



## Parent Council Meeting Minutes for Monday, October 3, 2016

### **\*Parent Council Wine and Cheese Party\***

**NEW DATE: Friday, October 21, 2016**

**Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm**

**Place: 203 Thomas Ave., Riverton, NJ 08077**

**RSVP: Sharla Floyd at [floydsharla@gmail.com](mailto:floydsharla@gmail.com) or  
on Parent Council Facebook Page**

**This event is a warm, welcoming evening of  
camaraderie within our WFS community.**

**Please join us!**

### **7 PM Moment of Silence**

**Welcome!** By Parent Council Co-Clerk, Michael laquinto

**Introductions:** Parent Council members, Dr. Jon Hall, Debra Hojsak, and all parents in attendance

**Michael laquinto:** After meeting with Jon Hall this summer, Michael and Sharla Floyd (PC co-clerk) have chosen to streamline and focus the goals and objectives for Parent Council.

Our goals:

- To achieve even greater transparency (for example, disclosing monthly when PC gives funds to support initiatives in the school community.)
- To continue to create and provide funding, contribute to annual gifts, and to raise funds to overhaul and recreate the outside play areas and space.
- To have fun enriching the Westfield Friends community with positive events for our families and children

**Lily Taylor** (Treasurer) explained the Parent Council (PC) contributes to:

- Middle School Dances
- Fall Treats
- Greeting New Parents
- Annual Autumn Wine & Cheese
- Monthly Staff Breakfasts
- Budget for Assemblies (3 per year, \$500 each)
- Stipends for Coaches
- Library Funds (through our Barnes & Noble book fairs)
- Extra Funds for Art Department
- Technology (one-time gifts of 3-D printer and video display)
- Nurse -AED's in Building
- School Website Redesign
- Consultant for Playground

**Michelle Tarter** stated how it is important we (PC) continue to help fund the continual growth of technology via Chris Gehringer to stay technologically innovative for our children.

**Tricia Cranmer:** Historically, when teachers need something they don't have the funds for, can they approach Parent Council?

**Lily Taylor:** Yes. PC has assisted music, art, technology (and so on) with funding. Also, each year, PC sits down with Head of School to gather a "wish list" from the school. PC responds. PC will be meeting with Dr. Hall soon to obtain the wish list.

**Jon Hall:** The school's goals for the outside play areas and space is a BIG vision. We will accomplish our vision in phases.

We've begun to speak of hosting a Gala (the last Gala held was 4 years ago, for WFS 225th anniversary.) Holding a Gala will be a school endeavor to raise funds for the Playground/Outside spaces. Parents will help chair the event, etc.

**Michael laquinto:** As always, we endeavor to raise money for our school tactfully and in a way that is appreciated. Some of our beloved WFS traditions include the "**Cookie Walk**" which is held the morning of our Christmas program. Parents and staff bring in all kinds of homemade cookies, for a few dollars, you purchase a Chinese food take-out container and you fill your container(s) by selecting an assortment of cookies/treats that are offered. Coffee is served and it is a relaxing, fun exchange before we enter the gym for

the Christmas Program. **The Pancake Breakfast**, held in the spring, is also a great favorite where the community enjoys a wonderful breakfast together. Parent **Eric Pfeiffer** did a phenomenal job last year coordinating the event. Lily has provided an itemized list on the PC Financial Summary page of our different events held throughout the year.

**Lily Taylor:** We've decided to enroll in **Amazon Smile**, a great program where everyone who uses Amazon (and everyone you know who uses Amazon!) can designate WFS as a school recipient. More information will be following. WFS will receive a percentage of all orders, much like the Target card used to do (Target no longer has a school benefit program, they have transitioned it to a wellness program.)

**Rick Phillips:** A golf outing is always a fun event and a solid fundraiser. It usually easy to put together and most golfers appreciate a good excuse to get out on the course. [all parents agreed this would be a fantastic fundraiser.] Within our WFS community, we can see if there are any good connections to some lovely or exclusive courses. [Both Riverton Country Club and Tavistock Country Club were brought up in the discussion.]

**Lily Taylor:** Amazing suggestions, like Rick's, need to be heard. Lily proposes for parents to send in suggestions. She will have something mentioned in the Weekly Wire.

**FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL** is upon us. **Emily Cecchini, Lily Taylor, and Colleen Barr** met this past Saturday at Emily's to get the event into gear. Lily reported that Colleen has everything so well-organized from last year, that we should be able to host a great event again this year, within 4 weeks. **WHEN: October 29th, 1-4.** Info will be sent out in all ways, Weekly Wire, Fb page, Website, etc. The event is a family-friendly, outside event with old-fashioned fun: scarecrow-making, face-painting, silent auction, baked goods, pumpkin painting, games, bobbing for donuts. 8th Grade students are a big help with this event (benefitting their class funds.) WFS gear and calendars will be available for purchase that day.

**Rhonda Phillips** asked how the event is marketed and suggested we reach out to daycares, local schools, and other avenues to expand the attendance, and perhaps attract new families to WFS in the process. Rhonda volunteered to outreach and spread the news of this event. Thank you, Rhonda!

8th Grade Families will also meet and discuss the event.

**Michelle Tartar** would like to coordinate an event around Alice Paul. Alice Paul has been garnishing more attention as a Suffragette who fought hard to secure the 19th

Amendment. Alice Paul chose Westfield as her final resting place. She was one of the women chosen to be represented on the US currency in 2020. Now, more than ever, we should celebrate her life's dedication to equality and contribution to the nation. Michelle is thinking of an event held at Paulsdale, the home of Alice Paul and her family in Mt. Laurel. **Debra Hojsak** thought this was a great idea. Debra has deep connections to Paulsdale and will be a great resource along with Kristine Myers, Lucy Beard, and others who work at Paulsdale. The idea of a tea hosted in January is exciting!

**Sharla Floyd** Big thank you to **Tricia and John Cranmer** who are opening their home to host the Wine and Cheese Party on October 21st. This is a wonderful event, great for everyone involved in WFS, old and new. Please come and RSVP to us either on the Parent Council fb page or email me [floydsharla@gmail.com](mailto:floydsharla@gmail.com)

**Deidre Kempf** After attempting to purchase a WFS shirt for her daughter online and seeing how difficult the process was, Deidre met with Dr. Hall this summer and aligned herself with a small, good quality small gear shop in Medford. This great new manufacturer provides quality products and competitive pricing. T's, beanies, bags, sweatshirts, golf-shirts, and dry-fit shorts, etc., [Baseball hats are coming and if anyone would like a product not offered, ask! Let Deidre know and she can look into it.] PC made a large purchase of merchandise and at Back to School Night, almost \$800 of gear was sold on the spot. Tables with gear will be available at Harvest Festival and other events where parents are in attendance. Lily and Deidre have taken pictures and added prices. This info will be added on the WFS website for ordering.

The gear is so nice, wide range of prices (T-shirts are just \$10!) and make great gifts.

Tricia thanked Deidre for doing such a great job!

**Calendars** are still available! They, too, make great gifts and help to keep us all organized. Thank you to **Brandi Thurber** for doing an excellent job!

**Barnes & Noble Book Fair** will be happening later this fall, headed by **Meghan Quinn**. Thank you Meghan!

PC will be creating a Parent/Daughter event and a Parent/Son event. At this time, it looks like the Parent/Daughter event will be a dance that will take place around Valentine's Day. **Brandi Thurber** will be heading up this event.

PC is still open to suggestions for the Parent/Son event. In the past, we've done Bowling, Trenton Thunder Game, etc.,

**Michael Iaquinto** suggested a 76ers game. Jon Hall deadpanned "I didn't know Philadelphia still had a team." [Lol. See how much fun PC meetings are?!] This looks like it may be a good idea. If any parents have suggestions, always let us know!

**Adrienne Cecero** spoke about an easy fundrasier they had at Westampton Friends, an app where you scan your grocery receipts and earned points. She also said she can help show how BoxTops are processed. She said Westampton Friends also had a Golf Outing, Silent Auction, a Gala, and a fun International Dinner. **HOLD ONTO YOUR BOX TOPS!**

**Sharla Floyd** is very intrigued and excited by the prospect of having an International Day/Night Festival featuring traditional cuisines, dress, dance, etc., She thinks it would be a great, fun, cultural event. All agreed. Deidre mentioned when she was a student at WFS, Field Day was held on a Saturday and there was a school-wide picnic dinner after field day. She said it was amazing. Great fun and memories. Debra Hojsak also has heard about this tradition and how beloved it had been. Perhaps we could resurrect something similar or have it reborn as an International Festival...

**Pizza Fridays** were mentioned and we are so grateful to **Annie and Kurt Jung** for continuing Pizza Fridays this year. Extra money from pizza Fridays benefits the school. Well done and appreciated! Thank you!

**Sharla Floyd** relayed that **Eric Pfeiffer** sent an email letting us know that a WFS parent has also offered the Garden State Discovery Museum as a good fundraiser spot. Perhaps an excellent outing during the grey days of winter, post-holidays.

**Deidre Kempf** mentioned she was told a WFS alum owns and operates a large landscaping firm, *Eric's Landscaping*. Knowing we will be taking on the big project of playground and outdoor space, they may be a great contact when landscaping comes into play.

## **Lily Taylor     Treasurer's Report**

**An up-to-date Parent Council Financial Summary and Itemization is provided and handed out at PC meetings. Lily does an amazing job (and is showing the treasurer ropes to David Shields, another dedicated WFS parent.)**

**This Report is available to all WFS families but is not posted on our public website. If you'd like a copy, email Lily and she can email you one. [lilytaylor@mac.com](mailto:lilytaylor@mac.com)**

**Michelle Tartar** asked Lily if the Quaker Life Committee may be granted \$250.00 from PC Funds to secure a Quaker speaker. (This had been determined last year. PC had agreed.) Lily said yes.

**8:30 Moment of Silence**

Parent Council Officers:

Co-Clerk	Sharla Floyd	(215) 266-7272	<a href="mailto:floydsharla@gmail.com">floydsharla@gmail.com</a>
Co-Clerk	Michael Iaquinto	(856) 778-2076	<a href="mailto:michael.iaquinto@edwardjones.com">michael.iaquinto@edwardjones.com</a>
Treasurer	Lily Taylor	(856) 889-4464	<a href="mailto:lilytaylor@mac.com">lilytaylor@mac.com</a>
Room Parent Coordinator,	Emily Cecchini	(856)873-1815	<a href="mailto:emays16@yahoo.com">emays16@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary	Lisa Harder	(856) 905-2522	<a href="mailto:lisa.harder@comcast.net">lisa.harder@comcast.net</a>

**Next Parent Council Meeting: November 7th in the 5th/6th Grade Lounge, 7PM.**

All are welcome to attend Parent Council Meetings! Please join us!  
Child Care is offered in School Library

