett PTA Secretary. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously to officially make Kristine Cohen the new Willett PTA Secretary.

### **Principal's Report – John Campbell**

- Willett qualified for Title 1 funding and 3 paraeducators were hired.
- Construction Update: target to complete is now May 30, 2022 due to delays in materials.
- Diagnostic assessments are being done for K-6 using iReady which Willett has signed a 3-year contract for.
- Picture Day is October 4, 2021, and the makeup day for pictures will be December 1, 2021. This year Willett is using Dorian for pictures.
- Because of the pandemic, Willett will not be having overnight field trips and therefore the 6<sup>th</sup> grade science camp that normally takes place at Slide Park will not happen the same way again this year. The district will likely be offering a virtual option with 1 day in-person for this year's 6<sup>th</sup> grade science camp.
- There are 2 open positions on the Site Counsel, one 2-year position and one 1-year alternate position. The Site Counsel meets once a month and looks at Willett to see what can be done in the next academic year to improve academic study at Willett.
- COVID saliva testing is being done on campus every Monday for those families who signed up through Healthy Davis Together. Out of 491 students, 358 of them are enrolled in the program and are being tested. There are 91 students who are partially enrolled in the program meaning that they have started but not completed the sign-up process which would allow them to get tested weekly.
- Willett will once again participate in doing book fairs this year. The one in the fall will be virtual. The one that happens mid-year will be a hybrid. Finally, the one that happens in the spring will hopefully be able to be in-person.

### **Treasurer & Fundraising Report:**

- The treasurer is still working with the board to go through the budget.
- The only thing that is holding Willett over this year is the budget surplus from last year. However, Willett cannot go into next year that way and if the school community doesn't find creative ways to raise more money for Willett, we risk Willett having to cut some of the programs they offer our kids such as the music program.
- PTA would normally do fundraising to raise money but because of the pandemic, those options are very limited for this year. The question was then asked what we can do to close this gap and raise more money for Willett while still focusing on building community and if anybody present had any

thoughts. Some ideas presented were as follows: get the students more involved in trying to come up with and do a fundraiser, an online auction for fundraising, a virtual jog-a-thon for a spring fundraiser although the likelihood is that there would still be a better turnout if it was in-person, have a scarf contest like last winter, and get Willett involved in fundraising programs such as Amazon, e-scrips and box tops.

- Because the deficit that is slowing being created is such a significant issue if Willett cannot raise more money, the board held off on approving the budget as it needed to be reviewed and revised once more. There was also a discussion about scheduling a fundraising brainstorming meeting solely dedicated to coming up with ideas that Willett could also pursue to raise more money for the school since this will have a HUGE impact on what Willett will be able to offer next year.
- A motion was sought to approve 4 checks (#3221, #3222, #3223 and #3224). The motion was seconded and passed unanimously for the 4 checks to be approved.

### **active4.me - Chrystal**

- This will be Chrystal's (the person who checks in kids who bike to school) last year running the Active4Me program. It is physically too taxing on her body, and she will be retiring next year. Therefore, it is critical that we find someone that can take her place so that she can start showing them how to do it now. According to her it does not take a lot of time and is super easy to do. It is a very important program and she asked those present to please start putting the word out there now for people that would be willing to take on that role for the next 2022-23 school year.

### **Other Topics Discussed:**

- It was discussed how Willett can incentivize classes to get more students signed up for the weekly COVID saliva test on campus as well as to help the 91 students that are not fully enrolled in the program to complete the process so that they can get tested weekly as well. Ideas mentioned included using Kona Ice to incentivize more students to complete the process and/or get signed up with Healthy Davis Together.
- There was a request on how Willett can do more to support international families.
- The zoom room parent meeting was still TBD and Meg and Cathy who oversee this were going to look into which classes still needed room parents.
- One of the things asked was whether parents want Willett to continue with the school directory on Beehively or not.
- It would be EXTREMELY helpful to have people in our Willett community think of possible fundraisers that we could do this year with the pandemic such as restaurant nights as any ideas are very appreciated at this time. Most of the meeting centered around the budget. The biggest takeaway being that because Willett has received less direct donations and fundraising money since the beginning of the pandemic almost 2 years ago now, Willett is experiencing budget deficits. We as a community need to find a way to close this gap otherwise we will be at serious risk of losing some of the wonderful programs Willett is able to offer next year.

The next PTA Meeting will be on Tuesday October 19, 2021 but will be held virtually via Google Meet versus in-person in the quad as it got too dark.

Erika Pickles calls the Willett PTA Meeting to a close at 8:30pm.