

Whitehall PTA General Body Meeting March 5, 2019

Start: 7:35PM

Adjourned: 8:25PM

Attendance: 23 parents, 6PTA board members, 2 teachers/staff

Minutes

1. Treasurer's Report (Sanovia)

Income

Direct Donation income

Daddy Daughter Dance income

Expenses

STEM Fair

Teacher Grants

Tablet covers

Spritwear

Account Balance: ~ \$11,600

2. Announcements

a. Kennedy Center Thank You. (Crystal)

PTA received free tickets to two Kennedy Center NSO family event; 20 tickets for each event. Tickets were raffled to PTA members who attended meetings this year. Hopefully Whitehall PTA will remain on the list to receive tickets next year. PTA would like to thank all who attended.

b. Moby Max Update: (Sanovia)

Raised \$220 via PTA website towards reinstating MobyMax subscription for Whitehall. Donations are accepted in cash or check to Whitehall PTA or via donation button on the PTA website. Donations must indicate the purpose as MobyMax.

c. Destination Imagination: (Latoya)

Team works on projects to explore the areas of technical, engineering, improv. 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students are eligible. Whitehall Team placed 2nd this year. More teams can be added for next year but need a team manager (parent). Please consider starting team and becoming the team manager. More information to follow.

d. Whitehall Science Bowl: (Ms. Wine)

Whitehall was Science Bowl winners for school year '17-'18. This year's team will be going to final four on April 9th. Follow the team's progress and updates in the Weekly Wire.

e. Click for Kids Contest: (Ms. Farmer)

Whitehall will be participating in the Click for Kids Sweepstakes. Voting will be open for a specified time period when the public will vote (click) for their school. The school with the most clicks wins money to support their school. Information and contest rules will be posted on PTA Facebook, IG, website.

f. Class Winner of the Direct Donation: (Sanovia and Heather)

Ms. Wilson's class is the winner of the Direct Donation Drive.

g. College and Career Day (Taifa)

Event is April 2 anytime during the school day, flexible 20-30 minute presentation, contact Ms. Rawls by March 15. This is an opportunity to talk to students about your college experience and/or career.

h. Momo Challenge: (Tynill)

On Youtube kids, creepy creature that pops up challenging children to harm themselves.

Tips:

- Check the history on computer to monitor the sites your child visits
- Children should be using the devices in open space, not behind closed doors
- Talk to your children about what they are doing on line; ask questions
- Talk to your children about not sharing their personal information
- Find out what your child is on-line doing; parents should play their child's electronic games to understand what the child is being exposed to

i. Financial Surprises

There are many cases of unexpected PTA expenses that arise throughout the year. The PTA is committed to supporting Whitehall students, teachers and school community. Here are a few examples of unanticipated financial needs this year.

- Whoos Reading – Whitehall needed support to continue subscription. Parents made donations. PTA also helped support to renew subscription.
- Ipad Cases – Kindergarteners tend to be rough on the ipads. They were at risk of being damaged. PTA purchased to protect investment in this new technology.
- Lunch Account – PTA provides support for lunch account
- New membership dues – Whitehall PTA is required to purchase PTA membership cards ~\$1,000.00

3. Recommend visiting to Donor's Choose to help support Whitehall Teachers needs.

<https://www.donorschoose.org/>

4. Upcoming Events

a. Boosterthon: (Heather and Latoya)

Most successful fundraiser last year; last year raised ~24K. April 30 starts fundraising. May 8th is the fun run event. Students collect pledges to run 30 laps around circle in front of school. Need parent volunteers to help with water, marking laps, clappers on the day of the Fun Run. Sign up genius to follow. Volunteers have to be fingerprinted by PGCPs.

b. Dine Outs: (Tynill)

Planning for two more dine out this year: Tropical Smoothie Café and possibly Cold Stone Creamery.

c. Skate Zone: 5th grade, (Crystal) – Stay tuned for more information

5. Principal's Report (Ms. Farmer)

- a. MobyMax came off of approved vendor list for the 2nd half of the year. Therefore the school could not purchase the subscription for the 2nd half of the school year. \$1998 is due. Seeking donations to support this resource. Please contact the PTA to make a donation.
 - b. Boosterthon to support school technology
 - c. Whitehall Cricket team reigning champions
 - d. Government shutdown provided to support children of parents impacted by the financial shutdown
 - e. Early kindergarten registration starts April 8th
 - f. Current enrollment - 607 students; advocating for more space (learning cottages) and more staff. Contact information for stakeholders will be distributed. PGCPS position: although Whitehall has the highest amount of kids you are able to operate. Contact Building Services Sam Stefanelli (sam.stefanelli@pgcps) 301-952-6500 fax (301-952-6924) to voice your concerns.
6. Girl Scouts – Whitehall Elementary Girl Scout Troop starting this year. \$25 dues. Bi-weekly meetings. Multi-level troop. Contact Alexis Viegas. alexus.viegas@gmail.com