



WESTERGARD PTO

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION:	Westergard Library
DATE:	5/12/2026
ATTENDEES:	Board: Rebekah Haferd, Kiki Hatch, Will Burrows, Jenna Nasset, Natalie Nyman, Sam Cromwell Parents: Angelica Ronquillo Teachers: Dani Meyer, Kelly Emo
TIME:	3:30pm

AGENDA ITEMS

Call the meeting to order

Will called the meeting to order.

Welcome to PTO

Principal Update

PAWS Update

Mrs. McNeely presented- shifting from PAWS store to a "House System". 4 houses, at the beginning of next school year, every kid will get a lanyard with their house. They will earn points for their class, quarterly the house that wins will get a big party. Every other Friday they will get to sit with their house. There will be challenges on those Fridays and they will compete to earn more points for their houses. The hope is that it is a community feeling instead of an individual feeling—getting kids working together. Instead of getting rid of the PAWS store and the items therein, they will get to pick out things from the store during the quarterly celebrations. Eventually the PAWS store will go away and then the funding will go to the new program. Families will get to be in the same house. Teachers, PTO members, parents, staff can all earn points for their houses. House names are rooted in Latin— Virtuous, Adakia, Sepensia, Foidues. (Spelling, lol?) Mrs. McNeely is open to answering questions. We will be tracking expenses throughout the year to make sure we are disbursing funds appropriately.

Board Positions

Natalie will be Treasurer next year. Motion brought forward

Transition of Power

Budget

On the budget, things are noted as to whether they have gone up, down, or added from the last year. For the clubs, we'd like to promote a buy-in from the parents for pizza/t-shirts etc. A \$5 buy in from parents could go a long way.

The Mystery Science program went up in the budget. That program is used by 8-10 teachers. The mystery science program is much easier to implement than the district granted program. That \$2,200 covers a license for the whole school to be able to use the program.

Teacher allocations stay the same \$500/year. We added a more SPED teachers so that changed the allocations. PE teacher is \$18,000, we left it at \$20,000 to cover incidentals. PE supplies went down but we can do special funding if needed. Retirement fund went down.

PAWS will transition to House budget.

We are hoping to bring in more in the fun run and the overall budget only went up by \$1,000 or so. Front office aid is still waiting to get an official number, but we do have \$4,000 in the budget currently.

We usually have to vote to amend the budget a couple of months in to the next school year. If we hit our Fun Run goals, we should be great. If we don't, we may need to adjust for the next year.

Rebekah makes a motion to ratify the budget, Danielle second. Will brought a vote, and the motion carries.

Fundraising Update

Even though the campaign hasn't official kicked off, we are getting donations. Pulse the \$8,600 we already have from corporate sponsorships. 6% of the students have registered, which is great.

We have quite a few parents signed up to volunteer. Reno fire will be there to run First Aid, and we have a DJ. Each teacher will have two parents to help warm them up then help track laps.

There is staggered timing to manage crowd control. We need to make the timing more apparent for parents so they can come at the right times!

Teacher Appreciation

We are so grateful for the parent volunteers who make the teacher appreciation week possible. They made sure that there was always something for the teachers to eat everyday.

Finishing the Year

Will came in right after covid, there wasn't a strong PTO. There were so many parents (Amber, Kim, Jasmine) who helped get it off the ground. Will was here as the Art person, and then got involved as Comms, VP, then President. He's feeling proud at the way the organization has truly turned into a partnership between the parents and the teachers. He's mentioned that we find success when we keep things simple. The board should not be a bubble of parents who do everything then get burned out. It truly is a huge collaborative work between the parents and the community.

Danielle added another thanks to Will, he will be around doing Art and the other past board member will be here to help as well.

Questions, Comments, Concerns

None

Adjournment

Will moved to adjourn the meeting, Rebekah seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 4:03pm.