

FEBRUARY WESTMORE PTA MINUTES

The Westmore PTA met on Monday, Feb. 28, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm.

There were 20 people present, including Mr. Dart, Mrs. Chambers, President Katie Mueller, Treasurer Suzanne Ladle, Secretary Rebecca Fortner, Ms. Dohoney, Ms. Cook, Ms. Ermitage, Denise Montgomery, Raquel Mahoney, Kim Quinney, Kristina Bostian, Rachel Fowler, Andrea Ngola, Kathleen Carnahan, Lorelee Dyers, Jennifer Alexander and Robin Lamb (several people were difficult to identify based on Zoom names displayed).

1. Mr. Dart reported:
 - March is tornado preparedness month and students will have a tornado drill on Thursday.
 - The weeks up until Spring Break will be focused on the school's four expectations, including safety, respect, responsibility and problem-solving. Students will be "caught" following these expectations and will earn Cat Cash and eligibility for prize drawings.
 - Students are starting Unit 4 in their ELA programs, and it was also noted that each student has a goal to read 22 "steps" each week. Ten of those are accomplished at school. Currently, 27% of students are meeting this goal; the school's high percentage so far has been 37%.
 - Masks are no longer required on buses. Overall, students are asked to continue to maintain three feet of social distance, and can choose to continue to wear masks. The school is cleaned each night, and it is asked that student's stay home when feeling sick.
2. Mrs. Chambers added that spring assessments are coming up, including COGAT testing for 2nd and 5th grade students, science assessment for 5th grade and the state tests after spring break for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. She emphasized that standardized tests are "one piece of data."
3. Third-grade teachers discussed the One Book One School program that focused on the book "Dragons in a Bag." Mrs. Cook discussed how the book was revealed to students through a nest and egg activity in the classrooms. This helped build excitement. Mrs. Dohoney said that daily trivia questions and prizes motivated students to read each night and drew interest in the book. Mrs. Ermitage said that games at the second quarter assembly related to the book were a big hit among kids. Mrs. Chamber said some students have mentioned wanting to read the next book in the series, and she wants to gauge interest in this as a summer reading activity. Anyone interested should email her at schamber@d45.org
4. Secretary and treasurer reports were given, and Mrs. Mahoney introduced the new PTA web site, <http://www.westmorepta.com/>. The site will be a source for all PTA activities and information, as well as how to join and sign up to volunteer. While other sites, like a Facebook page, may be used, posts will direct people to the Web site.
5. An outdoor event is being planned for April/May. Planning is in the early stages and more information will be shared.

6. A parent mixer is being planned as well, as a way for parents to socialize and learn about PTA. Discussion included how to balance the socializing with PTA information and volunteer opportunities. More discussion and information will continue to be available.
7. The next PTA meeting will be on March 14 at 6:30pm.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm.