

Swift Creek PTA
General PTA Meeting
October 10, 2023 @ 6:30pm


Meeting Link: <https://tinyurl.com/25mfh8tw>

Link to Slide Presentation:  **SCES October 2023 PTA Meeting**

Has quorum been met (20 attendees)?

Attendees:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Deb Killion | 16. Zoraida Fernandez |
| 2. Ashley Elliott | 17. Janet Blomquist |
| 3. Rebecca Simpson | 18. Artie Lewis |
| 4. Heather Weiner | 19. Abie McAward |
| 5. Sarah Chi | 20. Alex Dreier |
| 6. Lauren Nicholls | 21. Kimberly Shames |
| 7. Rachel Blackmon | 22. Lisa Kropilak |
| 8. Jamie Harward | 23. Tina Chadwick |
| 9. Amy Nipper | 24. Tristan Laundon |
| 10. Danielle Davis | 25. Lmnop? |
| 11. Sarah Lewis | 26. Brooklynn Slabaugh |
| 12. Jessi Andricks | 27. Elizabeth Ford |
| 13. Jenaé Delayen | 28. Nicoleta Onojesu Nicorara |
| 14. ShaRhonda Smith | 29. Antonio Yague Matias |
| 15. Heather Phillips | |

Agenda Item	Notes
Call Meeting to Order (Deb Killion)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting called to order at 6:36pm.
Approve Minutes (Deb Killion)	<div> Sept 2023 General PTA Meeting</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Does anyone have any changes for the minutes?<ul style="list-style-type: none">No changes...minutes approved.
Grade Level Presentation (1st Grade)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Teachers: Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. WadeHome connect letters went home for mClass.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The letter gives personalized activities you can do at home based on your child's needs. • The letter also gives mClass scores. • There is also a website for you to go to for additional resources.
Committee Updates	<p>Science Fair (Ashley Elliott)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running in conjunction with STEAM Night & Book Fair on November 16th. • We need volunteers to judge projects the morning of November 16th. Email Ashley Elliott if you'd like to volunteer. • Next year, Ashley can help with the Science Fair, but we will need a new chairperson for this committee. You don't need to know a lot about science to be in charge of the committee. • This is for students in grades 3-5. • The PTA covers the cost for the top 3 teams to go to regionals. • Projects are due the morning of 11/16. Fliers are going home soon in Tuesday folders. <p>STEAM Night (Lauren Nicholls)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 16th, 5:30pm to 7:30pm • In conjunction with the Book Fair & Science Fair. • We will have different experiments. Save the date flier went out. We have volunteers for each station but please sign up for a one hour slot. <p>Original Works (Julia Ross)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do a piece of artwork with your child at home. • Order the items you want. These make great gifts! • The school gets a portion of proceeds from orders. • Orders are due by October 26th and everything will come in before the holidays. • Email Julia Ross with questions. <p>Fun Run (Michele Callaway/Julia Ross)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We reached our goal!!!

- It was a great day and everything ran very smoothly.
- We have less students this year and we were able to raise more money than last year.
- Our goal was \$19,000 and our grand total as of right now is \$23,823.75.
- Donations can come in until Friday.
- A big thanks to everyone who helped make this day a huge success.
- There will be 1 more Fun Run wagon for kids next Tuesday.
- Classrooms, individuals, and the whole school will be receiving rewards for goals that were met.
- Great job to our Fun Run Committee & to DJ Deb!!!

Cougar Counter (Sarah Lewis)

- Friday mornings from 8:45-9:10am
- Students can purchase small items for .25 or .50 cents. (pencils, erasers, bookmarks, etc...)
- Primarily for students in grades 1-5.
- You can volunteer to run the table on Friday either by yourself or with Sarah Lewis.
- This year, we rolled out Cougar Counter Coupons, so students might bring them to the counter to "purchase" items.
- If teachers need more coupons, there are some in the PTA mailbox.
- You do have to be a PTA Member and an approved WCPSS volunteer to participate.
- First day will be this Friday.

Book Fair (Kristen Sherman)

- November 13th - 17th
- Family Night is running in conjunction with STEAM Night and Science Fair.
- Kristen only has 1 year left at SCES, so if you are interested in running the book fair in the future, let Kristen know and you can start shadowing her.
- There are a lot of opportunities to volunteer throughout the week and we cannot run the book

fair without support from volunteers.

- You have to be a PTA Member and an approved WCPSS volunteer in order to help.
- Every student in the school will receive a free book during this book fair, regardless of whether or not they purchase anything.
- There is no pressure, but if you want to bring in any spare change or other donations, that money will be used to cover tax and/or support students who are a few cents short of what they need for their total.
- The book fair is run through Scholastic.
- Money raised goes directly to our school's media center. Mrs. Green can utilize Scholastic Dollars or get cash back to purchase non-Scholastic books.
- Teachers fill out wish list slips during a staff preview event. Parents can purchase books from those wish list slips. Every teacher will also be set up with an eWallet and you can donate funds to any teacher's eWallet for them to spend.

Spirit Wear (Rachel Blackmon)

- All spirit wear should have come in. If you need anything, contact Rachel.
- Sold about \$80 shirts, both youth and adult.
- We made about \$250.
- We also sold about \$35 worth of magnets and bracelets at the Fun Run.
- We will do another order in January, with mostly the same items.

Hospitality (Kristen Sherman)

- Staff members get so excited about everything Hospitality does for them, even if it seems small to us.
- The staff treat cart comes around to staff about once a month and has food, toys, fidgets, etc...
 - Kristen's daughter and a few other kids help
 - With the donations that have been made, we have enough for the staff treat cart for this month.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality also does things for staff birthdays, custodian appreciation week, etc... • Staff will get lunch on a workday coming up soon. • We will do a staff pie drive before Thanksgiving and every staff member, including bus drivers, gets to take one home. • If anyone wants to take over this role, or be on the committee, reach out to Kristen or another board member. <p>Painless Fundraisers (Jenae Delayen)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Barbeque on Kildaire Farm Road • 11/9 from 11am-8pm (20% giveback) • Fliers will go home in Tuesday folders • Order online and use code "FundA" or you can show the flier or mention it when you order in person. <p>Recycling (Jenae Delayen)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We get donations for all of the pouches we turn in, according to weight. <p><u>From Jessi:</u></p> <p>The deadline for putting your information in the student directory is today.</p> <p><u>A Note from Deb:</u></p> <p>Healthy Lifestyles, Events, Spanish Committee all have events coming up, even though they didn't share tonight. Stay up to date with newsletters, emails, FB page, etc... to be in the know about all the great things happening.</p>
<p>SCES PTA Google Folder (Tina Chadwick)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In an effort to keep our PTA strong beyond our years here, let's all be sure to pass on the amazing work we're doing. Please upload and/or create your files in our shared Google Folder named "SCES PTA." • Reach out to Tina Chadwick, or another board member, if you need further support. <p>Here's a link and a QR code to a step by step guide:</p>

<https://bit.ly/googlefoldersupport>



Principal's Report
(Mrs. Smith)

- Thank you to our incredible PTA for our partnership.
- The PTA has been so strong through the changes and updates with our future move to Garner.
- Transportation
 - Wows: We now only have 4 buses serving our school. All buses have consistently been arriving on campus by 4:30-4:45pm. We want to continue to support our drivers through things like including them in the staff pie donations.
 - Here Comes the Bus App: Our school has nothing to do with the app. It is all from transportation. If you have issues, try to remove the app and download it again.
 - If you look on the WCPSS website, it will give live updates (every 15 minutes) about buses at each school. Go to wcpss.net and look for the bus. Look for "Live Bus Updates" and click on Swift Creek.
 - Mrs. Smith is the co-chair for transportation for the county where she will meet with the superintendent once a month and meet with other principals and assistant principals to share information and implement new initiatives.
 - If you have questions or concerns, reach out to the transportation website and/or go to the transportation website and write to them. They are responsive to parents.
- If you have the chance, please fill out the sheet with your self portrait and information and give it to Mrs. Smith to put on our collaborative bulletin board in

the hallway outside the media center.

- Go to viacharacter.org to take the free survey and find out your 24 character strengths in order.
- The 5 Languages of Appreciation are:
 - Words of Affirmation
 - Quality Time
 - Acts of Service
 - Gifts
 - Physical Touch
- Vercada-new WCPSS sign in/sign out system. Make sure you bring in your license, or another official form of identification, when you use the system. This is for security purposes and is used county wide. We cannot make exceptions on the parent having a form of ID.
- Thank you to our first grade team for information on the home connect letters. Those come home for students in all grades.
- There is more information on our website under resources about understanding academics.

More Information about Verkada:

Jenae Delayen shared concerns about undocumented families not being able to sign in due to undocumented status. Jenae plans to speak to our school board rep about this concern.

PTA shared information from the WCPSS site about being able to manually enter people into the system but Mrs. Smith said they still have to have photo identification.

PTA members expressed that they feel what Mrs. Smith shared does not match up with the language on the website listed below. Mrs. Smith said that she will look into this and invite our security administrator to attend our next meeting. She also shared that central office personnel has been going around to schools to test the system with various forms of ID.

	This is the WCPSS page with information about the system: https://www.wcpss.net/Page/55131
Next Meeting (Deb Killion)	Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 14th at 6:30pm.

Meeting ended at 7:47pm.

Minutes by Tina Chadwick, Secretary