



**PTA General Meeting Minutes
For October 29, 2020**

I. Call to Order 7:05pm by Matt Jones

II. Welcome & Introduction of Dr. Adrian Talley [Matt Jones]: Matt opened the meeting which was held via a Zoom call. The number of attendees varied throughout the call (the highest noted count was 62 participants). Matt then introduced Dr. Talley.

III. Superintendent Q & A [Dr. Adrian Talley]: Dr. Talley began with providing an overview of his approach. He said there will be a focus on creating a robust reading program, raising the bar on achievement through project based learning as well as creating greater consistency across schools, creating more equity not only regarding race and ethnicity but also learning styles. In addition, they will focus on writing and developing critical thinking to prepare children to be active participants in our unknown future.

Dr. Talley showed a district video about health and safety in the schools. He also went through decision-making considerations for return to in-person learning and what the days might look like in terms of synchronous and asynchronous learning. Dr. Talley stressed that he wants students to return to in-person as soon as it's safe to do so.

Parents who attended the call had the opportunity to ask Dr. Talley questions.

IV. Principal Report [Brian Le Crone]: Brian gave a big “thank you” to Erin and Candace for helping him create hybrid learning schedules, spacing in the classroom to prepare for return to in-person learning as well as ensuring special needs students receive the proper services. Following social distancing guidelines, they can accommodate 6-10 students in classrooms at a time. Brian stated that based upon the responses to the parent survey, there is a range of between 3-13 students per class who selected hybrid.

V. President Report [Matt Jones]: Matt informed the group that all of our events are on hold and will resume once COVID restrictions are lifted and allow us to do so.

VI. Budget Approval [Ashy Jayarajan]: Ashy presented the 2020-2021 school year budget for approval. Bridget McKernan motioned to approve the budget as drafted. Rachel Garrido seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Membership Update [Carrie McGill Simkins]: Carrie reported we have 30 paid members. People can join through the link on our website at www.wattspta.org.

VIII. Chair Reports

A. Fundraising [Jen Kot]: Jen stated that the PTA will have a virtual Holiday Shop this year. More information will be emailed to parents as it becomes available. In addition, she stated we are still planning to have a Trivia Night in the spring but it may be virtual.

She is looking into that option should an in-person event not be possible due to COVID restrictions.

B. Educational Enrichment [Laura Stout]: Laura provided an update on the Reflections program. The topic will be “I matter because...”. She stated Science Fair is on hold for now but planning for some form of a Spelling Bee and STEAM night are moving ahead.

C. School Morale [Carrie Simkins]: Carrie is looking into online ideas for school assemblies. She asked the group to email her if they have any suggestions.

D. Indian Prairie Parents’ Council (IPPC) Report [Bridget McKernan]: Bridget informed the group that there will not be a coat drive this winter due to COVID. She stated they discussed at IPPC the substantial increase in the homeless population in our district and how they will do what they can to help them through donations.

E. Parent Diversity Advisory Council (PDAC) Report [Megan Schultz]: Megan reported that the next PDAC meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2020. The topic will be Understanding Social Justice. Zoom information for the call can be received by registering on the PDAC Facebook page.

IX. New Business: Matt informed the group that he and some others have been continuing to look for contractors for the installation of an outdoor classroom at May Watts. They have reached out to several contractors; however, the contractors have not responded to their calls. Matt asked the group to please email him if they have any contractor recommendations.

Matt notified the group that the meeting minutes from the prior general meeting are posted on the PTA website. He asked for a vote to approve the minutes. Bridget McKernan motioned to approve. Rachel Garrido seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes unanimously passed.

X. Meeting Adjourned at 8:57pm

Submitted by:
Rachel Garrido
January 27, 2021

Save the Dates:

General PTA Meetings

(via Zoom until further notice)

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 @ 7pm

Thursday, March 25, 2021 @ 7pm

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 @ 7pm

Volunteers Needed (alpha order):

Fundraising Chairperson for 2021-2022 (to shadow Jen K. this year)

Indian Prairie Project Arrow PTA (IPPA) Representative

Reflections Chairperson

Virtual Bingo Night Chairperson

Watts Brand Manager - FB, IG and Twitter

Watts Cookbook Chairperson

Website Manager

Notes: