

ACCESS Academy PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 20, 2019, 7 pm to 8:30 pm
Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 NE 40th Ave, Portland, OR, 97227

Meeting called to order by ACCESS President Kurt Kemmerer at 7:04 pm. The attendees introduced themselves.

ATTENDANCE: 15 people signed the attendance list, 14 of whom were PTA members for the 2018-2019 year. 6 voting members constitute a quorum for a General Membership Meeting.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION by Phoebe Shen, seconded by Kinnari Shah, to approve Minutes of 4/24/19 General ACCESS Academy PTA Meeting:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KtAmVeTvAoEyjATWusQ55KNhJCQHiXQ4LRerq7kHd5Y/edit?usp=sharing> **Motion Passes.**

Treasurer's Report - Sally Maltman

ACCESS PTA has \$28,200.73 in assets as of yesterday. In the last month the big expenditures were for Staff Appreciation Week. We treated staff to pizza and potluck lunch and coffee. We will have a lot of money flowing out before the end of the year, including Oaks Park ride bracelets for 8th graders; library and literacy spending, primarily books; printing of the mathazine; Field Day (bouncy house); and teacher spending from their allocated money (over half has been spent so far). Gift Cards for staff: parent community raised over \$4,000 for gift cards for staff; they will select the cards they want, and we will purchase through SCRIP.

We need to adopt a draft budget for 2019-2020 year so we can function over the summer, as our fiscal year is from July to June. We will have a more detailed conversation about the budget in September or October to finalize what we want to spend on; we have a current draft largely based on budget from the current year. Notable differences include: Fundraising: we have lowered the Dine Out figure, and are considering possibly having fewer Dine Outs to avoid community fatigue; we adjusted the other fundraisers to reflect how they went this year; Arts Fun Run and Arts Enrichment is added, which represents bringing what is currently Run 4 the Arts in house run by PTA with all funds going to our school going forward. John Blanck commented that many schools have moved away from Young Audiences because there is a 10% fee on most of the monies raised through Young Audiences. YA does provide a catalog of potential artists, but we can reach out to artists directly. There is a large balance in the Young Audiences fund currently, so we will want to make sure this carries over if we move away from Young Audiences. Mr. Blanck will reach out to Young

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Audiences in general terms to determine the policy. Online donations will be important to include via their infrastructure. We currently plan to use the platform we used for Read-a-thon for online fundraising. We also need to pay attention to spending down the money in the R4TA. John Blanck has approved paying for art class supplies from R4TA. Last year was the first year we are aware of when what was earned in R4TA in that year was fully spent, with parent assistance to administration. By bringing this in house, PTA can create an arts committee to push the funds out. This year someone was hired to help plan the spending on art activities. Ideally art activities would be integrated into the curriculum for teachers and grades, and replicable year after year.

Added a line item for PE equipment, because they need more equipment to effectively run PE.

Decreased line items for some items that were lower last year, and others which we had a surplus to spend only this year. We have a surplus we are actively trying to spend down. One suggestion is to give money to the secretaries to spend, as well as additional monies to the PE teachers.

MOTION: to pass the draft budget as presented. **Motion passed.**

Vote of Executive Committee for 2019-2020 ACCESS PTA

No nominations were made from the floor. Current slate is mostly incumbents because most of the current Executive Committee members are returning to serve a second one-year term.

MOTION: Nominating Committee Chair Kinnari Shah moved and Gayle Killam seconded a motion to elect the following persons to serve as officers of ACCESS PTA for the one-year term beginning August 1, 2019, and ending July 31, 2020:

President: Kurt Kemmerer (incumbent)

Vice President: Tanya Awabdy (incumbent)

Vice President: Kinnari Shah (incumbent)

Treasurer: Jennifer Rabby

Secretary: Kathy Martin (incumbent)

Secretary: Phoebe Shen (incumbent)

MOTION PASSED

MOTION: Secretary Phoebe Shen made a motion, seconded by Kathy Martin to change the authorized signers on the ACCESS PTA business account with Bank of America as follows: (1) as of August 1, 2019, remove Sally Maltman; and (2) on or after August 1, 2019, add Jennifer Rabby. **MOTION PASSED**

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Principal's Update by John Blanck

Admission Numbers/Process: Mr. Blanck thinks we are doing well with number of applications for being able to keep the staff we have across the board, including two 4th grade classes and two 5th grade classes. There were approx. 150-160 applications, all of whom are considered to qualify. There were 25 people who applied but did not complete both applications, and Linda Smith in TAG followed up to encourage them to complete all applications. Enrollment & Transfer did a test run of the lottery today, and expects to be able to run the actual lottery and send out acceptances soon. E&T would like to create a FAQ about the lottery for ACCESS. **Please let John Blanck know any questions about the Lottery Process which might be good to include in a FAQ.**

Mr. Blanck had a conversation with Judy Brennan last Friday and advocated for a few approaches regarding running the lottery, recommending numbers we need for various staffing allocations, as well as paying attention to gender balance. ACCESS is the last of the alternative programs to run a lottery, so applicants accepted will already know about other options. We may have a waiting list on some grades. Keeley Simpson and Judy Brennan finalized the number of slots to run for the lottery; Mr. Blanck had input, but does not know the final number of slots opened up. One guideline is we would never open up less slots than we advertised in January. Mr. Blanck gave them information about number of students who notified him they were leaving, only 6 at both locations. Mr. Blanck plans to try to do an exit interview with students/families who are leaving. They have a certain number of slots for boys and girls for each grade level. If we open up more slots, most likely would not get more staffing, though this might be able to be discussed further. Currently have a 2:1 ratio of boys to girls; if you completely balance by gender, you get a much smaller student body and resulting lower staffing. Who will follow up with E&T to make sure waitlist students are offered spots when initial students accept or decline? David Jamieson is working through summer as well as Keeley Simpson and Linda Smith, so perhaps they can follow up; John Blanck will check. The community would like to know how many slots are being offered by gender per grade, and what these numbers are based on. There is a question of whether they are considering community need in establishing the slots, or just saying that the school is capped by current school facility limits. Mr. Blanck asked the teachers their ideal number of students based on their classroom size; most teachers gave larger numbers than currently predicted on staffing sheet, of 25-26 students. Keeley Simpson had the final approval of the slots to put into the lottery. Parent comment that as long as PPS is

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turning away eligible students, they are capping the program and not serving the students who need the program.

Mr. Blanck appreciates the teacher appreciation efforts, as well as the quality of the advocacy letters he has seen.

Staffing Update: Mr. Weisner is moving on. Joyce McShane was unassigned due to her portion of FTE at Vestal Elementary which was cut, but will be returning to ACCESS at a 1.0; we are looking for .75 position, and may need to adjust assignments as staffing shapes out. Splitting ACCESS into 2 sites negatively impacts the school due to complications for math instruction. Also looking for a .5 PE Teacher at Lane because Ms. Juarez is moving on. We are working on getting a full-time teacher to share with Lane for Spanish. Question of how attractive is a split position if ACCESS is supposed to move in 2 years. Mr. Blanck has some referrals for potentially good Spanish teachers from Michael Bacon, director of ESL and World Languages at PPS. Lynn Preble, PE teacher at ACCESS@Vestal was unassigned due to some union rules FTE and timing of when she arrived at Vestal. There is a .5 PE teacher who has been placed with ACCESS, but he may not have announced to his school so is not yet named. Intention is to have a full time SPED teacher at Vestal site. The district held off on placing a SPED teacher half-time at A@V and then needing to rework it. Not clear when next phase for posting will be. Would like to have parent input into the hiring decisions; onus will be on Teri Geist and David Jamieson to have parents sit in on interviews. There are still many options for how staffing could play out.

Mr. Blanck has no new information regarding principal status. Is there any date at which the leave has to come to an end? Mr. Blanck does not know. Mr. Blanck plans to send an update the community before he leaves on Friday.

The School may need help with planning/pulling off Field Day on June 10; there is a committee of staff and parents working on this. The general idea is to have grade 1-5 students come on bus to park by Lane for morning field day activities, have lunch with 6-8 grade students, then 1-5 depart and 6-8 have their field day. David Fikstad is PTA representative on committee. Sara Kennedy Adams will contact Devin to assist with planning.

John Blanck cannot commit to being a full-time interim principal in the summer or fall, but could perhaps commit to helping with some specific projects if needed.

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Other Questions/Updates

Please review and update volunteer/activity roles.

Moving Talent Show to May. We will need a talent show director as next year is the last year Sara Kennedy-Adams will be directing.

Please draft documents for inclusion in the Back-to-School packets by August 1, 2019.

Still need an auction chair for next year. Some other schools have a certain grade take responsibility for the auction, perhaps 5th or 6th grade parents could take this on, knowing it is only for one year.

Renaissance Fair is Thursday, 6-8:30, a fundraiser for 7th grade at ACCESS@Lane. There will be food and activities. Ms. McBride is leading this. PTA will send out a reminder.

Principal's Coffee this Friday will be in the library at Vestal.

Please sign up to volunteer at last Middle School Social of the year on 5/31; 5th graders invited to attend. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CAAAB23A0F85-endofyear>

If weather permits, come early to pool party on 6/1 at Mt. Scott and picnic in the park. Bring your own picnic. PTA rented out entire pool for ACCESS, but there is a limit of 250 as number of swimmers pool can accommodate.

My School Anywhere online database will be transitioning to "Membership Toolkit" over the summer. Functionality will be the same, information will transfer over, just will need to select password for the new account. Look for more information over the summer.

Upcoming Events:

(see online or subscribe to calendar:

<https://www.pps.net/Page/9147#calendar12598/20190408/month>)

Wed., 5/22, Dine Out: Por Que No

Thurs, 5/23, Renaissance Fair, ACCESS@Lane, 6-8:30

Fri., 5/24, Principal's Coffee, ACCESS@Vestal, 9-10 am

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Fri., 5/31, Middle School Social/Dance (including 5th graders), ACCESS@Lane,
6:30-8:30

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CAAAB23A0F85-endofyear>

Sat, 6/1, ACCESS End of Year Pool Party, Mt. Scott Pool, 6:30-8

Tues, 6/4, 8th Grade Oaks Park Field Trip

Wed., 6/5, 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony, Franklin High School, 6-7 pm

Fri, 6/7, 5th Grade Send Off, ACCESS@Vestal, 10-11:30

Mon, 6/10, Field Day, ACCESS@Lane

Wed., 6/12: Last Day of School

President Kurt Kemmerer Adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.