



PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 11, 2017

8:30 AM, Student Lounge

1. MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. PARENT COUNCIL (PC). Introductions of officers. What is Parent Council? How can you get involved? Parent Council's mission is to contribute to: ***fundraising, building community, and service*** to others. ***Everyone*** is welcome and encouraged to join in, participate, share ideas, and have fun!

- Such a great turnout this morning! PC will begin to alternate meetings from our traditional First Monday of the Month evenings (7PM) to First Monday of the Month mornings (8:30 AM) to be inclusive for different schedules.

3. UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Wine & Cheese Gathering** Typically hosted in September (but we can also make it in October) the Wine and Cheese is a great way to kick off the year. Hosted by a WFS family in their home, the Wine and Cheese gathers WFS parents, faculty, and staff for a relaxing, nice evening. A chance to catch up, meet new people in our school community, and relax. Provisions for the Wine and Cheese are provided by PC. PC also aids in helping set up and cleaning up that evening. ***Interested in hosting this year?*** Contact Sharla or Eric (contact info at end of notes.)
- **Harvest Festival, October 22nd** Autumn Fun hosted by the 8th graders! Bake Sale, pumpkin painting, face painting, build a scarecrow, music, games. Fun for all, big and small! More information and flyer will be available at Back to School Night.
- **Barnes & Noble Book Fair** Usually takes place in November at the Barnes & Noble in Moorestown on Eastgate Drive. A percentage of your purchase goes to WFS. Great chance to think about holiday shopping. Also, that evening, dinner out with proceeds to benefit WFS. More information will follow.
- **Holiday Market/Cookie Walk** Two great December traditions! **The Holiday Shoppe** is open to lower school children to shop for their families in preparation for Christmas and Hannukah (Information is given out in December.) **The Cookie Walk** takes place

the morning of the Christmas Program (last morning before Winter Break). In December, sign up to bring in your signature, homemade cookie or candy. At Cookie Walk, anyone who attends may purchase a Chinese food container and walk around filling their box with goodies, all homemade from our community. Coffee, camaraderie, and copious amounts of sugar make it perfect to enjoy the Christmas Program and feel warm and toasty for the season. Not to be missed!

4. SERVICE PROJECTS Parent Council will place a greater focus on Service Projects. The Quaker SPICES (Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, and Stewardship) is one of the biggest reasons we choose to be part of this school.

- **Sandwich Making and Distribution to Homeless** 3rd Friday/Saturday of each month. Coordinating for students to make Turkey & Cheese sandwiches on Friday, which get distributed to homeless on Saturday in Center City Philadelphia. More details to follow.
- **Park Cleanups** The cleanup last year at Amico Island was a great success! More cleanups where we care for our environment will be planned. All students, all ages can easily participate.
- **Fall Coat Drive (November)** Put aside gently worn coats for men, women, and children and donate in November during our Annual Coat Drive. It's easy to do: simply drop off your coat(s) when you drop off your student(s) in the AM on the designated days. Warm some bodies and hearts this winter!
- **Middle School Students** will be planning and coordinating large service projects.
- **Lower School Students** will be provided opportunities for service

PC and WFS are open to all suggestions for additional projects. IDEAS?

- **Ronald McDonald House** in Camden offers opportunities for families/small groups to make dinner and interact with families and children. Also, there may be opportunity for Upper School kids to renovate bedrooms, etc. Painting and so forth. Tricia Cranmer will contact the executive director to learn what service they need.
- **Nursing Homes:** Sing, read, or create artwork or postcards for the elderly/infirm.
- **Virtua Voorhees Pediatrics ICU:** parent will speak to their child-life specialist to coordinate outreach there.
- **Food Banks & Distribution**
- **Jeans For Teens** collect gently used jeans to give for teens and kids in need

5. WESTFIELD FRIENDS GEAR Forget Gucci and Prada! WFS has the coolest gear around. Outfit your student and family with t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, beanies, and even WFS notecards. The T-shirts and sweatshirts are fantastic to wear in school, on school trips, during service projects and a fashion must while representing your family's designated color (Garnet vs. Blue) on Field Day in the spring! Nice quality WFS gear will be offered to purchase on **Back to School Night** (this Thursday, September 14th) and orders will be taken a couple times this year.

6. WAYS TO SUPPORT WESTFIELD FRIENDS SCHOOL

- **Amazon Smile** online while shopping, link your account to the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting. A percentage of your purchase benefits our school.
- **BOXTOPS** keep on collecting these easy, **little pink Boxtop logos** on so many packages in your pantry. Boxtops are collected and money is sent to our school.
- **TIN CAN TABS** Save for the Pre-k collection

7. SOCIAL MEDIA ~LIKE, Follow, and SHARE!

- **Westfield Friends School** has a presence on fb, Instagram, Twitter, and (coming soon) Pinterest. Great to read postings and get a glimpse of the exciting things students are doing during their days.
- **Westfield Friends Parent Council** fb page is a private community (click to join) Which provides fantastic updates and reminders. It's worthwhile to stay in the loop.
- **Westfield Friends Alumni** fb page which keeps all members of WFS in the loop. Also, interesting photos from the archives are shared. Join and tell other WFS alum about the page.
- **WFS New Website** will be up and running in the next couple weeks. Exciting new features include online enrollment and forms!

8. Moment of Silence

Suggestions, questions, or a desire to volunteer? Contact:

2017-18 PC Officers:

- Sharla Floyd, co-Clerk (215-266-7272, floydsharla@gmail.com)
- Eric Pfeiffer, co-Clerk (610-304-4896, epfeif59@gmail.com)
- David Shields, Treasurer (856-313-5689, david.c.shields@gmail.com)
- Lisa Matera Harder, Secretary (856-905-2522, lisa.harder@comcast.net)
- Erika Gehringer, Room Parent Coordinator (609-206-1018 kiki_gehringer@yahoo.com)