

West TV PTC Monthly Newsletter

April 2017

Message from the PTC, Guest Writer Natalie Bodenhamer

Spring unveils the secret treasures hidden away by winter. We begin to hear birds, almost forgotten during the dark days. We notice small, closed buds springing up in promise of a blossom. The crisp spring air replaces the biting cold of winter and we're able to shed a layer. The winter shield lifts and treasures nearly lost in its shadow remind us of their existence. It's wonderful.



A group of young West TV students unearthed a hidden treasure last month. It was one of the first dry days that allowed for post-school play and my daughter and her buddies headed to the forest behind the playground. After a few minutes, they ran back to us parents to report their discovery – a Christmas tree. I assumed them mistaken and followed into the forest to determine what they'd really found. Sure enough, there it was leaning against the far fence, an unexpected Christmas tree. Presumably, it had been there for a few months, just waiting to be found.

The Christmas tree excitement and creativity continued for days. The kids propped it up in different places and attempted to dig holes to replant the tree. They decorated it with pinecones, lichen, branches and scarves. With the uncovering of the tree came the unveiling of curious adventure.

Adventure. A treasure hidden away by winter and liberated by spring. That's not to say that winter doesn't have its own exploits, however spring adventure is different. It's more improvisational than our planned winter sports and activities. We gear up less and wander more. It's a series of unplanned moments of curiosity and inquiry that string together to create an experience.

Just as the cold, frozen winter kept the kids from their after-school aimless foresting, most of us have been in a state of hibernation as well. We're waking up to the promise of warmer air and longer days. While it's not quite time to slather on the sunscreen and ditch the rain jacket, the pockets of sunshine and dry skies are becoming more frequent and so is are the fun opportunities they bring.

For our family, this means evening park sessions, barbequed dinners outside and cozy nights by the campfire. Bikes are at the ready in the trunk and camping dates for the next few months are secured. We're ready to explore once again in search of the surprising adventures of spring.

What hidden treasure will spring uncover for your kids and your family? Are there places that winter kept out of reach that you're eager to once again explore? Activities nearly forgotten since last October? May you enjoy the surprising *Christmas tree* treasure that awaits you and your family this spring!

Appreciation

We would like to acknowledge the awesome efforts of our Auction Volunteers! We know there are more helpers than we have listed below, but for a start, when you see these West TV parent volunteers, please be sure to congratulate them on a job well done!

Auction Volunteers

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Candice Hackett | Cari Baugh | Daniela Badran Lopes |
| Drinda Battaile | Eric Wittmayer | Jean Singer |
| Karri Iverson | Kim Heavener | Marcelo Lopes da Silva |
| Matt Heavener | Raejean Sly | Telia Rusin |

Art Literacy Volunteers

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Ana Carolina | Andrea Kornegay | Annmarie Young |
| Becca Wintle | Carol Landgraf | David Hohn |
| Drinda Battaile | Heather Burnard | Jade Moran |
| Jenny Alvarez | Jessica Angle | Karen Tang |
| Linda Sumner | Lindsey Haglund | Micaela Liles |
| Nari Clemons | Sharon Papadopoulos | Sunny Estrada |
| Telia Rusin | | |

Spotlight

PTC Budget

PTC Treasurer Candice Hackett

Greetings West TV Parents! My name is Candice Hackett and I am serving as the Treasurer for the PTC this school year. This is my second year as a West TV parent. I have two wild and crazy boys in the 2nd and 3rd grades right now! Prior to this year, my volunteer time at the school had been primarily in the classroom and helping out with various other activities like Art Literacy, Continent Club, Track Trot etc. Serving on the PTC Board this year has given me an even greater appreciation for the parents, teachers and staff at West TV as I've witnessed the amazing gifts of time and money.

Now that Spring Break is behind us we are in the home stretch of the school year and planning for next year is underway! During the month of April, we will be reviewing our financial activity for this school year, looking at next year's school plans for initiatives like PYP and Future Ready, and preparing next year's budget, which will be presented at the May PTC meeting.

The tables below list the budgeted income and expense categories, showing our different fundraising efforts as well as how PTC money is spent. The Balance Sheet and Income Statement for each month are available on the West TV PTC web site and I encourage you to take a look and feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Your input into the PTC budget planning is extremely valuable! Do you see areas where the PTC could offer financial support? Our organization is in a strong financial position in that we are able to continue supporting many educational enrichment programs and also consider creating larger, longer term goals to fund in the future. One example that has been discussed is converting the bark chip track to an actual hard surface track that can be more easily used year-round. This would be a significant expense that would require a multi-year fundraising and planning effort. What are your thoughts? Please consider joining the conversation in the next few months by attending the PTC meetings and asking questions about the budget. We invite your participation and involvement.

Income Categories

| Carry Forward | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Income from Activities | Non Budgeted Income |
| Auction | Cub Scout Pack 198 Scout Dues/Fundraising |
| Carnival | Cub Scout Pack 198 Scout Expenses |
| Merchant, Corporate Programs | Interest Income |
| Scrip | |
| Track Trot & Write a Check | |

Expense Categories

| | |
|---|---|
| Classroom Enrichment | Literacy, Library |
| Classroom Funds Grade level support funds Field Trips/Guest Speakers Transportation for Field Trips Room Parent All Star Fund | All Star Reading Club Battle of the Books Library Book & Media Purchase |
| Community Support, Events | Math & Science |
| 5th Grade Activities Back to School Picnic Clothes Closet Scholarship Staff Appreciation Green Team Activities West TV Clubs & Teams Fund 5 th Grade Leadership Team SCC Track & Field Medals Outdoor School Walk to School Days | Continent Club Science Fair Night |
| | Misc |
| | Administrative Expenses PTC Event Insurance Principal Fund |
| | Technology |
| | Curriculum & Digital Supplements Technology Maintenance |
| Fine Arts | Misc |
| Art Literacy Family Art Night School Play Artist in Residence | Field Day Playground Equipment |

Keep in Touch

We want you to feel welcome and informed about all WTV activities, so please follow our news on our **website** www.wtvptc.org, get a quick reminder of upcoming events every Monday in your email inbox from our **Monday Minute**, attend our monthly **PTC meeting** (every 3rd Wednesday alternating evening and morning meeting times to accommodate all schedules,) and get to know our organization more in-depth in this monthly **newsletter** sent via email. Cheers!

If you have any content suggestions for upcoming newsletters, please contact Jami Keene, PTC Secretary, at jamikeene@hotmail.com.