

Wisdom PTA Meeting 9/16/24

- Called to order 7:04pm - Stand for Pledge
- President's Report - Lauren Sica - Welcome everyone and introductions to the Executive Board.
 - Janette Ruddy - 1st VP
 - Ronna Duarte 2nd VP of membership
 - Yeliz Cipriano - 3rd VP of fundraising
 - Faith Dermody - Recording Secretary
 - Anthony LoPinto - Treasurer
 - Carol Going - Teacher Liaison
 - Tara Reyes - Corresponding Secretary
- Principal Report - Mr. Avena - Welcome everyone!
 - First week went great! 6th graders transitioned really well, everyone is having a few issues navigating the buses at dismissal and finding their correct bus but it is getting much better. They need to look for the number in the window, not the one painted on the bus.
 - ID cards are being given to all the students that they must wear with their gray lanyard at all times during the school day. If they forget it they will be given an orange one to wear for the day, 3 times that it is forgotten are forgiven but the fourth time will be disciplined.
 - LOST PHONES - every day phones are getting lost or left behind in classes etc. it takes up a big part of the day for the Principal and AP to get them back to the students. PLEASE put their name on the phone case
 - Drills - new law states the school must notify the parents of drills happening prior to the drill. Parent square notification will go home letting you know a drill will be happening that week. They also usually tell the students prior that there is a drill coming so no one panics.
 - Please talk to the kids about keeping their passwords secure. Sharing with friends has led to some silly stuff. Posting on each other's google classroom or buying lunch on someone else's account, so please make sure they keep it to themselves.
 - Please also speak with your kids about using threatening language. We have spoken with them here as well. Things are not the same anymore so saying something silly like "I'm going to kill you" or anything threatening another student or school, sharing pictures of guns or different things on social media as well. EVERYTHING has to be investigated now, we have to be diligent and take everything seriously even if it's not. So please make sure they all are aware of this.
 - Back to School Night - 9/19/24 starts at 7pm come meet the teachers. Mrs Going will be doing a Google Classroom "how to" workshop in the library beforehand for any parents that need some help with that. The kids will be using google classroom, power school and parent square throughout high school so please familiarize yourself with them. Check their grades on the kids grades, be mindful that grades on google classroom may not be up to date but should be on the parent portal.
 - We have so many activities here at Wisdom for the students. Everything that's available is on our website and bulletin board. Sports, intramurals, clubs and student government, there is definitely something for everyone.
 - Please always reach out to us (Mr. Avena or Mr. Arvelo-Shaw) with any questions or concerns.
- Approval of Minutes for June '24 meeting - Janette Ruddy makes motion to approve, Yeliz Cipriano seconds - Minutes approved and stand as written

- 1st VP - Janette Ruddy - No Report just a reminder for committee chairs and officers to send reports to her a few days prior to the meeting.
- 2nd VP - Ronna Duarte - As of today membership is 120 members Please join. We will be available at back to school night for membership sign up, magnets and bracelets for sale.
- 3rd VP - Yeliz Cipriano - Working with Miss Chocolate for fundraiser sale, pies and cookie dough. More information will be out soon and if anyone has any ideas for fundraising please reach out.
- Treasurer - Anthony LoPinto - not in attendance, report given by Janette Ruddy, see attached
- Cultural Arts - Mr Avena spoke about an upcoming assembly for 7th & 8th grade and possible 6th. Motivational speaker Mark Mero Champion of Choice on 10/22/24 is supposed to be a great speaker and very powerful.
- Mrs. Going - Lots going on -
 - Adventureland school wide trip on Halloween for all grades. \$65 includes lunch, all will be done online, permission slip on google classroom and payment on school bucks. Park is closed for everyone except Wisdom. There will not be one in the spring.
 - Fire Island Trip 7th grade \$40 and it is on Thursday & Friday 9/26 & 9/27 using coach busses so they can be there longer and more out of the day
 - Wisdom theme days - i.e. Wisdom Wednesday now trying fun shirt Friday, any shirt with a positive theme
 - Blood Drive Wednesday December 18th and trying to do the hours a little earlier so staff donate as well
 - Halloween Dance is the week prior to Halloween on Friday 10/25, 7-9pm \$10 includes two snack tickets. Costumes but no masks or weapons, prizes awarded for best costumes.
 - Yearbook Staff - 8th graders are welcome to apply to join the staff. They design it and make all the decisions. They must fill out an application and get teacher recommendations for approval to be on the committee. Parents can send pictures and shout outs once the site is up to submit to.
 - Ms Katcher and Ms Spainer are bringing Tri-M honor society to the middle school. The High Schools and Salk have had for a while. They handed out applications to students that they felt should apply but if your child didn't get one and wants to apply they are available outside Ms Spainer's office (available to 7th & 8th graders)
- Delegate report - we did not have a rep there but Lauren Sica read a report since she was in attendance - highlights below
 - Late Busses will have just two routes and for Middle School only.
 - Upgrades to PA systems district wide
 - Online registration for new students in on district website
 - Lanyards are now at middle schools as well as the high schools for all students to wear
 - District website has been updated and looks great, should be much more user friendly and easier for mobile devices
 - Solar Carports - being built at many of the schools throughout the district, including Wisdom. Will be going in the north parking lot. Construction was supposed to start for the posts already and the panels in October but have not received word to exactly when they will start here.
 - Septa - Rep is needed for Wisdom if anyone is interested please reach out. The next meeting is 10/7/24 They will be doing Boo Bags fundraiser for Halloween.
 - Reflections - Theme is Accepting Imperfection, no other info from Region on this yet

- Honorary Life - was briefly discussed dates etc.
- PLEASE reach out if you are willing to be Delegate for Wisdom, it is one meeting a month and if we have multiple reps you can split the meeting and not go have to go to all of them
- Wisdom needs representatives for the following committees : Transportation, Staff Recognition and Honorary Life - if you are interested please let us know.
- Picture Day was on Thursday 9/12, retakes are on October 28th. All the students took a picture even if they didn't prepay. If you did not prepay they will send you the proof and ask if you want to order. If your child was absent or doesn't like their picture please have them come down during their lunch on retake day with a complete package of pictures (if you received one)
- Spiritwear - until 9/27, pick up is in Farmingdale, takes 3 or 4 weeks from date the sale closes
- Budget voted on in virtual meeting on Monday
- Food Services - have not met yet
- High School Liaison - Faith Dermody - Division's first meeting is 9/24
- No Old business No New Business

*Question - Agenda Books availability. They will be available in the office and at Back to School Night

*Question - School Store will be selling stuff at Back to School Night and it is located in the back of the cafeteria during lunch periods with school apparel.

*Question - Budget line of family fun and why nothing proposed for this year. Yankee tickets went up by too much in price, so we are unable to do it this year.

- Meeting Adjourned 7:41pm