

Washington Elementary PTO 2025-2026

August Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2025 - 7:00 pm / PTO Meeting / Meeting called by Erin Howell

Board Members:

President - Erin Howell / Vice President - Jess Corris / Treasurer - Erin Miller / Assistant Treasurer - Anne Davis / Secretary - Danielle Zakrajsek / ISPTO - Molly Hecht and Mandy Kanzigg / Teacher Liaison - Kelly Riley

Attendees:

Erin Howell; Jess Corris; Erin Miller; Anne Davis; Danielle Zakrajsek; Molly Hecht; Kelly Riley; Tara Roe; Tzena Nguyen; Jenny Wilks; Maya Tayake Pazzelli; Lauren Rakay; Christa Rudasill; Katie Rings; Rachel Abouhassan; Casey Estepp; Allison Garcia

Agenda:

1. PTO meeting called to order by Erin Howell at 703pm

2. Principal Update

- What's Been Happening:
 - **Welcome Back Wolves!** Students are settling into routines and classrooms are buzzing with learning.
 - We've welcomed many new students and families into our Washington community.
 - **Wolfie Way in Action:** Teachers and students are practicing expectations- showing resilience, empathy and teamwork.
 - **Safety Patrol:** 5th graders have shown incredible enthusiasm about helping with arrival & dismissal.
 - **Lunch & Recess:** Kids are learning the new routines and enjoying time with friends.
 - **Family Partnerships:** Thank you for patience with arrival/dismissal and transportation as we work out first-week wrinkles! Buses are learning new routes with road closures. Please be patient!
- Coming Up Next:
 - **Town Hall Friday!** Introducing the Wolfie Way and sharing teacher experiences to inspire resilient learners and empathetic citizens.
 - **First Fire Drill:** Practicing safety so students can be responsible community members.

- **Baseline Assessments:** Starting after Labor Day, to guide instruction and help every child grow and self-advocate.
- **Mr. Volbert's Lessons:** Supporting students with skills to be empathetic and respectful peers.
- **Attendance Matters:** Showing up every day helps students thrive as engaged learners.
- **Parent Square:** Please read the updates from Mrs. Woodson and teachers. Make sure email and text alerts are turned on!

3. President/Committee Updates

President's Update

- Welcome all new and returning members! All PTO meetings will be held in the IDC at 7 pm. Meeting dates are:
 - Aug 26
 - Sept 23
 - Oct 28
 - Nov 18 (moved due to Thanksgiving)
 - Jan 27
 - Feb 24
 - Mar 24
 - Apr 28

Walkathon Committee:

Walkathon will be Friday 10/10/2025

Sponsors have been contacted but we are looking for any family or local business for sponsorship opportunities! Please reach out to Katie Rings for details!

Spirit Wear:

The spirit wear shop will be open year round for your Wolfie spirit needs! There will be two theme drops, fall and spring for 2025-'26 school year. Both student and adult sizes are available. Please reach out to Molly Hecht for questions!

Conference Week Food Committee:

Food will be provided by the PTO for our teachers and staff during conference week. Donations are needed for desserts, snacks and beverages. Please reach out to Rachel Abouhassan for volunteer opportunities!

Winter Luncheon:

Our winter luncheon event will be held Friday 12/19/2025. Provided by the PTO this is a family event to come have lunch with your students. Volunteers will be greatly appreciated, before, during and after the event. Details to come! Please contact Danielle Zakrajsek for any questions!

Washington Gives Back Committee:

Still coordinating but possibly partnering with a small group for student opportunities to give back!

Room Assistants:

This year we will have 3 room assistants for each classroom! More opportunities to help our students and teachers. Room assistants help with winter, and spring class parties. In addition to any needs the teacher may have throughout the school year. A reminder that a volunteer badge will be required in order to be room assistant. Our lead, Katie Rings, will touch base with room assistants once all are signed up for more details!

5th Grade Liaison:

This year our 5th graders will be fundraising again to give back to Washington! Our 5th grade liaison's, Allison Garcia and Casey Estepp, will lead the 5th grade parents in coordinating! More to come.

Wolfie Award Breakfasts:

Volunteers are needed to be Wolfie as we celebrate each month our Wolfie Award Winners! This is a before school event and our first breakfast being 10/3! Please let PTO know if you are able to volunteer!

4. Event Calendar for 2025-26

August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 - Wolfie Welcome Day 4-6 p.m.• 20 - First Day of School• 26 - PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 - No School, Labor Day• 23 - PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.• 26- Fall Social 4-6:30 p.m.
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 - Wolfie Breakfast• 10 - Walk-A-Thon- during school day• 17 - No School; Central Ohio In-Service Day• 28 - PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 - No School; Professional Learning Waiver Day• 6 - Parent Teacher Conferences• 7 - Wolfie Breakfast• 11 - Veterans Day• 18 - PTO Meeting, 7 p.m• 26-28; Thanksgiving Holiday

December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 - Wolfie Breakfast • 19 - Winter Luncheon • Class parties – determined by Classroom teacher • 22-2 - No School; Winter Break
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-2 - No School; Winter Break • 9 - Wolfie Breakfast • 16 - Chiller Ice Skating Party 6-8 p.m. • 19 - No School; Martin Luther King Day • 27 - PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 - Wolfie Breakfast • 11 - Winter Conferences • 13 - No School; Parent-Teacher Conference Comp Day • 16 - No School; Presidents Day • 20 - Glow party 6-8 p.m. • 24 - PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 - Wolfie Breakfast • 20 - No School • 24 - PTO Meeting, 7 p.m. • 30 - No School; Spring Break
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-3 - No School; Spring Break • 10 - Wolfie Breakfast • 28 - PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 - Spring Social 4:00 - 6:30pm • 5 - No school • 8 - Wolfie Breakfast • TBD - Flower Sale • 25 - No School; Memorial Day • TBD - Field Day • 29 - Last day of School; Lunch on the Lawn & 5th Grade Celebration

- **Open Committee Positions**

- Most committees would love help from anyone interested in lending a hand. All commitments can be as much or as little as you're comfortable - all help is appreciated! A lead volunteer is needed for the following events:
- Fall Social

- Spring Social
- Winter game or Bingo night

***If you would like to be a volunteer with programming within the school or with the PTO, you will need a volunteer badge. You can register here: [Secure Volunteer | Get Started Now](#)



4. Treasurer's Report

- Last year our board was diligent in making cuts to have a balanced budget. We ended the year about \$3,800 under budget. You'll see this year, we're reinvesting some of that. Highlights include:
 - Increased field trip budget to match rising fuel cost and support new experiences for all students
 - Reinstated class party budget, including life skills classroom
 - Increased staff appreciation
 - Increased field day to continue to support local business
- Motion made by Erin Howell to approve the budget
 - First: Jenny Wilkes
 - Second: Katie Rings
 - All were in favor/ no one opposed, the motion was approved.

5. Adjournment

- Motion made by Erin Howell to adjourn the meeting
 - First: Molly Hecht
 - Second: Jenny Wilks

All were in favor/ no one opposed, the meeting was adjourned @ 816pm

Next PTO Meeting will be Tuesday, September 25 in the IDC at 7 p.m