

**ACCESS Academy PTA General Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 7 pm to 8:30 pm**  
**BESC Building, 501 N Dixon, Portland, OR**

Meeting Called to Order by ACCESS PTA President Kurt Kemmerer at 7:03 pm.

ATTENDANCE: 25 people signed the attendance list, 21 of whom were members for the 2018-2019 year. 6 voting members constitute a quorum for a General Membership Meeting.

All attendees introduced themselves.

**Approval of Minutes:** Phoebe Shen moved and seconded by Sheen Wu. Approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report -**

Chinook Book earned over \$600, Apple sale earned over \$1,300, T-shirt sale earned over \$700, so all brought in what were expected.

2 teachers, Dr. Garcia and Ms. O'Hagan, will attend the OATAG conference with PTA support. With completion of apple sale, scrip coordinator Seana Lane has bandwidth to get information out to the community about the new scrip program.

Use Community Building Grant for feeding volunteers for Haunted House preparation at Vestal up to \$100. Scholle will help to coordinate this.

**Motion:** Sally Maltman moves to increase Social/Community Events budget by \$230 to license movies for the year. Phoebe Shen seconded. Discussion of PTA paying for movie licensing for movie nights; 8th grade will fundraise by selling concessions. **Motion approved unanimously.**

**PTA Grants: See attached for PTA grant request summary.**

**Motion:** Increase grant funding to \$12,000. Moved by Sally Maltman, seconded by Phoebe Shen. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Sally Maltman discussed both the grants received and the grants recommended by the PTA Executive Committee.

Exec. Committee recommendations for grants include: Cart and 20 chromebooks for \$6,200 4th grade Oregon Trail trip request for trip support; suggestion 4th grade ask for full cost of trip from families, with scholarships through PTA student aid / equity fund for those who need it. Members discussed how teachers could best word payment requests for trips, how to prioritize grant requests, and grant money as one-time funding available versus annual expense.

Executive Committee recommends denying grant for 4th grade walking field trip as 4th grade already has a lot of field trips scheduled.

Based on recommendations by the Executive Committee, \$10,500 in grant funding would be issued in this round, with the 1/2 blend unrepresented and 3rd grade not much represented; this leaves a buffer of \$1,500 to provide grant funding for those grades, as well as for Middle School STEM and NatGeo competitions which may also need to be funded, though proposal is not yet submitted.

A parent asked if the school could partner with PTA contribute funding so an entire set of 36 chromebooks could be purchased? Ms. Blovad said she might be able to use Foundation funds for to supplement PTA chromebook purchase. 36 chromebooks plus cart=\$9997.46. 20 units plus cart = \$6046.

Kristi Byfield clarified that Foundation money raised last year had a very clear intent (staffing), and would need to communicate clearly and decide in Foundation before money goes back to All Hands Raised.

Currently have 2 carts of chromebooks at Vestal, one primarily in the library. 2 carts of approx. 30 chromebooks each at Lane. Currently without additional chromebooks, MAPS testing takes up chromebooks and prevents other teachers from using them for instruction. They are used on a regular basis in class for writing and other instructional activities. A parent suggested that since ACCESS has less flexibility in usage of chromebooks split over 2 sites, perhaps PPS district should buy additional carts for ACCESS. It was clarified that the District did buy one additional cart of Chromebooks for ACCESS as a consequence of the split.

Discussion of whether grants for field trips be funded out of Young Audiences funds? They are not all art related. Japanese Field Trips, Portland Walking Tours could be funded from Run for the Arts funding.

Discussion of whether we could ask families to purchase/donate yoga mats?

**Motion:** Michael Kubler moved and another member seconded to purchase 36 chromebooks and cart for \$9,997.46 for use at ACCESS @ Lane. Following discussion described below, vote held: 12 in favor. 2 opposed. **Motion passed.**

Discussion: do we need to purchase 36, or only 20? Krista recommends we purchase 36 and school will hopefully supplement with an additional 20, which will cover 2 classes fully. Chrome books are supported by district IT. Question of whether ipad would be a better investment. Question of how district would handle standardized testing if PTA did not provide funding. A member suggested that ACCESS PTA may want to budget for Chromebook purchases each year to rotate through new chromebooks over time.

**Motion:** Michael Kubler moved for the executive board to distribute remaining grant funding as equitably as possible. Seconded by Brian Conley. **Passed.**

### **Foundation/Auction report by Kristi Byfield**

Auction: April 6, 2019 at Oaks Park.

Families stepped forward to manage simultaneous skate party.

10/30 6:30 -8; Auction kick-off party. Still need a shadow. Will decide theme at first meeting.

### **ACCESS Advisory Committee (AAC) Report and Nominations by Kristi Byfield**

5 people have stepped forward to be members of the AAC. They have submitted bios which will be distributed to the general community. If there are objections, community members can email organizers; otherwise will assume people are in agreement with these representatives.

Brian Lawler

JaneAnne Peterson

Mark Keller

Micelis Doyle

Suzanne Taylor

3 existing members will continue for the first meeting and possibly the 2nd meeting, and then it will be the remaining 5 people.

**MOTION:** Deborah moved that the AAC parent representatives be a sub-committee of the ACCESS PTA. Michael Kubler seconded. After Discussion below, **motion passed.** 15 in favor, 2 opposed.

**[NOTE: After consulting PTA procedures and by-laws after the meeting, the executive board determined that, though a good faith motion, the PTA does not have the authority to subsume another group into the PTA as a committee, and thus this was not a legal motion. Further, according to OREGON PTA bylaws (Article IX, Section 6) and ACCESS PTA standing rules, committees are formed by either the Executive Committee or President, not by motion. The PTA Executive Committee has communicated the intention of these motions to the AAC, which commits to having a PTA representative from the AAC report to the PTA on AAC meetings.]**

Discussion regarding need to make AAC accountable to the PTA, and thus leverage PTA support/power, as well as keep AAC accountable, specifically to keep negotiations with the district open and transparent. Idea is to have PTA appoint the members to the AAC.

Krista Blovad met with Keeley (School District representative) and specified that school/parent representatives will be reporting minutes from AAC meetings back to the ACCESS community at large to set that expectation. Krista supports parent representatives taking minutes. In past meetings, district representatives took minutes, with 2 parent-representatives also taking minutes.

Idea last year was that PTA was going to slow down AAC meeting/decisions, as would need to wait for monthly PTA general meetings. An alternative is to have AAC representatives empowered to and charged with making decisions on behalf of PTA as best they can, and report back, rather than wait for PTA voting/approval for each decision. AAC meeting is Monday, 10/29/18. Suggestion that we move more slowly in deciding to make AAC sub-committee of PTA to hear from other members from AAC who are not present. Need to clarify role of AAC, possibly enrollment sub-committee.

A parent asked why AAC meetings are closed? To be able to be a working group. Possibly allow to observe without participating? Meetings will be quarterly, shift towards the school group determining focus and bringing it to the district. Pushback from AAC parent representatives that a district person be present who can make decisions and work on plan.

**MOTION:** Michael Kubler moved and another member seconded that the 3 existing member and 5 proposed members represent ACCESS PTA on interim status at 1st AAC meeting pending formal elections at next PTA meeting. **Motion passed**, 19 in favor, none opposed.

**[NOTE: As with the motion above, though a good faith motion, the PTA does not have the authority to subsume another group into the PTA as a committee, and thus this was not a legal motion. Further, according to OREGON PTA bylaws (Article IX, Section 6) and ACCESS PTA standing rules, committees are formed by either the Executive Committee or President, not by motion.]**

- **5th grade leadership opportunities:** Tabled until next month's meeting.

- **Principal's announcements and updates – Krista Blovad,**

Krista spoke with Matt Zvorak regarding chess club. He is very interested in providing chess club at Lane. He spoke with Larry Ball (former ACCESS chess club coach) about his hesitancy, and said he would like to take himself out as middleman of money situation, and if PTA would handle the room at Lane, CUB, pay for it, and ask parents for reimbursement for room and pay for him. He only wants older kids or students who are focused seriously on chess.

Excited about new hires as described in this week's email.

ACCESS @ Vestal PE teacher: other school did their first round of interviews but did not hire anyone yet.

Enrollment: she is planning for this to be addressed in the first AAC meeting. Following is a summary of questions David and Krista asked at meeting with Judy Brennon, Keely, Yvonne Curtis, Rosie, and Linda Smith

How many slots open per grade? No specific number of slots per grade level. Varies depending on balanced classroom and who is on wait list and who is accepted. Our classroom this year, we took all off wait list except one 5th grader due to high numbers, and male 1st and 2nd graders.

What is preventing full enrollment? There is not a full enrollment number because class sizes vary.

Are there eligible students (girls) beyond short wait list numbers? No.

Did district compile a wait list of all eligible applicants? Krista understands that all eligible students were admitted or put on wait list.

Will Judy Brennon be addressing our school/parent community? She is at AAC meeting, larger meeting can be asked at AAC meeting

Maybe enrollment issues to be addressed by overlapping TAGAC and DEI subcommittees.

Krista's understanding is that AAC will become focused on school-based issues, and that she, as principal, will be coordinating the meeting. Her understanding is they are not backing off 2-3 year situation for additional space for a single site, but there is not space currently available.

- **Announcements:** Sara Kennedy Adams needs help with Haunted House set-up and running it.
- **Adjournment – 8:50**