★ WHITTIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA: GENERAL MEETING ★

Meeting Date: **Tuesday, Dec 16, 2025**

Roll Call/Attendance: Mr. Krugman, PTA Board, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Smitley, Mrs. Bartkowiak, Mrs. Porter, 3 Members

Meeting Called to Order: 7:02pm

The Whittier PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. Our mission requires that diversity, equity and inclusion be central to our work and used in our day-to-day decisions and actions. The Whittier PTA strives to create a kind, responsive culture where all feel welcome.

Exec Board Introductions

Call for New Business: No new business.

Approval of the Oct Minutes:

Jenn: The minutes from our October 28, 2025 meeting are available for review on our website. Are there any corrections to the minutes as distributed? **None.**

- Seeing as there are none, I move to approve the October 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes.
- Do we have a second? **Seconded.**
- It has been moved and seconded to approve the October 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes, there are no corrections and **the minutes are approved as distributed.**

Guest Speakers: Grade 4 (Mr. Miller & Mrs. Smitley) & Resource (Mrs. Bartkowiak & Mrs. Porter): Mr. Miller and Mrs. Smitley discussed their math, science and reading curriculum, field trips and student council. Mrs. Bartkowiak and Mrs. Porter discussed math and reading interventions for all grades.

Treasurer's Report - Michelle Ricca

- **Current Financials:** The November financials were discussed and are posted on our website.
- **Add budget line for $4,500 invoice from District 58 for the Intermediate Playground pavers**
  - **Michelle**: The PTA received a $4,500 invoice from District 58 for the Playground pavers. As a result, the budget needs to be amended to include the Playground pavers as a line item.
  - **Jenn**: Are there any questions or discussion? **None.**
  - **Michelle:** I move to earmark $4,500 of PTA funds towards the Playground pavers.
  - **Jenn**: Do we have a second? **Seconded.**
  - **Jenn**: It has been moved and seconded to earmark $4,500 of PTA Funds towards the Playground pavers. As this amount is over $500, the motion will sit for 30-days and be voted on at our February meeting.

Secretary's Report - Caitlyn Bouton

- **Membership Update**
- **Newsletter information/process**

  The Whittier PTA membership total is 205. Information for the newsletter and website can be emailed to info@whittierschoolpta.org.

Co-Vice President's Report - Liz Stimes & Mary Shea

- **Teacher Holiday Gifts:** our email went out to room parents. Gifts should be distributed by Dec. 19.

Co-Presidents Report - Kristin Waszak & Jenn McDonald

- **Open Exec Positions**: 2 co-Vice Presidents and 1 Treasurer. Anyone interested should let Kristin Waszak know.
- **Open Committees:** fall fundraiser, reflections and dining fundraisers.
- **Minted Fundraiser/Paper Peony**: over 40 Papter Peony candles were sold and the Minted fundraiser has raised $200.
- **Bylaws Approval**
  - **Jenn**: The Whittier PTA Bylaws need to be updated every 2-years and are available for review on the website.

- **Caitlyn**: By direction of the bylaws committee I move to adopt the bylaws as presented. The committee reviewed the bylaws and does not recommend any changes.
- **Jenn**: It has been moved to adopt the bylaws as presented. Because it comes from a committee it requires no second. Are there any questions or discussion about the bylaws? All in favor say "Aye". All Opposed say "No"? **The motion passes.**

Principal's Report - Mr. Krugman

- **ParentSquare Update**
- **Pick-up/Drop-off Reminders**
- **Winter Holiday Fun**
    - The Nutcracker - THANK YOU! Best performance. All the actors did so well.
    - Movie at The Tivoli - Elf. Fun afternoon in place of classroom parties.
- **Mittens Thank you:** families started picking up their items.
- **Happy Holidays!**
    - Winter Break: December 20 - January 4
    - Classes Resume: Monday, January 5
    - Holiday luncheon tomorrow. Everyone is looking forward to it.
- Sign up for the science fair by Friday.
- Mr. Krugman discussed the Reflections entries that are advancing.
- The students did meet the 3,000 Jaguar Jackpot all school goal.
- Mr. Krugman explained the golden dust pan award. A friendly competition for students.
- The Principal position has been posted. The District is asking for feedback from staff and parents Send Mr. Krugman an email if interested in interviewing candidates.Whittier's new Principal will be announced at the Feb. Board meeting.

Committee Reports

- **Scholarship** - The Whittier Elementary PTA is proud to share that we are offering one-time scholarships of $1,000 each to TWO graduating seniors from any Illinois high school who previously attended Whittier Elementary School in Downers Grove. If you know a Whittier alum who is currently a high school senior, please help us spread the word so we can support them as they take their next big step! Applications are due March 1, 2026. A link to the application and additional details can be found in the Whittier Weekly PTA newsletter and PTA website.
- **Math & Science Night:** will take place on 1/9. Sign up through the Evite link.
- **Fun Fair:** will occur on 3/23. Head Spin Guy. Will start promoting in March.
- **Experiences:** about $11,000 was raised for the fall fundraiser. Super successful. If you'd like to host a spring experience, reach out to Audra and Jenny.
- **Reflections**: DG 58 celebrated entries that made it to the Council level. 3 Whittier students advanced to the Regional level. The Reflections Committee is looking for a new chair. If interested, let Christine or Kristin know.
- **Spring Fundraiser:** Save the date for our annual Adults Only Whittier Spring Fundraiser. Friday 4/17, 7-10pm at Downers Sand Club
- **Staff Appreciation**: Amazon gift cards were given to all staff members. A holiday lunch is planned. It will take place on Wednesday when most staff are in the building. Food is catered from Gattos, Pierce Tavern and Olive Garden. The Committee was able to accommodate dietary restrictions.
- **Variety Show**: This year's theme is "Be Your Idol". The show at the Tivoli will take place on 3/15 at 10am. Students are limited to 1 act. Registration will open up after break.
- **Family Fun:** Ice skating at Rocket Ice Arena in Bolingbrook. Sunday, March 1, 3:20-4:50pm. Complimentary ice skating and refreshments for all Whittier students and their families. Skate rental $4.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements

- Next Meeting: **Tuesday, Feb 17th at 7:00pm via Zoom**

Time Adjourned: 7:42pm