

ACCESS PTA

General Membership Meeting

January 19, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Michael Kubler called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from November 17, 2011 PTA General Membership Meeting. Seconded. Minutes from November 17, 2011 PTA General Membership Meeting approved unanimously. There were not enough attendees at the December PTA meeting to hold a General Membership Meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy of the Profit & Loss v. Budget was presented. The Balance Sheet was presented. Both documents were passed around for approval. Motion to approve Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet. Seconded. Approved unanimously.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Valentine's Dance will be Friday, February 10, 2012. A 7th grade student has volunteered to be the DJ for the Valentine's Dance. He is also interested in promoting and marketing the event. Volunteers are needed for this event. It is helpful for parents of the elementary students to chaperone because the middle school students are not big fans of having their parents volunteer. Eryn Bagby will encourage staff members to attend the event. The PTA fully recognizes that our wonderful Access Staff are not paid to attend evening social events for the benefit of our students, so we are very appreciative.

GRANT COMMITTEE

Mr. Garcia has submitted a video in support of a grant for science equipment. He expects to hear something regarding his proposal in the spring.

Access has been given \$3000 earmarked for computers for our students. The Analia and John Earhart Fund of the Tides Foundation has donated \$3000 to be used towards computers (I am not aware of the specific parameters of this grant). Eryn Bagby would like to purchase another mobile lab (a laptop cart). She has additional funds she can contribute towards this purchase. There is also an opportunity at the Auction for the PTA to do a raffle that can raise funds towards a specific item. This would be a PTA only event because the Foundation is not permitted to give funds to the PTA. Motion made for PTA to hold a raffle at the Auction, the proceeds of which will be combined with the \$3000 grant funds from the Tides Foundation. Approved unanimously.

Auction Report: The Auction preparation is going well. Lots of small items have been procured. Unfortunately, it is still a very few people who are doing the majority of the procuring. We are hopeful that more large ticket items will start rolling in. Reminder: the Auction will be held February 24. Please get your tickets!

EScrip: In order to stay on the EScrip system, Access needs to allocate a portion of the EScrip funds to health/nutrition/fitness programs. Jonathan Dubay has suggested that we allocate the eScrip income to the Sabin Garden, which would qualify as "health and wellness" under the eScrip program guidelines. Since currently eScrip income goes to the ACCESS PTA general fund, this would require a membership vote.

Also, ACCESS PTA eScrip participation has fallen below the threshold for qualifying programs. In order for ACCESS to again begin to receive earned donations from Safeway shoppers utilizing the eScrip program, those donation must be more than \$30 over three months.

The threshold is \$100 donations generated by Safeway shoppers within a calendar year. We were just a few dollars short this year. So a small increase--a few more participants--would put us back over the \$100 mark. About 7% of all purchases comes back to ACCESS PTA. (They say it is 10%, but then they add in a "service fee".) So, \$30 in generated donations over three months to get us back on the eScrip payroll would mean all ACCESS eScrip shoppers spending a combined total of about \$420 during that period. If we accomplish that, but still don't make \$100 in the next year, we'll get kicked off again.

Dezire Clark

Dezire Clarke has procured a \$100 donation from Rejuvenation. She would like to use this donation for a class fieldtrip. Motion made for the PTA to accept the \$100 check from Rejuvenation to pass through to Dezire Clark's class for a fieldtrip. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Dezire Clarke had a \$33.10 reimbursement check from the PTA. Unfortunately, the check was destroyed in the wash. Bank of America will charge \$35 to stop payment on the \$33.10 check. Motion made to write Dezire Clarke a new check and document that the old check was destroyed. Treasurers will monitor the checking account to make sure the original check is not processed. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion regarding whether Bank of American is the best bank for the PTA. Treasurers will investigate whether there is a Credit Union or local bank that might be friendlier to the PTA. Treasurers will report back after investigating this issue.

AMY HENRY PRESENTATION

Amy Henry (Access Counselor) made a presentation regarding Naviance, an online college and career resource that is currently used in all Portland Public High Schools and most of the Portland private/catholic schools. This is a portfolio that encourages students to start thinking about and planning for what they will do after high school. This is a goal setting exercise, and also can be used as a tool by teachers/counselors to help students use the resources available to help meet these goals.

Amy demonstrated Naviance for us. Naviance is an electronic portfolio that follows the students. The teachers can use Naviance for assignments, they can store students work product. This is a program that can be used at school and at home. Parents can use this tool to keep students work product.

Amy Henry would like to see Access students go further in depth in goal setting and career exploration. Although Naviance is a college and career program, it can have general applicability to all grades. Naviance has recently added a middle school component. Amy Henry went to a Naviance Middle School seminar this summer.

Naviance charges \$1,500 per year regardless of the school size. Amy has asked the PPS District for funding to help Access use this program as a pilot program. PPS has offered \$1,000 towards Access using Naviance. This \$1,000 has been offered for this year only - so far.

Amy Henry would like to see this program put in place this year as soon as possible. With the \$1,000 from PPS, Amy is asking for \$500 from the PTA. Currently, the PTA has \$1,100 in the technology budget. Additionally, the PTA also just received the \$3,000 technology grant from the Tides Foundation (to be used for computers). Motion made for the PTA to fund \$500 towards the purchase of Naviance from the PTA Technology Budget. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Naviance will be available to all Access students, 1st through 8th.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Everything is going great. Our students have been stuck inside lately due to the terribly inclement weather. The Artist in Residence is working, Ms. Clarke's class is planning a field trip, National Engineers Month is coming up and we will have engineers here doing presentations in all the classes.

The District has voted to keep Sabin as a K-8. All boundaries decisions have been made, so Eryn Bagby is excited for the District to now focus on the future of Access. She is hoping to hear something by Mid-February.