

WME General PTO Meeting Minutes
July 29, 2026 5:00pm
Karleigh's House
11049 Valleybrook Circle

Attendance: Karleigh Bronson, Molly Milley, Mandy Riker, Valentina Phelan, Whitney Austin, Becca Collinson, Andrea Robinson, Ami Bledsoe, Stephanie Hall, Michelle Corbelli, Jenny Beckman

Executive Board Updates

General Update: Karleigh Bronson and Andrea Robinson

- Welcome to all our new members!!
- First Day of School-Do we want to provide drinks to parents like we did last year?
 - If so, budget? Who can help?
 - *Comments: Becca secured a sponsor to donate these. \$500. Andrea and Karleigh to purchase drinks and hand out on the first day of school.*
- Kindergarten Signing Day: August 17th
 - We will have Vicky (if she is willing) make a balloon arch- *Vicky to make*
 - We will have certificates that the students will receive (Becca made, will need to edit with all three teachers)- *Becca to update, Andrea to print*
 - Have some things to hand students (bracelets, sunglasses, stickers, pencils) (need to check shed for sunglasses, ok with fun run to hand out extras?)
 - *To take place maybe in the Gym? Speak with Mrs. Vora to plan*
- Kindergarten Welcome Signs- will be delivered this week!
 - Anyone want to help deliver?
 - *Andrea, Karleigh, Jenny, Whitney*

Budget Update: Jen Beckman

- Math Olympiad - discussed moving that out of PTO umbrella but the issue is that the parent volunteer that has his company donate to the program needs to donate to a 501(c)(3) org so those donations would still come to the PTO.
- Preliminary Budget for 26-27 school year - any requests or feedback? Fun Run Expenses SALY?
- \$12K set aside from last fiscal year for the library fund.

Comments: Budget was updated as discussed. Removed Happy Hour line, Sunshine Committee Support line and Reindeer Lane Fundraiser line. Updated Script line to Raise right. Increased printing/copy costs budget.

-We will not do Reindeer Lane this year due to difficulty finding volunteers to run it, poor quality of gifts, and disruption to teachers instruction time. Instead we will offer a SPARK for students to create gifts for family (i.e. cards, bracelets, picture frames, etc.)

-Jenny will order a debit card to be connected to an account with a smaller \$ amount. Andrea will hold the card when it is ordered to be used by Hospitality for larger expenses.

Principal Update/SAC: Molly Milley

Comments: All open positions have been filled. Excited for our new Assistant Principal to join. 385 total students. Projected 410. Kindergarten up to 59.

At-Large Parent Directors Updates

Communication: Whitney Austin

- Back to School Bash email/social posts - send out this week
- 1st newsletter will be sent Monday, August 3rd
 - Need to discuss what we want included
 - *Back to School Bash, Yearbook open position, Late Start Friday info*
- Becca working on the website
 - *Website demo is up should be ready by start of school*
- Need to set up time with Valentina
- We need to set-up our Google Workspace and decide on email addresses
 - *Board will meet separately to discuss email addresses and specific roles of board members*

Campus Improvement: Pat Shaffer

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Community Building: Becca Collinson

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Fundraising: Lindsay Wattleworth

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Committee Updates

Communication Update

Social Media:

- Whitney to meet with Mrs. Riker (Shuster) next week to discuss social media process and plan posts for the beginning of school

Campus Improvement Update

Hospitality:

- Total budget ask of \$5,700-*approved*
- Staff Breakfast 8/6 at 7:30am (will someone let us in?) *Molly* How many staff? *45*
- First Day of School Popcorn Bar
 - 10:15am set up (Can we use the popcorn machine? *Yes* Lunch start time: *11:10am*)
 - 3pm clean up
 - How many total staff? *80*
- Treat Yourself Tuesday Dates
 - 5th- 9/1
 - 4th- 10/6

- 3rd-11/10
- 2nd-1/12
- 1st-2/9
- Kinder-3/9
- All-3/30
- Teacher Appreciation Week: March 29th-April 2nd

SPARK:

- Does Friday September 18 work as first Spark date? *Yes, Concerns that we needed to set up the book fair on this date, but now book fair is being set up on Monday Sept 21st.*

Garden:

- We're doing a Garden Club Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm. Cost for attendance will help fund the garden.

Room Parent Coordinator:

- For Yearbook, we would like one photographer per grade, rather than per class

Care Closet:

- *Need to check the care closet at the beginning of the year to see what needs to be stocked. Teachers can request from Office specific food or other items if needed for specific student and we will add to sign up genius to fill*

Community Building Update

Community Connections/Family Events:

- Whats App is being used frequently by Kinder families
- Committee will meet after school starts to plan the year
- Kinder play date at Red Tail Park on Friday Aug 14th at 9am
- Proposed family event dates:
 - Bingo Night: Thursday Nov 12th, 5:30-7:30pm
 - Neon Hearts Dance: Thursday Feb 18th, 6:00-8:00pm
 - Silent Auction: Thursday April 8th, 6:00-9:00pm

Back to School Bash:

- We have booked 6 bounce houses from Big Sky Bounce
 - *3 will be for K-2 to use, and 3 for 3-5 to use*
- We will need volunteers for this event, for the welcome tables, and watch bounce houses (Andrea has sign up, half filled with High Schoolers)- *Fully filled with Highschoolers for setup, running event, and clean up*
- We have two food trucks: The Snowy Churro and Colorado Taco Truck
- We will have yard games (from the gym)- *need to email Mr. Widhalm*
- We have a speaker in the PTO shed we will use for music with a playlist- *Andrea and Karliegh to find speaker and make playlist*
- **Need a table to sell library fundraiser paw prints-** *Not going to sell at this event*
- We will have three welcome/check in tables

- At each table you will make your donation via venmo or cash (suggested \$15 per family); receive your lei color for your grade, get a WME magnet with your donation; get a flyer on PTO events
 - Which flyers do we want to hand out? Is the Final budget flyer good to go? *Won't hand out flyers. Will have a few copies of the calendar and general info for people to take. Have copies in plastic folders*
 - Should we get the budget/cost flyer blown up? *Not for this event*
 - Should we do a library remodel flyer/blown up plans? *Not for this event*
 - New Families table: Karleigh and Andrea will man this one: explain all things school and PTO
 - K-2 returning families: will need 2 volunteers for this one- *Becca and 1 more needed*
 - 3-5 returning families: will need 2 volunteers for this one- *Jenny and Whitney*

Movie Night:

- Dan will not be providing this again this year;
- Reached out to 3 other companies to price out:
 - Screen rental/run the event cost: \$634 from Freedom Fun USA
 - The school is already licensed to show any film (paid for by the district)
 - September 9/11, 9/18 or 9/25? *Will do it 9/25*
 - Survey What's App to pick movie: Toy Story 5, Super Mario Galaxy, Zootopia 2, Hoppers
 - Sell \$1 concessions again, but make own popcorn this time and sell glow sticks
 - *Becca will look for a sponsor for this event*

Yearbook:

- Need one more committee member, would be in charge of collecting/organizing photos taken by grade-level photographers

Fundraising Update

Sponsorships:

- Have received a couple sponsorships already
- Reached out to all previous sponsors to see if they will sponsor again
- Reached out to some businesses involved in our community to see if they want to sponsor
- Reached out to see if we could get some sponsors for the first day of school drinks but haven't had anyone commit- *Did have a company commit to sponsor!*
- Current committed sponsorship count is \$3500
- Would like to send out another email next week
- Have paw print samples- *Will sell at Back to School Night and will be part of Fun Run prizes*

Fun Run:

- Working on selecting prizes, will be ordering samples soon.
- Assuming Danny won't be providing DJ services for the day, so this will be a new expense this year. Not sure of his name, but the guy who did the school dance was great at Fun Run last year (Danny had sent him, so we don't know what he would charge on his own). *Danny said he will do it again this year*
- Will likely have a much longer update when things really pick up after school starts.
- *Comments: Molly would like the Fun Run to include the Library Fundraising. Setting the goal at \$60K to cover PTO expenses and Library Renovation. Prizes will be parties/experiences (Root beer party, pizza party, tattoo parties. etc) and a paw print depending on how much each family raises. Still want the spirit day prizes for overall amount raised throughout the fundraiser week. Preference from teachers to have parties during grade lunch recesses. This way students are not missing class time to attend parties.*
- *Goal is to have the Library renovation completed over Winter Break so this is why we are combining with the fun run. Molly will introduce via email and at Back to School night*
- *May need to have it on a Thursday because of the new late start Friday. Committee going to schedule it out to see*

Silent Auction:

- Planning to do the same thing we did this year, would like to do a bit earlier in April if possible
- Wondering if childcare at WME from Rock Canyon students would be an option
 - *Difficult for liability reasons. Going to see if we can reach out to other places (My Gym, Active Athletics, HRCA, etc.) to see if they have a parent night out scheduled on the same night that we could promote. Families would pay them directly.*
 - *Lower cost this year for attendees.*

DU Hockey Night:

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Book Fair:

- *Set up on Monday Sep 21st after 12pm. No school that day for students. Fair would run Tuesday 22nd- Friday 25th. Late nights being on conference nights Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th. Clean up before school is over on Friday*

Community Kickbacks:

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Raise Right/Cheddar Up:

- *Can we move this out of the Hospitality Budget and onto its own line? Difficulty doing this because Jenny does not see the rebates directly because they are automatically taken out when ordering the gift cards in mass. Will not plan to cover with Hospitality budget. Jenny has budgeted a \$500 loss in the "Hospitality Gift Card Giving" line to cover this cost.*

Restaurant Nights:

- *Largest earner last night was Kona Ice. Kona Ice will donate 25% of earnings if we book a truck at 5 events. No cost to us to have at events.*

Any other items to cover or questions: Please put here!

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2026-2027 Leadership Structure

Board of Directors

Executive Board:

President: Karleigh Bronson

Secretary: Andrea Robinson

Treasurer: (Jenny Beckman), Lara Kirkbride-Romeo

At-Large Parent Directors:

Communication: Whitney Austin

Campus Improvement: Pat Shaffer

Community Building: Becca Collinson

Fundraising: Lindsay Wattleworth

School Representatives

Principal: Molly Milley

Assistant Principal: Meghann Evans

Teacher Representative: Mrs. Lehwald and Mrs. Riker (Shuster)

Committee Members

Communications: (Whitney Austin), Valentina Phelan

Social Media: Mrs. Riker (Shuster)

Campus improvement:

Hospitality: Vicky Rogers, Lindsay Wattleworth, (Andrea Robinson), Mandy Boehning

Spark: Pat Shaffer, Samara Selden, Corrie Sampson

Garden: Pat Shaffer, Samara Selden

Room Parent: Sarah Lisle

Care Closet: Kelsey Cochrane

Community building:

Connections/Family Events: Andrea Robinson, Pat Shaffer, Vicky Rogers, Becca Collinson

Back to School Night: Karleigh Bronson

Movie Night: Andrea Robinson

Yearbook: Mallory Mercer, (Becca Collinson), Sarah Butler, 1 needed

Fundraising:

Sponsorships: Lindsay Wattleworth, Becca Collinson

Fun Run: Ana Borovsky, Laura Gray, Nancy Brown, Valentina Phelan

Auction: Becca Collinson

DU Hockey: Adam Linton

Book Fair: Michelle Corbelli, Faith Hanks

Kickbacks: Sarah Butler

Raise Right/ Cheddar up: Andrea Robinson, Michelle Jahanian

Restaurant Nights: Mallory Szeffler