

ACCESS PTA

General Membership Meeting
September 15, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

Michael Kubler called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. following a PTA Executive Officers meeting. The meeting was held in the Sabin/Access library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from August 16, 2011 PTA General Membership Meeting. Seconded. Minutes from August 16, 2011 PTA General Membership Meeting approved unanimously.

GRANT COMMITTEE

Kristen Sheeran is chair of the grant writing committee. Kristen has already received interest from other parent volunteers to help with grant writing. Kristen will talk to Mr. Garcia regarding possible grant opportunities and to assist him with respect to any grant proposals he is currently working on.

GIVE CAMPAIGN

Luci Hise is the co-Treasurer who will be accepting Give Campaign donations and membership dues. (Fundraising discussion tabled until next meeting to allow for the Fundraising Chair, Amaya Urzaa to be present.)

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Audit report dated June 30, 2011 was provided and reviewed. As of the end of June 2011, the balance in the PTA account was approximately \$8,000. Motion to approve Audit Report. Seconded. Audit report dated June 30, 2011 approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Teacher stipends – in the past all teachers have been given a set annual stipend from the PTA at the beginning of the school year. We have learned that not all the teachers uniformly use these funds. Some teachers have given their funds to other teachers.
 - ❖ Proposal –proposal made to ask all teachers to use or allocate their funds by a set date (proposed date is Spring Break of the school year). After the cut off date, all unused funds will go into a general fund to be used by teachers who still need funding. Any teacher can apply to use a portion of the leftover funds. Mrs. Bagby approves of this proposal. She would like there to be a 3 or more person committee who will determine how the unused funds are allocated.
 - ❖ Proposal accepted – there was general agreement with this proposal and it was accepted by all present at the meeting. Mrs. Bagby will be informed.

- Proposed Budget for 2011-2012 School Year presented.
 - ❖ There is a surplus from last year's budget of approximately \$8,000. These funds are not going to be allocated right now because projected expenses for the 2011-2012 school year are based on projected income. Until we have a handle on what the income will be, the PTA will not be spending the surplus.
 - ❖ When there is an understanding as to what the income is for the 2011-2012 school year (later in the Fall or early Winter), and how much surplus remains, Mrs. Bagby will talk with the teachers to find out what needs there are in the various classrooms.

Motion to approve 2011-2012 Budget with the only change being \$530 moved to Social Committee expenses to cover previously approved line item relating to field day 2011. Seconded. Approved unanimously.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Mrs. Bagby would like to find volunteers to bring in food periodically for the staff as a staff appreciation gesture. David Fikstad will look into finding a volunteer to co-ordinate this staff appreciation event. Mona will advertise for this position as well.
- Mrs. Bagby thanks all the parents and especially those who worked to help the Foundation raise funds last year. She is pleased that she is able to use these funds to hire a part time teacher to teach geometry and pre-calculus.

LIBRARIAN REPORT

Ms. Tini is excited to lead a Read Around the World reading program this year. Each lower grade student will have a passport and then "travel" to each continent by reading a certain number of books from each continent (as recommended by Ms. Tini). Ms. Tini would love help with decorating the library. She is looking for decorations from various continents (i.e., sombreros, kimonos, etc.) Anything donated will be stapled to the wall.

Ms. Tini attended the Oregon Reading Association workshop, where there was a session on bibliotherapy for gifted students. The idea is that it can be very productive for students to read books with characters who share traits with the reader then talk about the book in a group setting. Ms. Tini presented this idea to the faculty during a Wednesday morning meeting. The teachers were responsive, however, the school does not have enough copies of relevant books. Ms. Tini will put together a proposal for the PTA to consider purchasing the books.

Ms. Tini also reported the following volunteer needs (please contact her directly if you are interested in helping):

- A volunteer to help during Ms. Halliburton's (Wed.) and Ms. Clarke's (Thurs.) library time at 2:00, or even 2:30. The role is to sit at the check-out desk and supervise students independently checking out, giving guidance as needed and summoning the librarian from her work helping students whenever a message alert comes up on the computer

screen. This enables the librarian to be out with the students during check out, making recommendations and helping students learn how to find their books.

- Volunteers to check in books and sort library cards from 11:35-12:00 Monday through Thursday. We believe we have someone for Friday and for one other day of the week, unknown as yet.
- Volunteers to "adopt a bookshelf" (or two) to keep spruced up. If the family can drop in at 3:00, Ms. Tini will let them choose their favorite, if it is not taken.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Social Committee: David Fikstad is in charge of the annual Book Fair. This year the Book Fair will be November 19, 2011 at the Children's Place Book Store on Fremont. The Vampire Ball (dance for 6th-8th grades) will be held on Friday, October 28, 2011.

Fundraising Committee: There was a discussion regarding Escrip as well as possible other organizations that are similar to Escrip that some other schools are using (such as Laurelhurst). There is an understanding that various families contribute to the school in different ways. Some families prefer to use the GIVE campaign, whereas other families prefer to contribute through scrip. These scrip opportunities can be posted on Big Tent for those who are interested.

Next PTA meeting 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 20 in the Sabin/Access library (bottom floor Sabin building).

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.