

# ACCESS Academy PTA General Membership Meeting Agenda

Thursday, April 17, 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: Lisa Flood, M. Cleary, Rachel Lipsey, Eliz Roser, Anthony Hofkamp, Amy Swallow, Amber Lin, Sarah DeLashmutt, Aaron Ferguson, Missy McGoogan, Kelly O'Hara, Klara Jolesz, Devin Harkness, Joyr, Ruscio, Holly Hofkamp, David Stein, Josie Parker, Diane Waggoner, Maureen McCafferty


- **President's call to order, welcome** – Lisa Flood (3 minutes) - called to order at 7:05
- **Approvals** (2 min):
  - Approve Minutes of [03.20.25 Gen Mtg Minutes - Google Docs](#) - approved as written
- **Transition to Middle School** -Devin Harkness (15 min )
  - Classroom lessons - taught by Devin and Jessie, 3-4 push in sessions
    - Discuss differences between elementary and middle
    - Personal organization and tracking school work with multiple teachers
      - Notetaking, paper vs google planner, Canvas
    - Discuss social changes
  - Q&A with current middle schoolers (6th and 7th graders)
    - Discuss day in the life, what they wish they knew, outdoor school
  - Meet and visit middle some of the school homeroom teachers/ classrooms
  - Attending middle school dance (optional) - symbolic invitation to middle school May 2 6-8 pm
  - Reflect and think about future - "Writing a letter to my future self"
  - Jump Start to Middle School Day -
    - All 6th graders go to school the first day without 7th and 8th graders.
    - Different get to know games, activities, skill building sessions, etc.
    - Walk through all their classes to practice
    - Help students to get social-emotional prep
    - Parent suggested to invite the new 7th/8th graders to get them more comfortable
  - Elective - students select a preference for their elective (options this year are STEM and Art) but math schedule dictates what elective students can do
  - Encouraged parents to set a weekly date with student to review planner/Canvas/calendar to get students excited about having educational autonomy
  - Encouraged parents to understand that this is a "wobbly" year and that's okay
- **Overview of AVID curriculum** - Cleary (10-15 min)
  - 6th grade is a learning curve, ok if it looks wobbly academically
  - Avid/Spanish will be combined with A and B days so that all students get these executive function strategies in the beginning of the year

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- o Study skills, executive function, and learning how you learn, and learning how to take over your own
- o Tools: binder, folders in computer organized
- o Working to get all 6th graders planners for visual strategy and do it on the computer
- **Principal's update** (10 min)
  - o Parent raised concern of anti-autism rhetoric in the mainstream and inquired if this could be a focus for the school, Aaron will bring it back to the teachers to support
  - o OSAS for middle school next week next Wed and Thursday am
    - Please send physical books to read with kids in case they are opting out or finish early as they will not be able to access technology
  - o ACCESS Academics came in 2nd at OBOB
- **Treasurer's Report** - Jory Ruscio/Kelly O'Hara (10 min)
  - o  Treasurer's Report 3-31-2025.pdf (as of 3/31/2025)
  - o Balances
    - Checking - \$32,314.42
    - Savings - \$45,109.43
  - o YtD
    - Income -\$ 48,823.10
    - Expenses - \$19,615.53
  - o Grants approved:
    - DEI - Dinner for Black TAG Family Night - \$500
    - Robotics Team - 3d printer - TBD
  - o Electronic transfers
    - i. none
  - b. Budget:
    - i. Jory Ruscio Motioned to increase budget for community potlucks \$600->\$1000 given CUB prices
      - 1. Eliz Roser seconded the motion, All present at time of vote were in favor ( Lisa Flood, Rachel Lipsey, Eliz Roser, Amber Lin, Diane Waggoner, Josie Parker, Kelly O'Hara, Holly Hofkamp, Heidi Reichert ,Jory Ruscio, David Stein, Klara Joesz, Missy McGoogan, Amy Swallow), none opposed
    - ii. Motion to Reallocate unused funds from literacy enrichment to library (~\$850)
      - 1. Eliz Roser seconded the motion, ( Lisa Flood, Rachel Lipsey, Eliz Roser, Amber Lin, Josie Parker, Kelly O'Hara, Holly Hofkamp, Heidi Reichert

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,Jory Ruscio, David Stein, Klara Joesz, Missy McGoogan, Amy Swallow),  
none opposed


- c. Recent cool expenditures to support the school: Contributed to Black Tag Number and 3D printer for Robotics team
  - d. Received an anonymous donation of \$750 that was designated to Helping Hands. PTA is unable to accept money on behalf of helping hands due to IRS rules. While deliberating about how to use that donation in the spirit of Helping Hand, 90 days expired and we were unable to process that check.
- **PTA officer recruitment and candidate updates - Eliz (5-10 min)**
    - Elected Positions - Candidates
      - **President:** oversee PTA, run meetings, work closely with staff and parents to reach the PTA's goals, candidate: Jory Ruscio
      - **Vice President:** work closely with President to support PTA's goals, candidate: Eliz Roser
      - **Co-Treasurer:** oversee budget, reimbursements, and reporting for the PTA's finances. Candidates: Kelly O'Hara and Amber Lin
      - **Secretary or Co-Secretaries:** take minutes at PTA meetings, ensure website copy is up to date, maintain PTA records. Candidate: Holly Hofkamp
    - Standing Committee Chairs (appointed by PTA, do not require a vote)
      - **Fundraising Chair:** work with volunteers to oversee and coordinate fundraising events - David Stein
      - **Volunteer Coordinator:** be the liaison between the PTA volunteer needs and the community! Help find volunteers for various projects and events as needed over the year - Tracy Connor
      - **Staff Appreciation Chair:** work with volunteers to oversee and coordinate staff appreciation events - Courtney O'Leary
    - Election will be held at the in-person PTA meeting on May 15th. If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact Eliz.
  - **Volunteer Acknowledgement (2 min)**
    - a. Talent Show - Heather Weigler
    - b. Yearbook - Julie Court Jacob
    - c. June 7 Potluck/BINGO Planning Committee - need helpers!

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- d. Opportunities -  ACCESS Academy Volunteers 2024-25
- e. [Breakfast and Lunch Volunteering](#)
- f. Questions about volunteering go to Eliz [volunteer@accessacademypta.org](mailto:volunteer@accessacademypta.org)

- **Adjournment/Next meeting: 5/22/2024 (In PERSON), 7-8 pm**

### Reminders:

- o PTA Membership and Information on [ACCESS Academy PTA - Home Page \(membershiptoolkit.com\)](#)
- o PTA meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month 7-8 pm
  - Thursday, April 17 virtual
  - Thursday, May 15, in person
- o Please send recommendations for future topics of discussion at PTA meetings [board@accessacademypta.org](mailto:board@accessacademypta.org)

### Upcoming Dates/ Events:

**WED 4/23 - 12:45 P - Early Release**

**FRI 4/25** 6-8th grade Author Visit (Terry Blas)

**5/5-5/9** Staff Appreciation Week

**THU 5/22** Renaissance Faire

**FRI 5/30** Talent Show

**FRI 6/6** 8th Grade Promotion

**Sat 6/7** Family Bingo/Potluck

**MON 6/9** Field Day