Westview PTO Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, September 28, 2026
Time: 6:00–7:15 pm
Location: Westview Library

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order and attendees were welcomed.

2. PTO Overview

A brief overview was given of the PTO's role: it supports the school in many ways, including fundraising and the carnival.

3. Event & Activity Updates

Welcome Table at Open House. The PTO is looking for a lead for this table.

Chalk the Walk. Kind messages were chalked on the walk before the first day of school.

Teacher Appreciation Jen V. put together root beer floats for teachers on the first day of school. She will share more about this at the next meeting.

Parent Representative Update.

- The district partners with the school through a parent representative program. Each school has two representatives: two attend in person and the rest join by Zoom. One position is currently open; Maggie fills the other.
- There are six meetings in total, held with the Superintendent and various district employees. Topics are gathered by survey.
- At the most recent meeting, representatives discussed the family survey results (about a 25% response rate) and were asked for feedback on what they hear from families. Stats to be obtained from Maggie.
- Areas identified for improvement: communication from the child's teacher, information to support learning at home, and perceptions of whether school rules are consistently enforced.
- An amendment on the ballot to modernize the funding formula was also mentioned. A blank vote on the amendment counts as a "no."

4. Upcoming

World's Finest Chocolate Fall Fundraiser.

- The fundraiser started 9/23 and runs through 10/12.
- 323 boxes were received and 208 are already out. New people are participating.
- About $4,000 has been raised so far.

- Volunteers are still needed to collect money and hand out chocolate, any morning from 9:15 to 10:00.

Teacher Appreciation.

- *Monthly appreciation:* The PTO has allocated $70 per month to do something nice for the teachers. Anyone interested should contact Jen, who also coordinates Teacher Appreciation Week.
- *Conference potluck meal (November 4 and 5):* A coordinator is needed.

Dine and Donate.

- Chipotle is next week. The event must raise at least $150 for the school to receive anything.
- Rascals will give 10% of all sales. Applebee's and Tono's follow after that.

5. Budget

- The budget currently appears negative because little activity occurs over the summer. Items reflected include the Panera deposit and yearbook.
- A copy of last year's approved budget was provided for reference.
- Changes from last year: the teacher appreciation line was increased, and the PTO is no longer paying for storage.
- The cost of the budget software is going up, so the PTO is exploring other options. MoneyMinder was raised as one possibility.

6. Other Business

Overview of Lead Openings. A printout was included with the agenda. Positions highlighted in dark gray are those the PTO is seeking someone to take on.

- *Kindergarten Mentorship:* creating connections for incoming families.
- *Playground Playdates:* the park was not ready, so no playdates were held.
- *Beautification:* Budget typically spent on seeds and dirt.
- Also needed: a secretary for next year, a ticket lead for the carnival, and a food court lead for the carnival.

Outdoor Learning Spaces. The PTO is holding off to gather more input from teachers on what they want. A quote was obtained for shade and benches and was very expensive. The PTO will connect with the teachers and get feedback before moving forward.

Student Directory. Responses have been minimal. A message will be prepared for teachers to circulate.

Box Tops. For any new attendees: Box Tops is an easy way to earn money for the school entirely through an app. Select the school's code, then submit your order directly or scan a receipt when you shop.

Guest Speaker – Grant Eustice, MN Unplugged.

- Grant Eustice is associated with the landline phone company Ooma and The Landline Project, which promotes phone-free schools and a low-tech childhood.

- Group members asked whether the presentation from Dumbwireless.com can be obtained for inclusion.
- The average amount of time children spend on social media outside of school was cited as five hours.
- Idea raised: add an indicator in the student directory for kids who have Ooma.
- Families who take the pledge to wait until 8th grade gain access to everyone in their area who has also signed the pledge.

7. Principal Update

No update this evening.

Next Meeting

Monday, October 19, 2026, 6:00–7:15 pm.