

Walker PTA meeting: Thursday, October 20th @ 7:30pm

Location: in person at Walker School Cafeteria & Zoom

Attendees:

Khristie Kalan	Dante Wharton	Jenny Walsh	Liz Pawlak
Nicole O'Connell	Patty Harris	Jessica Bueltmann	Katie Weiss
Christine Benson	Stacey Masliansky	Natasha Dobson	Jackie Unger
Grace Suhr-Kim	Allison Bull	Erin Saculti	Darlena Simmons
Natalie Gillespie			

Principal's Announcements:

- Thank you to the PTA for the conference snacks and thank you to parents for attending conferences!
- Next Thursday there will be a children's author visit through Zoom. This was planned and fund through Foundation 65.
- New volunteer process: There's a new system, you fill out [a Google form](#), [print out a form](#) for fingerprinting, then go to get fingerprints taken at an [Accurate Biometrics Location](#). (it is quick to get done and free for volunteers). You only need to do this process if going to be alone with students (like on a field trip). Fingerprints are good for 3 years, but paperwork is for 1 year.

Teacher Announcements: Khristie Kaplan is PTA teacher liaison

- Thank you so much for the new climbing wall. The kids are doing great with the safety rules.
- Thank you for the conference snacks. If possible for next time to have more healthy options/fresh items, or ask preferences through surveys to make sure all are included.
- In previous years staff were able to receive funds to buy their own supplies, is this still possible? No, that was before the district took over school supplies and the funding for it.
- The Lost & Found is out of control. The outside items have been collected and we're slowly putting them with the other lost & found items. Teachers will try to bring classes by to see if any kids can claim their items. Please clearly label all kid items with name and possibly room number so it's easier to get the item back to it's owner.
 - Parents can come in during the day to search or ask the teacher to look for a specific item.
 - We can set up a station at WalkerFest so people can easily look then and then we can donate what's left to ESSCA.

Executive Committee Announcements

- **Trick or Trash:** The Climate Action Team is started Trick or Trash program - it's a candy wrapper recycling program. A box will be set up to collect them in the school. Look out for a flyer to come home soon.
- **Directory:** Almost ready to go out. Thank you to Natalie for building it!
- **Teacher Potluck for conference week:** Thank you to all who donated food and drinks! We will do it again for winter conferences.

Treasurer Update

- **New Budget:**
 - Need to vote on it this meeting.
 - We received \$29,738 from PEP this year. We've budgeted all of it, but \$10
 - Categories: Overhead, Engagement, DEI Initiatives, School Support, Education, Community & Fundraising
 - We merged Flag Football and Basketball into Athletics - we're not expecting to use most of the funds esp. If the District gets their programs together.
 - Heritage Month - we wanted to have funds for this in case supplies are needed to make the bulletin boards or any other ideas, so parents don't have to spend their own money.
 - If funds aren't used, the money goes back to the PEP fund for next year's dispersion. We will assess at the end of the year if the funds need to be used anywhere else in the school.
 - Garden Club is focusing on the front of the school right now b/c of the amount of volunteers they have. They want to expand to do more, liked adding raised beds.

- A lot of weeding and cleaning up has been done in the Fall. Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts are helping.
 - They are having a hard time getting in contact with the District grounds & maintenance to get some things taken care of, but they are working hard to get things done.
- <https://forms.gle/5TUUA8DAi36PsaD59> check reimbursement form (New)
- memberhub “Givebacks”: a plug-in app like Honey and Amazon Smile. More info will be coming.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Update

- More details to come once able to connect with more of the committee.
- **FAN** (FamilyActionNetwork.net): Register for these free events. Some are in person and some on Zoom.
 - Oct 25th: [Courageous Discomfort: How to Have Important, Brave, Life-Changing Conversations about Race and Racism](#)
- **BSA**: Need to connect with members to start planning.
- **WAG**: Have had some good talks, conversations started to get presenters

Fundraising Committee Update

- **Walkerfest**:
 - Nov. 2nd, 11am-2pm, please sign up to help at the event (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fada829a6f58-volunteers>).
 - You can help run games, sell spiritwear or concessions. We also are asking for lollipop, concession and prize donations (sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fada829a6f58-walkerfest>)
 - Raffle tickets are due on Oct. 28th. Please turn in any unsold tickets. Turn it all in to the office.
- **Restaurant Night Results**: We received \$300 from our Herm’s event. The next one is at El Nuevo Tipico on Nov. 2nd. If you have any suggestions for restaurants, please send them to us.

Community Engagement Update:

- We had a great dance. It was a good turnout. 100 pumpkins were painted.
- Next event is Bingo on Dec. 11th, 1-3pm

Volunteer Needs

- **Walkerfest**: It takes a lot of people to run the event. It’s a lot of fun. 7th graders and up can volunteer.
 - **Volunteers**: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fada829a6f58-volunteers>
 - **Concession Donations**: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fada829a6f58-walkerfest>

New Business

- **Vote on budget**: Erin Saculti motioned to approve budget as presented, Grace Suhr-Kim seconded, All voted Yay, budget passed.

Announcements

Important Dates

- Oct 21: No School
- Nov 2: Early Dismissal @ 12:05
- Nov 2: Restaurant Night Fundraiser
- Nov 5: WalkerFest @ 11am-2pm
- Nov 6: Daylight Savings Time
- Nov 8: No School (Election Day)
- Nov 16: Vision & Hearing Screening
- Nov 17: PTA Meeting
- Nov 21-25: No School (Fall Break)

Adjournment

Mark your calendars! Our next meeting: Thursday, November 17th at 7:30pm on Zoom