



#### 2022-2023

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## PTO BOARD Meeting Minutes

08/05/22, 7:45am | *Meeting called to order by Shannon Winer*

### In Attendance

**In Person:** *refer to sign-in sheet*

**Zoom:** Carol Vack, Heather Nakagawa, Jamie Pate, Jen Gianetta, Lesly Kelly, Marie Navarro, Meghann Powell

### Special Guest: Mr. Maxwell, principal from KMS

*Refer to slides for details*

- **Sees Waggoner as a feeder school.** KMS currently has ~750 students. Last year 50% of Waggoner students came over to KMS, this year approximately 80% came over!!
- **Mission:** *Prepare students for life in the 21st century by fostering personal growth and their development of skills for communication, thinking, research, collaboration, and emotional stability.*
  - International Baccalaureate Education = 4 core courses, 1 language, 3 electives.
    - International languages offered: Mandarin Chinese and Spanish
    - Electives
      - 1 of each required: Design, PE, Fine Arts
        - PE (can choose to join a non-cut sport for credit)
        - Unique courses: STEM lab, Audio Engineering, KMS TV, Mariachi
- **GATE program:** GATE prep meeting later in the year TBD; for gifted students & advanced learners.
  - Parents can request this, not just a test in.
- **Showcase night** in December

### Welcome: Shannon Winer

- If any current Waggoner parents want to get in touch with current or former KMS parents, Waggoner PTO is happy to connect you with those KMS parents. Just let us know.
- Welcome to our first PTO meeting of the year.

- Welcome new parents to the PTO meeting, as well as all the familiar faces.
- **Brief intro about me, for the new parents:** *I grew up in Arizona. I went to Chandler High School. My family is here. I am married. I have 6 kids; 3 are my husbands, 3 are mine. There are 3 boys & 3 girls. We have (2) 25 yo, (2) 22yo, an almost 20yo and an 18yo. The last one just graduated High School. We do have a son with special needs; he is autistic. He works at Taco Bell and has received Employee of the Month 3 times.*
- **Thank You.** I want to say some Thank Yous. Everyone in this room has pitched-in, in some way to get the school year going.
  - Thank you for helping, even during the rainy days!
  - Thank you for all the kinder volunteers.
  - Thank you for the welcome back breakfast.
  - Thank you for coming in and putting up the bulletin boards for us.
  - Thank you for exploration station set up, now in Room 1. Thank you, Cara & Susan, for working through the mishaps of having desks instead of tables delivered into the room. I know they are looking for volunteers to help with Exploration Station on Thursdays.
  - Thank you for the new tshirts; we love the CAMP theme.
  - Thank you for setting up PTO info and selling shirts during Meet the Teacher night.
- **Open Positions:** We have some open positions at Waggoner. You can apply online.
  - Math Intervention K-5 (15 hours)
  - Reading Intervention K-5 (15 hours)
  - CCD Resource Assistant K-3 (17 hours)
  - Classroom Assistant (30 hours)
  - Lunch Duty (10 hours – 2 hours per day)
- **Safety & Security.** Door Locks & Magnets.
  - Teachers will keep doors locked at all times. But we don't want the kids to have to knock on the door every single time they return from the restroom or nurse. So that is where these Magnetic Wand come into play. There were 2 options: flat or non-flat. We chose to go with the non-flat Magnetic Wand. These wands will be placed on the door jam, to prop the door open.
    - The reason we did not go with the flat magnet: When the flat magnet is in use, it looks like the door is shut all the way. This can be confusing if there is a lockdown. A teacher will not be able to visually look at the door to see if the magnet has been taken out or not.
    - The non-flat magnets provide an easy visual cue; if it's in, the door doesn't shut all the way. When the non-flat magnet is pulled out, the door shuts all the way, and the door is securely locked.
  - Tim and I will be working with the teachers, so they get used to keeping their doors locked at all times. They have to lock it with a key.
  - All the teachers have these magnets already and are using them. They are able to use these on the push-bar doors as well.
- **Scavenger Hunt.**
  - As you know, all the teachers have badges. This is how we get into the building. Tim and I set up a scavenger hunt for the teachers. They had to locate: the fire extinguisher closest to their classroom, the pomegranate tree (in the preschool area), and all the hidden exits (example, there are exit doors in Room 1 & Room 42). We wanted the teachers and staff from the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> and Specials areas to know the Kinder/1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> areas, and vice versa. We really wanted all the staff and teachers to know their entire school building and where all the doors go.

- In the MPR on the stage, we noticed that everyone goes left and we wanted to know why... so we had them all go right. When you right there are about 4 or 5 doors; 1 leads outside, 1 goes to the stage. When you're on the stage, the 2 other doors lead to storage rooms. We wanted all teachers to have exposure to every part of the building, so they know all areas if there is ever an emergency. It was a very positive experience.
- During the scavenger hunt we noticed a couple of things and made adjustments: The gate that golf carts use to go between KMS and Waggoner is now closed & locked. Those that use this gate will need to close & lock it behind them. Staff that uses the MPR, like PE, that were missing keys, now have the keys they need to access their storage spaces.
- **Fence.** The Playground belongs to City of Tempe. It does not belong to Waggoner. If you want to voice concern for having or not having a fence, contact City of Tempe, Mayors Office. 480-350-4311
  - *Background:* Post Sand Hook, Kyrene schools were revamped. Front Offices were secured (window, locked access doors) and fences were installed/locked. Waggoner was not able to have a fence installed because the park & playgrounds belong to the City of Tempe. Waggoner PTO raised money to have one installed, but it was not passed by residents of City of Tempe to install.
  - *Pros/Cons:* PTO attendees brought up that the security that the fence may or may not provide, takes away from the unique experience that parents have at Waggoner. It would take away the 'community' feel. The park would be off limits to any siblings during school hours. You would no longer be able to walk on campus with your kids in the morning, nor walk on campus for ramada pick up and chat with the teachers. Just keep that in mind when voicing your concern for or against the fence in the upcoming survey.
- **Transportation.** Bus drivers went from 92 drivers to 47 drivers. Bill Courtney in charge of all transportation and worked with his group to figure out logistics to get all Kyrene students to school on time and home in a timing manner. Some bus drivers will be responsible for both an early start school and a late start school. Some bus stops have been combined, so each student will have to walk a little bit more; less stops lead to a faster commute. Contact Bill Courtney about any questions/concerns. [BCourtney@kyrene.org](mailto:BCourtney@kyrene.org) 480-541-1708
- **Choir.** Ms. Rittenhouse is going through Community Education to set up Choir right now for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders. Once it is all set up, we will notify parents, so they can sign up their students.

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## State Testing & School Focus: Mrs. Marcie Romero and Mr. Tim O'Donnell

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- **Tim O'Donnell - Brief intro about me, for the new parents:** *I'm a Sun Devil from way back... back when it was just 1 campus, not the multiple campus around the valley. I have 2 adult children. I love the awesome CAMP shirt this year. I love the outdoors – fishing, camping, and all that good stuff.*
- **Review of ELA & Math testing**
  - ELA -% of passing students. District overall 54%, Waggoner 54%
  - Math -% of passing students. District overall 44%, Waggoner 49%
  - ELA was stable across all schools, and Math has seen a slight increase.
    - Both ELA & Math took a dip post-2020 (Covid – online schooling), and now we are all trending back up.
    - During virtual school, math got hit hard.
- **Math Focus.** Back in March, the staff got together and decided they wanted more of a math focus in the coming school year.
  - We are doing a book study with Becca. She's our math contact coordinator at the district. The book is Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics.
  - This year your kids might come home with some non-curricular tasks. (Example: if i were to

- write the numbers from 1 to 100, how many times would i use the digit 7?)
- Staff will be offering both non-curricular tasks and curricular tasks.
  - Some tips we've learned:
    - Work on these tasks vertically; to stimulate your mind & body. We will hang tasks on the wall, so kids will have to get up out of their desks to work on them.
    - Put them on an erasable surface; encourages risk taking.
    - Pick teams live via wheel; that way it's up to chance. Then students won't feel like they can never be with their best friend... chances are, sometimes they will.
  - Teachers are starting with non-curricular activities first, so the students get use to the process. Random groups of 3, working vertically and an erasable surface.
  - This book noted that when teachers are teaching normal work, typically 20% of students are actively listening and thinking and 80% of students are not. This is because there are different types of learners. The types of activities teachers will incorporate into their curriculum this year, will involve the tips we've learned. Vertical activities and non-curricular activities presented by the teacher will help engage more students and teach them to become problem solvers.
  - Try-It problem in math. Teaching the staff to provide more time for their students solve the problem, based on input from peers or ways they can think of... just 1-2 extra minutes makes a big difference in students being about solve it themselves. This way the students don't just copy what the teacher models on the board.
  - **CAMPING BADGES:** Going along with our CAMP theme this year; the students can earn badges.
    - We want the badges to be fun *and* academic. The badges are printed.
    - The first badge was earned at our Back to School Assembly. Students earned the "Camper Orientation Badge" for learning the 3Bs: Be Responsible, Be Safe, Be Respectful.
      - Q1
        - Reading Badge – 30 minutes per week on Amplify
        - Math Badge – 30 minutes per week on iReady
        - Honor Badge – writing Thank You notes to First Responders
        - Spirit Badge – wearing Waggoner shirts or colors on spirit Fridays
      - Q2
        - Community Badge – donation drive with Student Council
        - Reading Badge – 35 minutes per week on Amplify
        - Math Badge – 35 minutes per week on iReady
        - Fitness Badge -
        - Spirit Badge
      - Q3
        - Reading Badge – 40 minutes per week on Amplify
        - Math Badge – 40 minutes per week on iReady
        - Art Badge
        - Spirit Badge
      - Q4
        - Teamwork Badge – field day
        - Assembly Badge – plays and performances
        - Spirit Badge

- **PORTRAIT OF A KYRENE KID.** Stake holders got together – students, parents, teachers got together to create a portrait of a Kyrene kid. It was worked on all last year. They came up with 7 components to describe what a student of Kyrene looks like. They will also do Portrait of Teacher, Staff, Admin, etc.
  - The goal is the prepare all Kyrene students for the future: High School, College, Career, Life.
  - **The 7 characteristics:** Adaptable learner, self-advocate, community contributor, communicator, critical thinker, problem solver, collaborator. *Slides have definitions for each.*
  - **Waggoner chose 2 characteristics:** These were based on a survey (panorama data) taken at the school by the students. More information about this survey will be provided at the next meeting. The students shared that they wanted to have a voice and speak up.
    - **Self-Advocate definition:** I demonstrate personal agency. I possess confidence in my ability to reflect, overcome adversity, appropriately express needs, and act with purpose.
      - *Waggoner goals:* Waggoner Wildcats will demonstrate personal agency. Possessing confidence in their ability to reflect, overcome adversity, appropriately express needs, and act with a purpose.
      - *Tools:* Social Emotional Learning, TEA time (Thoughts, Emotions, Actions), CASEL Framework with staff, Calming Corners, I statements
    - **Problem Solver definition:** I exhibit steadfastness in achieving success despite difficulty, opposition, or failure. I am able to identify and prioritize solutions.
      - *Waggoner goals:* Waggoner Wildcats will exhibit steadfastness in achieving success despite difficulty, opposition, or failure. We are able to identify and prioritize solutions.
      - *Tools:* Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics (as discussed earlier)

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## Teacher Liaison: Chelsea Erasquin

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- ***A little background on me, for the new parents:*** 9th year in education, 6<sup>th</sup> year at Waggoner. I used to be Ms. Dysko, but i legally changed with the district to Erasquin this year. (married name) During my time at Waggoner, i taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for 2 years, 1<sup>st</sup> grade for 2 years, and this is my 2<sup>nd</sup> year as Academic Interventionalist. And i love it!
- **Updated Team:** K-5 team. *There are open positions.* We are happy to have you.
  - We have another part time academic interventionist, Mrs. Wintring. She will help with SEI students and provide more writing support, since that is what a lot of teachers are looking for help with.
  - We have 2 returning Instruction Assistants (IAs). Mrs. Burton helps with K-5 and Mrs. Baxter really focuses on our younger grades.
- **Groups.** We will be starting groups soon. You will be notified if one of your kids is assigned to an interventionalist group.
- **DIBELS.** Dibels stands for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills. Based on testing, kids will be divided into groups if they need additional help in reading. *see progress monitoring slide*
  - Just finished DIBELS testing this week, where we tested speed reading. We have a couple more scheduled so we can get the initial datapoints of all students.
    - DIBELS really focuses on fluency and reading. I like to think of it as a small piece of the reading pie. Obviously, there are many parts to being a good reader; vocabulary and comprehension, just to name a couple. Being fluent, being able to blend sounds together to create a word, helps students become a good reader. It is not the only part of being a good reader though.
  - DIBELS testing happens 3 times each school year: (BOY) Beginning of Year, (MOY) Middle of

- Year, and (EOY) End of Year.
  - It helps us understand which kids need a little more help and shows growth through the year.
  - It also allows us to screen for Dyslexia and Move On When Reading (MOWR) students.
  - We separate students into different Risk categories to determine monitoring schedules.
- **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS):** getting all students what they need to be successful
  - Tier 1 classroom. general instruction. 1.5 is when teachers hold small groups to check in with students. Reviewing concepts taught and how the students are doing with those lessons.
  - Tier 2 & Tier 3 is when Intervention is involved. Intervention supplies the student with what they need to be successful. Sometimes that is more intense information, more practice in areas of concern than what they can get in the classroom.
  - Tier 4 MTSS. If we start to see that the student is struggling continuously in Intervention, the teacher will reach out to the parents/guardians. An MTSS meeting will be set up. It will involve a think-tank of individuals to analyze what has already been tried with the student, what worked, what didn't, and what are some new ways to help the student. A decision will be made as to what the next best step is for the student.
- **Dyslexia.** Learning about Dyslexia
  - MOWR was recently rewrote, which includes language about Dyslexia.
  - I am currently undergoing intense training on Dyslexia and once I am complete, i will be able to train the staff on it as well.
  - There is a lot of misunderstanding about what Dyslexia is; it is not as simple as flipping letters or numbers. At its core, it comes down to struggling with reading, which is why those students that are put into Intensive or Strategic groups receive a letter that has verbiage about Dyslexia. It doesn't not mean all those students necessarily have Dyslexia.
  - *Refer to slides for more detail.*

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## Treasurer Report: Shannon Winer (for Kim Reitz)

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- Reviewed July statement.
- Current balance: \$29,326.37
- Highlights:
  - We are in great financial shape. The only thing that is not reflected in the current statement is the \$1000 from shirt sales at Meet the Teacher.
- We are an open book in regard to the finances; if you have any questions, please let us know.

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## Requisitions – Kevin Walsh

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- **Requestions.** Our budget has already been set for the year for known items like Turkey Trot, Carnival, etc. However, there are things that come up throughout the year that need to be funded, so this is where requisitions come into play. Things in the past that have been funded by requisitions: Tile Art Project, Picnic Benches for shared areas.
  - The way the process works: anyone can submit one. I will read it, you can ask questions or share comments. Someone will motion to vote, someone will second, then we will vote. Majority wins.

- **Magnetic Wands**

- These are the non-flat magnets that were discussed by Mrs. Romero for the teachers doors. These are for all staff members and all doors. These were already purchased, this is for reimbursement.
  - Need \$141.81
  - Motioned. Seconded.
  - Passed.

- **Funds for Ice Cream Social**

- For the past couple years, we've wanted to do a back to school event to welcome families back. However, we didn't get a chance to use the money set aside in the budget, so we scrapped it from the budget this year. In the future, we plan on building this back into the budget.
  - Need \$250.00
  - Motioned, Seconded.
  - Passed

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## Review May Meeting: Shannon Winer (for Heather Nakagawa)

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- Minutes are available on the PTO Website: <https://waggonerpto.com/meeting-minutes>
- There are also a couple copies at the back of the room.
- Did anybody have any questions about them? No.

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## Committee Chair Reports

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- **T-Shirts – Susan Fishman**

- <https://waggonerpto.com/t-shirts> Shirts can be ordered here and delivered to your child's class.
- Theme: CAMP Waggoner
- We have sold ~300
- Shirts are \$10 each, we take PayPal- [wagPTOtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:wagPTOtreasurer@gmail.com) Venmo- [@waggonerPTO](https://www.venmo.com/waggonerPTO), Zelle- [wagPTOtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:wagPTOtreasurer@gmail.com) name – Waggoner PTO

- **Exploration Station – Cara Meaker, Susan Fishman**

- <https://waggonerpto.com/exploration-station>
- Theme: Robots
- Starting next Thursday.
- A sign-up genius will be set up for donations. Really looking for pop/squirt tops (think dawn dishsoap tops, squirting water bottles tops, etc). Also looking for tissue boxes.
- A signup genius will be set up for volunteers. Volunteers need to be background checked and fingerprinted. Cara, Susan, and Mary can all help with this process.

- **EZ Money – Susan Fishman**

- <https://waggonerpto.com/ez-money>
- EZ Money is very passive fundraising. You do your normal shopping, Waggoner gets free money.
- **Amazon Smile.** Website: [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) Enter Waggoner Elementary School PTO as your chosen charitable organization. App: make sure "SMILE" is checked on all your purchases.
- **Fry's.** Register "Waggoner" under the Community Rewards section. If prompted, our NPO Number is 80299.
- **RaiseRight.** Go to RaiseRight.com or the RaiseRight app to sign up for an account, use enrollment code C6XS1J44U9LL.



- **Office Depot/Office Max.** Make a purchase of [qualifying school supplies](#), provide the Waggoner school ID #70004975 at checkout online or in the store
- **Labels Labels.** Select “Support a Fundraiser”, choose “Waggoner PTO (Tempe)”. Order.
- **Ice Cream Social – Shannon Winer**
  - <https://waggonerpto.com/ice-cream-social>
  - This is our first back to school event, so we’d really like a warm welcome for all the families... so please consider volunteering or donating supplies. Tickets distributed are for 1 ice cream serving.
  - Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f44aaad2fa57-icecream>
  - Teacher’s will be volunteering as well on a separate sign-up.
  - Thank you so much to Kristin Basha, who got ice cream donated to us from Basha’s.
- **Waggoner Night Out (WNO) – Shannon Winer**
  - <https://waggonerpto.com/wno>
  - \$267 from Someburros
  - Next one is all day on the 17<sup>th</sup> at Zoyo’s.
- **Teacher Appreciation – Ryan Edmiston**
  - <https://waggonerpto.com/teacher-appreciation>
  - This is mine and Jamie’s last year heading this committee. We both have 5<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - We are always looking for help setting-up. Please let us know if you are interested:
    - Ryan: [jasonandryan08@gmail.com](mailto:jasonandryan08@gmail.com) 602-510-9313
    - Jamie: [jlbpate@gmail.com](mailto:jlbpate@gmail.com) 480-216-3466
  - We have a limited budget, so we need donations. Here is the [signup genius](#).
  - Monthly mailbox treats. Think of a pinterest style, little treat for the teachers & staff. We would love for parents/guardians to get together and volunteer to take over a month. We’ll put together a signup genius, it will be included in the September PTO newsletter.
- **Kinder Volunteers – Shannon Winer (for Cait Sabato)**
  - <https://waggonerpto.com/kinder-volunteers>
  - Thanks to everyone that has volunteered. There are still a few open spots that need to be filled.

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## Upcoming Meetings & Events

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### AUGUST

- August 11<sup>th</sup> [Brianna McGrady](#) birthday (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- August 11<sup>th</sup> 530pm Welcome Back to School – Ice Cream Social
- August 15<sup>th</sup> [Dani Mellon](#) birthday (BHVR)
- August 17<sup>th</sup> WNO – Zoyo (Guadalupe & McClintock) – available ALL DAY!
- August 17<sup>th</sup> Curriculum Night
- August 19<sup>th</sup> [Jennifer Leopardi](#) birthday (Library)
- August 22<sup>nd</sup> Danielle Ulm birthday (staff)
- August 25<sup>th</sup> Leah Johnson birthday (nurse)

### NEXT PTO MEETING

- September 2<sup>nd</sup> PTO Meeting 745am

Meeting Adjourned at 9:08am

Email us @ [ptowaggoner@gmail.com](mailto:ptowaggoner@gmail.com)

Minutes reviewed by officers and submitted by Heather Nakagawa