

**Wayne Council of PTOs**  
**Council Meeting Minutes - GWMS**  
**Wednesday, January 29, 2014**

**Welcome:** Fran Cook called the meeting to order at 7:38pm.

**Officers' Reports:**

- **Recording Secretary:** Kristen DeVries made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the last Council Meeting. Rosemary Colazzo and Therese Potter seconded and the motion carried. Kristen DeVries made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Rosemary Colazzo and Deb Califf seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Maria Beilis stated that the February and April meeting dates and times have changed. New dates and times will be forwarded to everyone.
- **Treasurer:** Stephanie Fenske distributed copies of the current PTO Council Budget for everyone's review and asked if anyone had any questions or concerns. There were none at this time. Stephanie made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Joyce Morandi and Karen Veale seconded and the motion carried.
- **Co-President:** Fran Cook gave a update on Jackie Prince. Surgery went well and is healing. She will be out for the remainder of the school year. Please keep her in your thoughts. If you would like to email the Councils Yahoo account, we will forward it to Jackie.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Wayne Alliance** – Laura Stinziano:
  - The Wayne Alliance was presented with a check for \$2000 from the WEA.
  - Wayne Alliance will hold a Battle of the Bands on Saturday, March 22, 2014. Winner will receive \$500.
  - The Wayne Alliance Basketball Game with the Harlem Magic Masters will be held Friday, April 25, 2014 at WVHS. The funds from this event help support the PTO's.
  - Wayne Alliance meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. We welcome new members.
- **Food Bank** - Eileen Albanese:
  - Thank you for all the donations received.
  - The WEA has made a generous donation of gift cards.
- **Project Graduation**
  - **WHHS** - Janine Delvecchio: All forms are paperless this year. Fashion Show/Tricky Tray Tickets on sale at the WHHS Commons on Monday, Feb. 10th, 7-9 p.m. or Tuesday, Feb. 11th, 6-8 p.m. For more information go to [WHHS Project Graduation 2014](#)
  - **WVHS** - Rosemary Colazzo: Fashion Show/Tricky Tray Tickets on sale February 25th, 26th and 27<sup>th</sup>, 6pm – 8pm at the WVHS gymnasium and February 26<sup>th</sup>, 11am-1pm at the WVHS auditorium. For more information go to [WVHS Project Graduation 2014](#)
- **Wayne Special Parents Association (WSPA)** Lisa Minervini:
  - The new program in the Children's Cultural Workshop, KidFit, will begin 2/4/14.
  - The WSPA is sponsoring a Presidents' Day event at Screaming Parties. More information on this event can be found here: (see attachment).
- **Browse N Shop**
  - No report.
- **Children's Cultural Workshop** – Fran Cook:
  - Great numbers for enrollment; up from the last session.
  - Thank you all for sending out the emails to your population.
  - New classes have been well received such as the Princess Class.
  - Monies from these programs help support PTO Council programs.

**Administrative Reports:**

**Directors/ Administrators**

- **Marysol Berrios – Assistant Superintendent**
  - Full day training sessions have been completed regarding the PARCC Assessment. The district is on track to conduct the field test at nine of the district's schools: AWMS, Fallon, GWMS, Packanack, Ryerson, SCMS, Theunis Dey, WVHS and WVHS.
  - You will be notified if your child's class will be participating in the PARCC. You may opt out of this field test.
  - Scores will not be sent to the district. Results will be used for revisions in the assessment.
  - Technology questions can be answered by Joe Bouchard. Sample test questions can be sent to Marysol Berrios.
- **Juanita Petty – School Business Administrator**
  - Distributed the copy of the Public Input Session on the 2014-2015 District Budget presented on January 16, 2014 at WHHS. Monies look good for next year so far. Middle schools media centers are funded with the current year's budget.
  - To start the budget process we first ask the building principals for their needs and then after these are reviewed we ask for any requests for enhancements. We forecast information and update daily.
  - Juanita detailed the formula on how the budget is calculated regarding the tax rates and the administrations goals to remain with the 2% hard cap. Goals are to keep everything as it is without cutting services to the population.
  - District looks for ways to be efficient such as solar energy, lease renegotiations, going paperless, professional development and negotiating deductibles for the health plan.

- The next budget presentation is Thursday, February 20, 2014 in Council Chambers. The next public input after that is March 13, 2014 at WVHS at 7:00pm where we will present the budget with changes. There will be a vote sometime between April 24, 2014 and May 1, 2014 and then a public hearing to adopt the budget on May 7, 2014.
  - Our goal is education and to keep the public informed. I am working on getting more information on the website for the public to review.
- Question asked if we can have the community survey sent out. Juanita answered that it is currently on the wayneschools.com website. We can work on getting this link out to everyone. Any questions or information requests please email her at Jpetty@wayneschools.com.
- **Jessica Neu – Teacher Coordinator of Student Support Services**
    - The SEPAC group held their 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. SEPAC was created to improve communication and service levels in the district. New brochures have been created that detail what the district offers in programs. All CST members have them.
    - STARS is the new district wide initiative for the community. Created from multiple programs within the district such as EPIC, PlayPals and the existing Stars. WHHS has created the graphics and the district has outlined the training protocols. This is an opportunity to involve the grade level children to work together.
    - There is a new draft outline for the protocol of food allergies in the district. Delegates got together from many sources in district. There will be a forum with dates to follow.
  - **Diane Pandolfi – Director of Elementary Education**
    - Elementary curriculum has been updated in Math and Language Arts to align with the Common Core. LA program is a Readers Writers initiative which works with level appropriate reading. Libraries are stock with choices. Math is an organic program; not based off of one specific program.
- Question asked on who is choosing the materials for the math program? Diane answered that the information is gathered from many sources. There is no text book at this time to support the curriculum. Nothing is published to date that is up to date.
- Question asked why we went to this instruction if no one is ready with materials. Diane answered that the state with corporations got together and asked what they want from candidate's entering the workforce. They wanted thinkers and feel that kids were not prepared for the work. These new programs are to help engage them into meaningful thought.
- Performance Reports have been instituted at the elementary level. A forum was held for the parents October 2013. These reports are helpful to assist teachers in addressing the individual needs of each student since at this level there are smaller class sizes. These reports are not appropriate for the middle and high school levels. Gates teachers have created challenging projects to assist kids in class.
  - Transition assistance for 5<sup>th</sup> graders to middle school are being created and reviewed by teachers and administration.
  - Fairview Lake has been a great success for the 5<sup>th</sup> grades to date. All enjoyed the new programs and location.

## Principals

- **Mr. Jack Leonard – GWMS Principal**
  - A program packet is being created for the transitions of 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade by a great team. This will help ease the transition and assist in decisions. Schedules for the next year are developed the December before they move up.
  - GWMS has a Calendar Raffle for the months of February, March and April. Tickets are available for this wonderful opportunity for the PTO and school.
  - On February 4, 2014 the GWMS PTO is holding a Wendy's Night from 4pm-8pm on Rt. 23 North. Please register with Target for the Take Charge of Education program.
  - GWMS is proud to announce that we will be presenting Annie on March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - GWMS had an author, T.T. Faulkner, visit recently for all grades. A wonderful day from a very talented young writer of four books published.
  - We also had a TREP\$ kickoff meeting. A great response from many budding entrepreneurs. Our marketplace will be held on March 20, 2014.
  - Our Community Service Group was able to collect 60 sets of pajamas for the community.
  - We have had our computers refit throughout the year and there will be 30 additional ready by June. Our 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will participate in the PARCC field testing.
- **Mr. Omar Vazquez – GWMS Vice Principal**
  - Lafayette held a professional development on the Readers Writers Workshop. Had a week of "No Name Calling" with inspirational posters and a white t-shirt day where others could write positive words of encouragement. They will have an author visit on February 4, 2014 and their Book Fair is at the end of the month.
  - JFK will be having TREP\$ with their marketplace to be held March 7, 2014. The school also created cards for the veterans.
  - APT held a Pajama Day and a Family Reading Night on January 23, 2014. Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are proud to have read a total of 1016 hours. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade started their DARE program on January 10, 2014. DARE t-shirts have been provided to the students for them to wear on the days they have instruction. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade will have a Environmental Lab day on February 14, 2014 and on February 10 the school will hold Jump Rope for Heart
  - AWMS will host a "Dignity & Respect" Assembly for February 4, 2014. They will have their production of Fame on March 21 and 22<sup>nd</sup>. They will also be holding a math clinic and keyboarding clinic in the future. Also offering a sign language clinic. On February 26, 2014 the Music Department's will enjoying a trip to NYC to see Matilda.

## WEA Report

- **Dennis P. Carroll**
  - We presented the Wayne Alliance with a check for \$2000 to help support their programs.

- Schools please contact us. WEA is looking for ways to reach out to donate or help within the community. WEA is currently helping at Wayne PAL and the Boys and Girls Club.
- The WEA distributes the Parent Connection and I have copies tonight to distribute.
- Question asked if the faculty can be encouraged to join their schools' PTO. Dennis responded that he will reach out and let them know how important it is to join.

**Board of Education**

- **Laura Stinziano**
  - Thank you to all the PTO members. We appreciate your support.
  - In the past BOE members come to PTO meetings. Anyone that would like a BOE at their meetings, please contact me. I will assign a rep to attend. This must come through the board president.
  - The township lost \$43million in tax rate last year. BOE has nothing to do this number. The BOE will not touch class size and will work to ensure the kids are not affected.
  - Important dates: The next budget presentation is Thursday, February 20, 2014 in Council Chambers at 7:00pm. The next public input after that is March 13, 2014 at WVHS at 7:00pm where we will present the budget with changes.
  - The Community Survey will be emailed out and it is also on the district website.

**Department Reports**

- **Health Services** – No Report
- **Transportation** – No Report
- **Technology** – No Report
- **Building Services** – No Report

**Old Business:**

No old business to discuss.

**New Business:**

Karen Marron wanted to add details about the Wayne Alliance Basketball game to be held Friday, April 25, 2014 at WVHS. The elementary schools are asked to create a poster/banner for the game. Please speak to your art teachers to discuss. Also gift baskets are donated for a raffle at the game. Contact information will be sent from the council regarding the game and details.

Our next Council President/VP Meeting at James Fallon on Thursday, February 13th at 7:30 pm. Details will follow on the April meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Fran Cook. Susan Kresge and Lori Riccobono seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

**Attendance:**

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Linda Marchesini  | AWMS           |
| Marysol Berrios   | Central Office |
| Jessica Nue       | Central Office |
| Lori Riccobono    | GWMS           |
| Vicky Struyk      | GWMS           |
| Randi London      | Pines Lake     |
| Staci Lupo        | AWMS           |
| Karen Marron      | AWMS           |
| Laura Stinziano   | BOE            |
| Jen Crawford      | Theunis Dey    |
| Lori Polifonte    | Theunis Dey    |
| Juanita Perry     | Central Office |
| Dennis P. Carroll | WEA/WVHS       |
| Eileen Albanese   | Food Bank      |
| Rosemary Colazzo  | WVHS           |
| Janine DelVecchio | WHHS           |
| Joyce Morandi     | WHHS           |
| Diane Grdodian    | Lafayette      |
| Lisa Minervini    | WSPA           |
| Deb Califf        | Randall Carter |
| Susan Kresge      | SCMS           |
| Jennifer Decker   | Fallon         |
| Stephanie Fenske  | Council        |
| Maria Beilis      | Council        |
| Fran Cook         | Council        |
| Kristen DeVries   | Council        |