

# ACCESS Academy PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, Feb 20, ,2025 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: Aaron Ferguson , Kelly O'Hara, lisa Flood, Tracy Connor Diane Waggoner, Josie Parker, Jory Ruscio, Holly Hofkamp, Eliz Roser, Klara Jolesz

- **President's call to order, welcome** – Lisa Flood (3 minutes)
  - Called to order at: 7:04
  
- **Approvals** (2 min):
  - Approve Minutes of [2025-01-16 General Mtg Minutes - Google Docs](#) - approved as written
  
- **Treasurer's Report** - Jory Ruscio (10)
  - a. [Treasurer's report](#) (as of 1/31/25)
    - i. Balances
      - 1. Checking - \$23,830.51
      - 2. Savings - \$45,102.14
      - 3. PayPal - \$11,441.68 (to be transferred to checking)
    - ii. YtD
      - 1. Income - \$48,714.62
      - 2. Expenses - \$18,780.78
    - iii. Transfers
      - 1. Transfers from paypal to onpoint checking \$187.79 + \$3751.83
    - iv. Fundraisers thus far have been successful. See below. Discussed possibility of capital investments with Principal Aaron.
      - 1. Readathon - \$14K
      - 2. Give Campaign - \$
      - 3. Matching contributions -
      - 4. Bottle drop
      - 5. Dine Outs
      - 6. Corn Maize
      - 7. Fred Meyer
      - 8. Charleston gift wrap - \$3k
    - v. Bigger expenses include t-shirts, staff appreciation, PE equipment
  
- **Principal's Update/Counselor** (15-20 minutes)
  - 325 t-shirts were distributed and school photo happened:)
  - In lottery season

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- 4 info sessions - has been helpful to have parents there. 2 more planned the 3/3/25 at 6 pm, 3/6/2025 9 am. Tours will be after the lottery results are available. PTA has tried to copied to chat questions to create an FAQ
- Next week - there is a new staff meeting scheduled Tuesday after budget info is released. This is when we will hear more about staffing next year. What we know at this point is one of the counselor positions and ½ of the librarian position is likely at risk. A parent asked if there was opportunity for advocacy. We discussed that PPS does look at IEPs when staffing, but doesn't really look at 504 plans. There are many kids with very robust
- Standards based grading is starting next year, info sessions are occurring through PPS. It has been piloted by 2 middle school teacher this year at ACCESS. There are some concerns that Aaron, parents, and teachers. There will be a meeting with Richard Smith, the lead for the middle grade redesign, to discuss how this might/will affect ACCESS students.
- Upcoming Events:
  - Early release next week 2/26
  - History Day 3/11/25 evening
  - Spring Dance 4/11/2025
  - Ren Faire 5/22/25
  - Talent Show 5/30/2025
  - 8th grade promotion 6/6/2025
  - Family Potluck/Bingo 6/7/2025 vs 5/17/2025
  - Discussed that it would be ideal to have big dates mapped out on the calendar for next year, will work on this in May/June
- **PTA officer recruitment**
  - Would like more delineated and define roles [Draft of board roles/responsibilities](#)
  - May also build out committees in the future - fundraising, community building, middle school liaison, advocacy, etc
- **Volunteer Acknowledgement (2 min)**
  - a. Opportunities - [ACCESS Academy Volunteers 2024-25](#)
  - b. Biggest needs right now: Staff Appreciation and Pi Day procurement!
  - c. [Breakfast and Lunch Volunteering](#)
  - d. Questions about volunteering go to Eliz [volunteer@accessacademypta.org](mailto:volunteer@accessacademypta.org)
- **Upcoming events to announce:**
  - a. Author visits - update and discussion (Eliz, 5 min)

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- i. Aron Nels Steinke: Friday, 3/21 at 9:30 a.m. 5th-7th graders only. Community to purchase 40 copies of [his new book](#) (\$15) from Green Bean Books.
  - ii. Terry Blas - 4/25/2025
    - a. Community Building Committee: Wednesday, March 12, 2:00, Jola Cafe
    - b. Family Potluck/Bingo Date TBD
- **Recommendations/brainstorm for future topics of discussion at PTA meetings (5 min)** - send ideas to [board@accessacademypta.org](mailto:board@accessacademypta.org).
    - a. April meeting topic will be Transition to Middle School by Devin.
  - **Adjournment** at 7:55
  - **Next meeting: 3/20/2024 (virtual), 7-8 pm**
  - **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 meeting

Upcoming Events:

**MON 2/24** - 9:30 A - 1:30 P - ACCESS Volunteers at PPS Clothing Closet

**WED 2/26 - 12:45 P - Early Release**

**MON 3/3 - Planning Day (NO SCHOOL)**

**TUE 3/4** - Book Orders and PTA Donations Due for Author Visit

**WED 3/5** - 9:00 - 10:00 A - [Virtual Principal's Coffee](#)

**WED 3/12** - 2:00 P - Community Building Committee Meetup at Jola Cafe

**WED 3/19 - 12:45 P - Early Release**

**THU 3/20** - 7:00 - 8:00 P - [PTA Meeting](#)

**MON 3/24 - FRI 3/28 - Spring Break (NO SCHOOL)**