

## ACCESS Academy PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 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:** Lisa Flood, Josie Parker, Tracy Connor, Jory Ruscio, Kelly O'Hara, Eliz Roser, Holly Greener, Ashley Snow, Aaron Ferguson
- **President's call to order, welcome** – Lisa Flood (3 minutes)
  - Call to order 7:03 p.m.
- **Treasurer's Report** - Jory Ruscio (10 minutes)
  - a. [Treasurer's report](#)
    - i. Transfer from Stripe to OnPoint 10/31 - \$4383.90
    - ii. Transfer from PayPal (Give Campaign and Arts & Enrichment) to OnPoint 11/20 - \$3925.00
  - b. Fundraising updates
    - i. Give Campaign - \$5,955.00
    - ii. Apple/Pear Sale - \$1,737.75 profit
    - iii. Charleston Gift Wrap - \$3000.06
    - iv. Corn Maze - \$630
    - v. Dine Outs TBD
      - 1. ¿Por Qué No? 12/18
    - vi. Readathon to start in January, more info coming!
- **Principal's Update/Counselor Intros** (5-10 minutes)
  - Thank you to everyone who worked on the Harvest Festival - it was great!
  - Thank you to volunteers who are helping feed teachers dinner during Conferences
  - Conferences are next week - Monday and Tuesday, 8-8
    - Middle School: prioritizing virtual during the day, but okay to do in person conference during that time. Plan to show up early because the time slots are brief. Email teacher if you are coming in person. Spaces are still available. Evening conferences are arena style (in person).
    - Aaron will be on site the full time if anyone would like to meet with him. Call Susie or Joann a call to schedule. Aaron is also willing to join conferences if parents request.
  - Looking at NWEA OSAS results in the context of School Improvement goals. Last two early release days, teachers/staff focused on reviewing that data and discussing/planning teaching strategies
  - Aaron visited Skyline to learn about Wit and Wisdom (elementary ELA curriculum)
  - School wrapped up the Election Storyline curriculum - a really fantastic program - kids were really engaged and learned a lot. Spring storyline is about Coral Reefs.

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- Aaron is still working on classroom observations - he is seeing amazing teaching and learning and it's been great to see dynamic discussions in the classrooms.
- Waitlist: 4 spots became available over the past few weeks. Enrollment and Transfer has offered spots to 4 elementary students.
- Almost 50% of families filled out the technology survey - thank you! Need to separate out using Chromebooks and personal devices. 40% of students don't bring any kind of personal device to school at all. 32% have a smartwatch with no camera. Only 20% of students who responded bring a smartphone to school pretty even breakdown in middle school. Mainly middle schoolers are bringing phones to school - elementary is mostly smart watches. People had useful feedback and thoughts about the role of technology in school. Teachers are mostly concerned with Chromebooks and particular students over personal technology/classroom management. Students will also be surveyed. Next step: Aaron will bring to the School Culture & Climate Committee for review and possibly form an ad hoc committee with students, parents, and staff.
- Thank you for coming to Pizza Jerk!
- Question: Are there growth goals for students who are meeting benchmarks? Yes, NWEA growth benchmarks are for all students. The growth goal varies based on previous scores. May need to look at other options for students who are scoring at the 12th grade level and may be maxing out the test metrics.
- Question: Report card format - the format isn't that useful. Other (neighborhood) schools will have breakdowns for subjects in elementary. Please share examples with Aaron.
- Question: Concerns about middle students' behavior in the office. Aaron will follow up.
- **Approvals (2 min):**
  - Approve Minutes of 10/17/2024 [Gen Mtg Minutes](#)
  - Motion: Jory. 2nd: Kelly. Minutes are approved.
- **Announcements:**
- **Helping Hands (2 min)**
  - Gift cards can be donated directly to the Main Office.
  - Target or Fred Meyers, \$25, \$50, \$100 are most helpful
- **Teacher Appreciation Opportunity**
  - PTA providing dinner during conferences - [please sign up](#) to bring a few extra items
- **Student fundraiser craft fair during Conferences** - students raising funds for Costa Rica trip.
- **Volunteer Acknowledgement (2 min)**
  - a. Opportunities - [ACCESS Academy Volunteers 2024-25](#)

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- b. [Breakfast and Lunch Volunteering](#)
  - c. Questions about volunteering go to Eliz [volunteer@accessacademypta.org](mailto:volunteer@accessacademypta.org)
  - d. Note: DEI Committee met with Site Council to recommend that DEI leadership comes from Site Council. The Site Council will have higher level DEI discussions and PTA will support DEI efforts as needed. We think this will elevate and support DEI efforts at the school.
- **General Discussion: Revisit Tech in Schools (15-20 min)**
  - Idea to have a “phone free school” pledge for the parents - there is some parent responsibility as well
  - Balance of tech and hands on work/instruction
- **Recommendations/brainstorm for future topics of discussion at PTA meetings (5 min)** - send ideas to [board@accessacademypta.org](mailto:board@accessacademypta.org)
- **Adjournment** at 8:02 p.m.
- **Next meeting: 1/16/25 (no December meeting)**
- **Reminders:**
  - PTA Membership and Information on [ACCESS Academy PTA - Home Page \(membershiptoolkit.com\)](#)
  - PTA meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month 7-8 pm, working on 2 in person meetings
  - Upcoming Events
    - Parent teacher conferences 11/25, 11/26
    - No school 11/25/24-11/29/24
    - Virtual principal’s coffee 12/4, 9-10 am
    - No school 12/23/24-1/3/2025