

ACCESS Academy PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 23, 2019, 7 pm to 8:30 pm
BESC, 501 N Dixon, Portland, Oregon

Meeting called to order by ACCESS President Kurt Kemmerer at 7:05 pm. The attendees introduced themselves.

ATTENDANCE: 19 people signed the attendance list, 15 of whom were PTA members for the 2019-2020 year. 6 voting members constitute a quorum for a General Membership Meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION to approve Minutes of 5/20/19 General ACCESS Academy PTA Meeting:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Zc9fjC8sZBDrNWM5u9RQpzeDZzhWtnGr5rhKX6NPiQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Moved by Phoebe Shen. Seconded by Tanya Awabdy. **Motion passed.**

MOTION to approve the Standing Rules for 2019-2020:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kVOWcd-5Hgn53wyLt4WrFAFUoot-Nf1B3rqp2KDwQvY/edit?usp=sharing>

Moved by Phoebe Shen. Seconded by Tanya Schaefer. **Motion Passed.**

Treasurer's Report by Jennifer Rabby (15 minutes)

Approval of 2018 Financial Annual Report:

We spent down some surplus, which was an intentional decision, primarily through the purchase of chrome books and grants to teachers based on proposals they submitted.

MOTION to approve the 2018 Financial Annual Report.

Moved by Phoebe Shen. Seconded by Kinnari Shah.

Discussion: to encourage teachers to spend their monies for classroom enrichment. Looks like they are spending a lot more than they used to.

Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report 7/1/19 year to date.

This includes draft budget approved in May. Final budget will be presented in October. Chinook Books and T-Shirts are in process. Teacher appreciation started off at the beginning of the year appreciated by teachers (thank you Liz Bonnett.

- Budget amendments
 - Use of PTA membership scholarships for staff

MOTION: to add a line item for PTA memberships of \$200 for ACCESS staff/teacher.

Phoebe Shen moved, Tanya Awabdy seconded.

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Discussion: what has been the participation of teachers/staff in the past in the ACCESS PTA? Very low. Would be good to encourage them to participate. Are there ways for them to participate virtually or in other ways? Language in invitation would be important, to let them know that we want their input. Is there a way to have a meeting during the school day to allow them to participate? Could we ask for a teacher representative, possibly one middle or one elementary? At other schools, there was one teacher representative who attended meetings.

Motion passed.

Motion: to expand of Staff Development Line item to \$1000 to support OATAG attendance.

Phoebe Shen moved, Sara Kennedy Adams seconded.

Discussion: OATAG does a conference each year, which is a great conference serving as a crash course for gifted. This year the focus is neurodiversity, so there will be a lot of information about twice exceptional kids. October 26, a Saturday. The fee for the conference makes you an OATAG members: Oregon Association of Talented and Gifted. It would be available for other teacher trainings if money is left from last. Bridget O'Hagan is the gifted coordinator for elementary, Dr. Garcia for middle. Met to outline professional development plan; the Tuesday following the OATAG conference both will facilitate professional development with staff to convey what they have learned. PTA is putting a flyer to remind teachers PTA can cover their conference fee.

Motion passed.

New business /Questions (30 minutes)

Goal of Run for ACCESS funding: general or targeted, including amendment to move Arts Fun Run to Run for ACCESS. - Tanya Awabdy

We will be taking Run for ACCESS in house. Question is whether we are going to include it in general fund or for specific goals to spend in house. One comment: there is very little art for ACCESS students, so will be important to earmark for arts. There is still \$20,000 in Run4theArts to spend. That money is controlled by administrator. Want to be sure not to double up spending. One model is to integrate art into the curriculum for each year and know which art activity will add to the curriculum and have that amount built into the curriculum which was stable each year. One idea is to raise money earmarked for the following year, so spend down Run 4 the Arts money this year, and then try to replicate it with money raised this year from in house. Last year we had drama; that was paid from PPS not Run4 the Arts. Would be nice to add drama and music into curriculum. Maybe use some of the Run 4 the Arts money on a consultant to help integrate the arts into each curriculum. Set it up for this year to replicate each year. Ginger is willing to work with committee to set up integrating regular arts and

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spending into ACCESS. Some interest in including service learning in the curriculum, keeping the budget more flexible. Arts, community service, field trips and other enrichment activities.

Motion: to change the Arts Fun Run to the Run for ACCESS for arts , Community service, field trips and other enrichment activities. Moved by Phoebe Shen, Seconded by Tanya Awabdy.

Motion passed.

Forming committee to create to help coordinate spending Run 4 the Arts money/stable art integration into curriculum

Volunteers: Amber Keller, Sara Kennedy Adams, Brian Conley

Membership Toolkit App demonstration - Phoebe Shen

You must register online first, but then the Membership Toolkit App is very convenient. You will get alerts when new messages are sent. You can access the store, sign ups, calendar and teacher contact information. And the directory is very handy on your phone; you can search by parent or child name, and sort by bus route, grade, and homeroom.

Afterschool Enrichment/Club subcommittee suggestion - Phoebe Shen

Looking for people interested in forming a subcommittee to help plan afterschool enrichment clubs for ACCESS.

- **Volunteers Needed:** email Phoebe Shen at access.pta.sec@gmail.com if interested.
 - Harvest Festival Coordinator
 - Help with PTA picnic tables at Vestal
 - Volunteer Coordinator
 - Oregon Battle of the Books Coordinator
 - Potential plaque for ACCESS artwork installed at RCP
 - Solicit written agreement from District regarding ACCESS lockers at RCP:
Tanya Schaefer
 - PTA Art Reflections Program
 - Summer Potluck Picnic Coordinator
 - Service Coordinator

- **Principal's Update-** (30 minutes) - Ginger Taylor

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Opportunities for volunteering: 1. Sabrina Flamoe is looking to freshen up the library, and would like to purchase new furniture, and wondered if we would like to participate with that, though understanding that the furniture would remain at Vestal. Librarian chair is broken, also wants to pay for student desks and chairs. Sabrina is coming up with a detailed list of what is needed, which will be shared with ACCESS for contribution.

The little shed at Lane is vacant. Michael, the Lane principal, says we are welcome to use it. It used to be used by HeadStart. They have the key. If there is use year round for storage, might need shelving built in there. PTA is interested in using it for storage. Would need some conversion for shelves to be able to use it. Might be useful for emergency supplies.

Teachers are doing awesome. Aurel Coste and Ginger just met with Blackboard School, a technology programming startup; he is partnering with PPS schools to do co-teaching, so may use it in one section of technology. Initial year cost is only the licensing. Self-paced programming, using javascript.

Schools picture contract is finalized, so dates will be set. Just came from interviews for School Secretary at Vestal. Susie Fung is promoted to principal secretary. She will move to Lane site in a few weeks. Hope to have new secretary start in next 7-10 days. Then ACCESS will be fully staffed.

The one thing Ginger would like is to get rid of the TV screen from the principal's office. Used it in a few meetings. Would like to have a master schedule building board in its place: a kit with a magnetic white board with gridlines.

Mr. Z, Devin and Ginger have been meeting with focus groups of kids to look at technology use during lunch and recess. There is a new rights and responsibility handbook needs to get connected to the website. Redrafted ACCESS technology use policy; there will be a classroom guidance lesson this week on this, and commit to the new policy. Goal to develop regular opportunities for students to engage in conversations about becoming good digital consumers.

- **Announcements /Other (5 minutes)**

Chinook Book available for sales - Phoebe Shen

App offered the option to renew with benefits going to ACCESS.

10/10/19 8th grade movie night 6:30, movie at 7, childcare available.

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10/25/19: Haunted House set up (middle school bus over)

10/27/19: Haunted House with Harvest Festival, 2-4 at Vestal; may coordinate with Vestal's Harvest Festival.

4/17/20 is tentative Talent Show date. Auditions will remain the same.

9/30/19: Dine Out Hot Lips on Hawthorne Pizza; ACCESS gets a percentage of all sales.

10/14/19: Salvador Molly's

Upcoming Events (see online/subscribe to calendar:

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

9/24/19: Coffee with Principal Taylor, ACCESS@Vestal

9/24/19: 6-7:30, Back to School Night, ACCESS@Vestal

9/30/19: Dine Out, Hot Lips Pizza, SE Hawthorne

10/3/19: Clothing Closet Volunteer Day

10/8/19, 8:35-9:35: Coffee with Principal Taylor, ACCESS@Lane

10/8/19, 8-12, Run for ACCESS @Lane

10/10/19, 8-11:30, Run for ACCESS @ Vestal

10/11/19, Statewide Inservice, No School

10/14/19: Dine Out, Salvador Molly's

10/16/19, 7-8:30 PTA Meeting, BESC

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.