

Weddington Christian Academy
Parent Teacher Fellowship Meeting
July 17, 2023

Parents in attendance were Susan Arends, Misty Barratta, Emily Boucher, Candace Definis, Kam English, Caroline Katz, Danielle Lee, Mary Beth Roth, Logan and Kelly Wyant. Also present were TiLisa Durham, Brad Deiter, and Adell Keen.

The meeting took place in person at WCA. Parents and staff introduced themselves. Candace Definis opened in prayer. Mary Beth Roth thanked everyone for attending and welcomed the new parents.

Administration Report:

- Mr. Deiter announced the following new hires for the fall: an EC teacher, a 5th grade teacher, a second JK teacher, and a part-time guidance counselor who will also teach executive functioning skills and middle school science and social studies. Mr. Deiter will teach 8th and 9th grade math.
- Mary Beth asked for an update on the modular classrooms. There is no delivery date as yet. If necessary the school year will begin with all classes inside the building. Candace shared that there would be a PTF event to move classrooms into the modulars when they arrive.
- Mrs. Keen shared that the hiring process for a security officer for the church and school is in progress. She also announced that a new panic button system would be installed in the modular classrooms and the front desk.
- Mrs. Keen announced that due to rising cost of groceries, school lunch will cost \$6 this year. She also shared that juice boxes will no longer be available; students will choose between milk and water. With the end of the COVID crisis, the cafeteria will be moving to a more environmentally sustainable model of re-usable trays rather than Styrofoam.

Back to School:

- *New Family Outreach:*
 - A welcome event for all new JK/K families will take place at school on Tuesday, August 1 at 6:30 pm. Popsicles will be served, and the PTF will have a presence.
 - A summer hangout for all new and returning middle school families will take place at High Seas Minigolf on Thursday, August 3 at 7 pm.
 - All other new families will be individually contacted by members of their class.
- *Drop-In and Picnic (August 14):*
 - Students will have the opportunity to visit their classrooms and drop off supplies. Afterward, families are invited to bring a picnic lunch to eat on the back field. PTF has booked an inflatable slide. Popcorn and lemonade will be served.
 - JK and Kindergarten orientations will take place this morning as well. PTF will have an information table and uniform table.
- *First Week of School Treats*
 - Mary Beth reported that the theme wristbands (Colossians 3:23, #AllHeart) had been ordered. WCA pencils are already in hand.
 - Car magnets and rulers will be ordered with the new WCA expansion logo.
 - Chloe popsicles will be served to the students on Friday afternoon.

- *Back to School Night*
 - Back to School Night has been moved from Friday, August 31 to Thursday, September 14. Parents will have the opportunity to view the STEAM projects as well as visiting their child's classroom and viewing their work.

2023-24 PTF events:

- Mary Beth reviewed the fall PTF events that were scheduled at the June meeting:
 - September 11-15 – Fall STEAM (Under the Sea theme)
 - September 15-20 – Scholastic Book Fair
 - September 14 – Parent Back to School & STEAM Night
 - September 15 – Grandparents Day Lunch
 - October 20 – Open Mic and Autumn's Canvas Art Festival
 - November 8 – Veteran's Day Chapels and Service Project
 - November 13-17 – Week of Giving/Spirit Week
 - November 17 – Thanksgiving Feast for JK & K
 - December 4-8 – Winter STEAM (Christmas Art theme)
 - TBD – Christmas Music Performance for 1st-8th grade
- The following spring events were discussed and scheduled:
 - January 26 – Men's Breakfast
 - February 16 – Family Bingo
 - Mary Beth asked for feedback on last year's event. The consensus of the group was that the prize baskets were wonderful, but the harder Bingo games were too much for young students. Easier games with smaller prizes and more frequent winners might be more appropriate. The group discussed a silent auction for the larger prizes, and perhaps a craft table staffed by middle school students.
 - March 18-22 – Spring STEAM (Invention Convention)
 - March 22 – Healthy Hawks Fun Run & Invention Convention
 - March 28 – Operation Sandwich
 - April 19 – Spring Open Mic
 - April 27 – Middle School Spring Fling
 - May 10 – Morning for Mom
 - TBD – Field Day
 - May 21 – Graduations

Teacher Appreciation:

Mary Beth asked about the possibility of moving Teacher Appreciation Week from April to February. This suggestion received positive feedback from both parents and staff present. PTF will work with administration to select the best week. Candace asked for a volunteer to take point on Teacher Appreciation (and other PTF events).

Athletic Update:

- Mary Beth shared that WCA is hoping to offer soccer, cross country, and volleyball this fall. She encouraged parents to talk to their students about joining the soccer team.
- Candace announced that a new spiritwear site for all sports teams (and general WCA spirit) will launch on August 1st with a 30 percent off sale.

Other Business:

The next PTF meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 5 after carpool at school.