

Portage West Middle School
PTSO Minutes
Wednesday, March 4th 11:30 a.m. Media Center

Attendees: Nikki Perk, President; Lenore Bishop, Treasurer; Larry Killips, Principal; Denny Roehm, Asst. Principal; Phil Stohrer, Media Specialist; Aimee Wendland, Teacher; Patti Werme, Terri McDonald, Julie Cartier, Rita McKenzie, Marian Hawkins, Vincent Soo, Nancy Druskovich, Jeanie Lewis, Deanna Rothe, Margo Staunton, and Sue Bourget.

President Nikki Perk opened the meeting and noted that the PTSO needs a President for the 2009-2010 school year.

A motion was made by Deanna Rothe to approve the expenditure of \$250 for the 12th Street Start-up Fund. The motion was seconded by Jeanie Lewis and passed by those present.

A motion was made by Sue Bourget and seconded by Julie Cartier to approve minutes from February's meeting. The motion was by passed those present.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Lenore Bishop.

Principal's Report was given by Larry Killips. Mr. Killips presented West Middle School's (WMS) Pyramid Response to Interventions, a strategy that has been developed to help all students succeed. The pyramid maps out the interventions that are available to all students and shows the assistance that will be offered to students as they encounter difficulties with their schoolwork. This pyramid involves students, teachers, parents and administrators. The process is still being finalized.

One aspect that is being tried out is an Advisory period. Students are assigned to an Advisory group that would stay in place during their 3 years at WMS. The Advisory groups meet once or twice a week for about 20 minutes. On the days that they meet, class periods are shortened to allow this extra time. During the Advisory period, students do homework and seek assistance for class work that is confusing to them. Eventually, WMS hopes to offer enrichment for students who do not need additional assistance. At this time, those students engage in sustained silent reading.

Deanna Rothe asked for a timeframe regarding the enrichment to be offered during the Advisory period. Mr. Killips explained that the Advisory process is being tried out for the first time in March, April, and early May. The teachers and administrators will evaluate it and decide whether or not it makes sense to continue it next year. If so, enrichment opportunities will then be considered.

Internet Safety

Aimee Wendland, Philip Stohrer and Denny Roehm gave presentations about internet safety. They discussed Facebook, My Space, and other internet safety issues. They also outlined the content that the students learn during the computer course in 6th grade.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Cartier