

Westridge PTA September minutes  
October 8, 2021

Members present: Becky Reid Eschete, Alissa Clark, Katie Asplund, Amy Seidelman, Hallie Wemmie, Pamela Louis, Anne Sissel, Becca Jachen, Brooke Nelson, Heidi Moore, Nancy Cullen, Sally Crowley, Rupali Patil, Suchitra Sinha, Elizabeth Larson, Sarah Miller, Andrea Stone, Jillian Robbins, Ashley Thoreson

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 9:16 am by Becky Reid Eschete.

- Secretary's report: September's minutes were reviewed by members. Katie motioned to approve meeting minutes and Alissa seconded. Minutes are approved.
- Treasurer's report: 6<sup>th</sup> grade grant is in and teachers are submitting for reimbursements. Account summary passed around without questions.
- Principal's report: Mrs. Brewer is not here today and Jillian Robbins presents on her behalf.
  - Yesterday Westridge had Learning Walks occurring in the building. They will get back together and discuss observations and the purpose is to have consistent rating standards for teachers. Positives heard from admin so far were student engagement, learning targets for students, working on Leader in Me and goal setting, small group choice.
  - Panorama strengths based survey will be completed for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades on Monday. This survey is about student strengths the emotional component of learning
  - Teachers have begun rolling out some new SEL curriculum from Second Step - things like playground behavior, concentration, etc and it's going well.
  - State has been working on new social studies inquiry-based curriculum and some changes are coming out for each grade. The goal is for the student to develop an essential question and use materials to answer that question. More info is on the district website.
  - Questions/concerns brought up by members included: possible bike ride or substitute for 6<sup>th</sup> graders who missed 4<sup>th</sup> grade bike ride, science fair (this is being worked on) and some behavioral problems mostly at lunch and recess for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade. It was discussed that the school has started to do "model days" in effort to get the kids to see the associates as authority figures. It was also discussed that the pandemic, online learning, unfamiliarity with associates etc. are all contributing factors and that some of the kids are really needing to get back to some basic skills even in all grade levels. Mrs. Robbins believes this is getting better.
  - Another issue of 6<sup>th</sup> graders running out of lunch food. Parents can send concerns to Willow Kriegel.
  - The new social studies curriculum that is out will need to tie into field trip locations and some grades are still working on that. Thankful to Mrs. Brewer for being hands on with the substitute teacher shortage and prioritizing students first.

- Teacher's report: Jillian Robbins is thankful for support of parents for being flexible again this year. Parties and field trips are back up and running this year. Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade are making trips to the pumpkin patch and extra bussing was provided to allow more space
  
- Other current business:
  - Upcoming conference dinner: Conferences are Oct. 25, 26 and 28<sup>th</sup>. Fall conference dinner for teachers will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> and signup for donations will be out.
  - Upcoming book fair: Nov 12 – 19. More info to come.
  - Class parties: Class parties are today. Tables are set up out front for parents to drop off supplies. A member asked why parents aren't allowed in the building for volunteering and it was discussed that is a part of the district return to learn covid plan.
- Important dates/Upcoming activities:
  - October 8: Fall Parties
  - October 11: Professional Development - No School for kids
  - October 25: Conferences 8:15-4:15 - No School for kids
  - October 26: Conferences 4:15-8 pm
  - October 28: Conferences 4:15-8 pm
  - November 9: PTA meeting, 6 pm
  
- Without objection, Becky adjourns the meeting at 9:52am