

# ACCESS Academy PTA General Membership Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 17, 2024, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Google Meet info: Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/eph-zphf-ibc>

Or dial: (US) +1 208-715-5825 PIN: 778 452 051#

Attendance: Sarah Williams, Mishka Willis, David Stein, Devin Harkness, Sugene (virtually), in person: Jory Ruscio, Josie Parker, Maura Jansen, Courtney O'Leary, Meredith Morse, Klara Jolesz, Brandy Hutchinson, Tracy Connor, Season Hoaglaud, Heidi Reichert, Rachel Atchison, Eliz Roser • **President's call to order, welcome** – Lisa Flood (3 minutes)

- **Approvals (2 min):**

- Approve Minutes of 9/19/2024 Gen Mtg Minutes: approved as written [2024-09-19 General Mtg Minutes](#)

- **Principal's Update/Counselor Intros (10 minutes)**

- Devin Harkness, counselor

- High school transition

- Will discuss what credits are, what you get credit for at ACCESS with 8th graders in the coming weeks
    - Deciding about where to go - 11/13-12/16 is the window for transfer/lottery. Options include:

- Neighborhood school

- Benson, MLC - lottery programs that start 11/13

- Grant has always been the ACCESS feeder option, still waiting to hear if that is an option this year, unsure if there will be another option if Grant isn't an option. This uncertainty happens every year.

- Hardship petition is also an option -info on the PPS website

- <https://www.pps.net/8thgradeinfo>

- Info nights:

- 10/22 Lincoln

- 11/20 Benson

- 12/5 Cleveland

- Devin will email 8th grade families with more information

- Devin will help students fill out high school forecasting forms at school to request classes

- Aaron Ferguson

- Shared power point (30,60,90 day transition plan)

- First 30 days have been about relationship building/community, now diving into academic/instructional/teaching goals. Will be observing each teacher 1:1 for entire period prior to conference. Academic goals set around OSAS benchmarks and MAP growth goals

- Questions re: OSAS - What is OSAS opt out rate at ACCESS?

■ MAP scores  
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- Are in ParentVUE (or will be soon)
  - There was an ask for teachers to share detailed student profile reports rather than just the family report
- **General Discussion: Technology at School (15-20 min)**
  - Is technology use at school a concern?
    - Parents notice that kids are using phones at lunch - may need a consequence such as taking it away until the end of the day
    - Most parent comments at the meeting recommend less technology
  - What policies/practices would you like to see implemented?
    - Current policy: Mandated that devices are off during lunch and passing time ● Enforcement has been to ask student to put it away. Per Aaron, most of the time, the students comply. Lunch parent volunteers say this is not the case.
    - There are some students for whom this is challenging and this is dealt with individually
    - Feedback from teachers - less worried about a blanket policy, but more about specific students.
    - Most of middle school - texts are online, assignments are online. Challenge that the school is working through. There are options for paper/book lessons for some students if technology is problematic
  - How should PTA be involved?
    - Recommend filling out Oregon PTA survey re: cellphone use, responses accepted until 10/25/24
      - [Oregon PTA Cell Phone Survey](#)
      -
- **Volunteer Opportunities [ACCESS Academy Volunteers 2024-25](#) 10 min**
  - [Breakfast and Lunch Volunteering](#)
  - [Harvest Festival SignUpGenius](#) - volunteers needed in a variety of areas including apple/pear sale help during the day
  - Committees that need volunteers
    - Teacher Appreciation
    - Fundraising
  - Questions about volunteering go to Eliz [volunteer@accessacademypta.org](mailto:volunteer@accessacademypta.org)

- **Treasurer's Report** - Jory Ruscio (15 minutes)

- a. Treasurer's report - [Treasurer's Report.9-30-2024.pdf](#)

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- b. Fundraising updates

- i. Give Campaign \$5500

- ii. Apple/Pear Sale - will likely net \$1300-1500 (overbudget, yay!, sold 120 boxes) iii. Charleston Gift Wrap - going on right now, raised \$850 so far

- iv. Dine Outs - no updates, would love help (Courtney O'Leary has experience and volunteered to help)

- v. Read-a-thon - usually in the winter, no updates

- vi. Bottle Drop - Save your blue bags for 11/5-12/2 as we get a bigger percentage c.

- Expenses: have renewed non-profit status, given teacher allotments, spent some money on OBOB registration and library books

- d. Transfer from PayPal to OnPoint Checking account: \$550

- e. Transfers from Stripe to OnPoint Checking account: \$2,320.67

- f. People have stepped up to be an auditor and do PTA taxes. Thank you!

- **Updates** (5 min):

- a. Author Visit - grades 2-5, coming in November. Stephen Bramucci. Please consider buying the book "Race for the Ruby Turtle" at the link below to help make this event free.

- i. [Link to purchase books](#) (choose Pick Up Order, ACCESS)

- ii. Scholarship book requests go to Ms. Elle ([epan@pps.net](mailto:epan@pps.net))

- b. Helping Hands

- i. Money can no longer go through the PTA

- ii. Gift cards can be donated directly to the Main Office, kept in secure drawer, counselors will be connecting with families to hand them out.

- iii. Target or Fred Meyers, \$25, \$50, \$100 are most helpful

- c. T-shirt contest - 12 submissions. Voted to narrow to 5-6 this evening and will put a vote out to the community via google forms. Students are encouraged to vote with families.

- **Recommendations/brainstorm for future topics of discussion at PTA meetings** (5 min) - send ideas to [board@accessacademypta.org](mailto:board@accessacademypta.org)

- **Adjournment/Next meeting: 11/21/24**

- **Reminders:**

o PTA Membership and Information on [ACCESS Academy PTA - Home Page \(membershiptoolkit.com\)](https://membershiptoolkit.com)

o PTA meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month 7-8 pm, working on 2 in person meetings o  
Upcoming Events

- Early release 10/23/2024

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- Harvest Festival 10/25/2024

- NO SCHOOL - 11/1 and 11/2024

- Staff meeting, all kids released at 3:15 11/5/24 •

Virtual Principal's coffee - 11/6/2024

- FRI 11/8 Author Visit assembly - Steve Bramucci •

Thursday 11/14 Steeple Jack Adult only craft hangout

- Early release 11/20/2024

- PTA meeting 11/21/2024

- Parent teacher conferences 11/25, 11/26

- No school 11/25/24-11/29/24