

Washtenaw International PTO Meeting Minutes
6:30pm Mon. 1/13/2020
Media Center, Washtenaw International

In attendance: Lisa Brown (President; G10 Victoria); Mary Beth Maes (Vice President; G10 Alina & G8 Reed); Anne Hooghart (Co-Recording Secretary; G8 Kasey & G7 Cassidy); Jeff Clark (Co-Recording Secretary; G9 Juna); Ruby Daily (G9 Kail); Kathy O'Bryan (G9 Kaylee); Tamara Larson (G9 David); Letitia Tenner (G7 Arielle); Senne Michielssen (G11, STUGO representative); Cameron Cochran & Debbie Bargardi (teacher representatives); Jessica Garcia (associate principal)

Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

1. Welcome – Lisa B. welcomed everyone and distributed copies of the minutes of the 12/9 PTO meeting. It was moved (Ruby) and seconded (Mary Beth) to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report –

Lisa B. distributed the treasurer's report from Dec. 2019, explaining that no one on the Treasury Team is on hand tonight to answer any questions. Moved (Jeff) and seconded (Ruby) to approve the treasurer's report as written. Motion passed unanimously. The PTO's account balance as of the end of December is \$31,629.49.

3. Principal's Report (Jessica Garcia, associate principal) –

- a. **Holiday Baskets** – Heartfelt thanks for the wonderful holiday baskets that the PTO distributed to all the educators, staff, aides, and even bus drivers! Everyone was grateful.
- b. **WIMA Promotional Video** – Newly completed; used at the 1/8 Prospective Student/Family Night, and was well received. Will soon be posted on [Facebook](#). Next WIHI Information Night: Mon. 2/3. WIHIMA application deadline: Fri. 2/7. Lottery to be held on Fri. 3/6.
- c. **Career Day (WIMA & WIHI)** – Wed. 2/19 from 12:20-2:25pm. 40 presenters have signed up so far; looking for another 10 or so (especially in law enforcement, firefighting, etc.). Contact Melissa Strates (mstrates@wihi.org).
- d. **NAAPID (National African-American Parent Involvement Day)** – Mon. 2/10. This year is the 25th anniversary. Open to *all* parents/families. PTO might supply coffee/treats in a.m. In past years, WIHIMA has seen good participation in the classroom visits, but not so much in the afternoon/evening seminars. We will have no PTO meeting that evening; WIHIMA families are encouraged to attend **NAAPID at Night, 5-8pm Mon. 2/10, at WCC's Towsley Auditorium**. WIHIMA students will perform.
- e. **MLK Day of Service** – Monday 1/20 (9:00am-1:00pm). Students can take part in projects with local, national, or international focus. \$2/person for pizza lunch. A [SignUp Genius link](#) has been sent out for donations of supplies toward certain projects.
- f. **End of Semester** – This is the final week of classes for this semester. No school this Friday 1/17, so teachers can do grading. Grades should be finalized around next Friday 1/24.

- g. **8th Grade Farewell** – The evening of Thurs. 6/11. Parents in grades other than 8th are especially encouraged to attend the first planning meeting on Wed. 1/29 at 2:30pm.
- h. **Testing** – Spring standardized testing is coming up soon (M-STEP, SAT, etc.). There is free (PTO-supported) SAT preparation for all juniors on late-start days.
- i. **IB Curriculum Night** – Mon. 2/6. Mr. Giddings will publicize via email, Dean's Notes, etc.

3. Student Government Representative Report (Senne Michielssen, WIHI junior) –

The STUGO Spring Fling (dancing, bonfire, etc.) is usually held in May. It is attended largely by WIHI 9th and 10th graders, and some juniors/seniors. It was not held last year, and STUGO is trying to determine whether to hold it this year, and how to avoid conflicts with the PTO's planned Community Carnival.

Ruby D. explained that the Carnival is intended to invite participation from the local community here in Ypsilanti. Vendors could sell food here, and return a percentage to the PTO. Student clubs would be invited to provide entertainment (carnival games like dunk tank, ring toss, etc.) and could use the proceeds for club fundraising.

Discussion about the proposed date (Friday night 5/29), the day after Commencement/Senior Night. We are trying to avoid Saturdays; Senne said Friday nights tend to work better for students than Saturdays. A different date may be proposed to the school administration. PTO members Ruby D., Kathy O., and Tamara L. are chairing the Carnival.

4. Teacher Representative Report (Mr. Cameron Cochran & Ms. Deb Bargardi) –

a. Parent University/Diversity-Equity-Inclusion Movie Night -

Features PBS series *Race: The Power of an Illusion*. The next one (part 2 of the series) is scheduled for Tuesday 1/21 (6:30-8:30pm). The 3rd one is scheduled for Wed. 3/18.

b. EDJI Day on Wed. 1/22 – Students will be in mixed-class groups led by students. Focus will be on using technology/social media to promote inclusion and allyship.

c. SNOWCO (formerly Charity Ball) – Dinner/dance fundraiser on Sat. 2/1, 7:00-11:00pm at 4531 Concourse Drive, Ann Arbor. \$20/person. Volunteer chaperones are needed. Advisor Laura Wagner is now publicizing it, and donations (of food, etc.) are welcome! Proceeds go to help promote literacy worldwide (WIHI students have gone to Malawi, Haiti, etc.).

d. Escape Room – Fundraiser by Dance Club. Wed. 1/29 after school, 3:00-3:45pm.

4. New Business -

Microwave ovens needed – Two microwaves in cafeteria have expired. School administration Moved (Anne) and seconded (Ruby) to spend up to \$235 to purchase 2 microwave ovens as replacements. Motion passed. Kathy O. also volunteered to donate a 3rd microwave oven to the school.

Next official PTO meeting: Monday 3/9 at 6:30pm.
Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm.