

Tualatin Elementary School PTA
General Membership Meeting • September 9, 2014
(Held in the Tualatin Elementary School Library)

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Amanda Thorderson. A quorum of members as stated in the standing rules was present.

The membership reviewed the August 19, 2014, meeting minutes. Jean motioned to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded. Minutes, as written, were approved by the membership.

Local Option Levy Renewal – November 4 Election

Kristy Whaples has volunteered to help with the location option levy awareness for Tualatin Elementary. Each school has a representative.

- * current levy approved in 2000 and renewed in 2004 and 2008
- * up for renewal this year to maintain existing levy rate until 2015-2016 school year
- * TTSD gets \$4.6 million (or equivalent to 55 teaching positions)

If you are new to the area, you need to register to vote, and if you have moved, even in same area, you need to update mailing address. October 14 is deadline to register to vote

Election Information Advisory Committee – 100% volunteer base

What can you do to help support the levy?

- Signs provided for your car
- Sign up for yard signs
- Sign up to distribute door hangers (canvassing) – Oct 18 and Oct 25 (weekends)
- Sign up to put labels and stamps on flyers
- If you wish to donate to help with this campaign, the max is \$50/individual; \$100/household (tax deduction for full amount).
- Visit www.yestigardtualatin.com to volunteer or donate.

REPORTS

Principal report (Jamie Kingery)

This is Jamie's 4th year as principal at Tualatin Elementary. He's been an assistant principal and taught in the TTSD for eight years. He thanked the PTA in advance for providing treats at Back to School Night on Sept. 11. At 5:45p is the Spanish session in the Library and at 6:30p is the general session in the gym. Teachers are introduced and the program coordinators and the Principal speak to the families. Afterward, it is time to visit classroom and then visit other rooms in the school.

Thank you to the PTA for the Monday treats during the recent In-service week. The first week of school there were also treats for the Kinder and new parents at school. This effort all adds to the sense of community at the school.

This summer, 210 students attended the Summer Reading program at the City of Tualatin Library and 69 students went all the way to completion. This was similar to the other schools in the area.

Gov. Kitzhaber wanted to visit a school with full-day kinder. Next year the law takes effect to provide full day kinder to kids, as well as pre-K schooling. Gov. Kitzhaber came to Tualatin Elementary on the first day of school and addressed invited students and family members... Nancy Golden (Chief Education Officer) and Ernie Brown (TTSD Superintendent) spoke. The Governor read a Dr. Seuss book – *Oh the Places You'll Go*. He did a great job holding the kids attention in Mrs. Harris' room.

We are off to another great start this year!

President's report (Amanda Thorderson)

We are looking for people to run the Scrip program. Angela who has been the coordinator the last five years came to talk about it. There might be someone willing to help on Tuesdays. Someone is needed for Thursday. Thursday's activity is to pick up the orders from the Scrip center (at TTSD offices) then prepare the orders to be distributed out to the families and teachers that purchased. It is an estimated 2 hours of time. There is a Scrip meeting on Sept 19 at the District.

What is Scrip? You buy gift cards for local restaurants, grocery stores, dept stores, entertainment...the establishments give a discount to the school – 3% to 4% of the value of the card. Remember, your money grows for your school! Teachers can get reimbursed for expenses in the classroom with the proceeds from their Scrip purchases.

Amanda updated the group that the Volunteer Coordinator position was filled by four people. Thank you! To help the Volunteer folks, please fill out volunteer forms on the table.

A new event that we'd like to start is a STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) night in the Spring. There is a TTSD employee and community member who can provide resources. We are looking for volunteers to head that up. If you are interested let Amanda know.

Thank you to the parents that helped with the Back to School Breakfast for the teachers and to Einstein's who donated hundreds of bagels for the BooHoo WooHoo Breakfast.

For the School Supply Drop-Off, the PTA provided cookies for all the kids and we appreciated Horizon for providing the rest of the meal and the volunteers.

Amanda will meet with the Staff at their next meeting and answer any questions from them and check to see if we are meeting their needs.

The week before our general PTA meetings, the Executive Board meets to discuss and plan the monthly agenda. If there is something you want to share at the general meeting, let us know the week ahead, if possible, and we add it to the agenda.

Membership report (Sharell Lien)

Membership applications are available tonight! Dues for the 2014-2015 school year are \$11.50 per person. Sign up to show your support for PTA....the more members, the stronger we will be.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up and will be signing up tonight!

Treasurer's report (Wendy O'Riley)

There is \$47,000 in the bank. In general, to fund the early activities, the PTA needs to have \$12,000 to start the school year. We are in a good financial position, as everything voted on has been funded.

Please let Wendy know if you are needing reimbursement for any outstanding check requests.

There was discussion about amending the budget. At a meeting last year, it was discussed to put all the field trip money into one line item so funds left over from one grade can help cover other grades who go over their \$1,000 allotment. Each grade still needs to do their best to stay within the \$1,000, but this allows flexibility without coming to the membership for the vote to go over the grade allotment.

Merrily made a motion to amend the budget so there is one line item for Field Trips (\$6,000). It was seconded and there was discussion. The membership voted to put the money in to one line item.

It was suggested that since the PTA purchased cookies for the BBQ, there should be a budget line item to cover these desserts for the BBQ, the BooHoo WooHoo, and Back to School Night treats. Approximate dollars spent is \$450.

Merrily made a motion to delete the current line items of BTSN and Kinder Parent Welcome and create a new line item of Back to School Events and fund it for \$450 to cover BTSN, BooHoo WooHoo, and the School Supply Drop-off events. The motion was seconded, there was discussion, and the membership voted to approve the motion.

There was discussion to consider having a Technology line item that would cover the laptop computer purchase for the Treasurer approved last time and the fees to maintain the Tualatin Elementary PTA website. The website funds were donated last year. The suggested funding is \$500.

Sharell made a motion to rename the laptop computer line item agreed upon at the last meeting to "Technology" and adding funds for the website to bring the approved spending total to \$500. The motion was seconded and approved by a vote of the membership.

BUSINESS

Walk+Bike to School Day (Leslie Brenton)

Wednesday, October 8 – Mark your calendar for this fun-filled and healthy activity!

Information (participation slip) will be going home to all families on Monday, October 6, with other announcements in the Black Bear Bulletin prior to that date. Students who walk or bike to school on this day receive something for participating and are entered into the prize drawing. We are working on enough helmets to draw one for each grade level. There will be other prizes too. Parent help is needed the morning of to help the kiddos safely navigate their way to school and to work the prize table. It is a quick event that takes about 45 minutes or less of your time.

Talk to Leslie Brenton or Sharell Lien if you wish to help.

Fun Run (Kelly Atkinson co-chair for committee)

Friday, October 3 – Mark your calendar for this school-wide activity that is a tradition at the school. It is the largest fund raiser for this school year. Collection envelopes will go home with the kids on Sept. 19 with an informational sheet inside about Spirit Week and prizes.

Volunteers are needed – A Google doc is available on the FB page.

- * outside on the course the day of
- * ribbon sales the week prior
- * money counting the day of
- * prize distribution the day of

Wendy checked and the bank is looking for a coin counter,

Library (Kathleen Cunningham)

Nine classes have come through the library already this school year. There are still some openings for library volunteers. Tualatin Elementary is the only school who has begun their library visits this school year! Way to go!

The year the school is participating in the Oregon Battle of the Books and volunteers for OBOB are needed. There are still decisions being made as to how the program will run. It might be an after school program. Please talk to Ms. Cooke, Ms. Hole, or Kathleen if you are interested in helping.

Campbell's Soup Labels (Cindy Krahnke for Beth Hancock)

As of Sept. 9, the school has 16,000 points to spend. A meeting will be held with Mr. Kingery to determine what purchases would best benefit the school. An update will be shared next month.

Garden (Paul Taylor)

The Garden is celebrating the 5th year of existence! The garden committee meeting is on Sept. 15 in Soderquists' classroom. The 3rd Sunday of the month will be the Work Party events (likely not Dec. Jan). The next Work Party is Sunday, Sept 21...1-3 p.m. Paul will be there to guide the volunteers what to do.

Garden orientations – every teacher signed up to bring their classes to the garden for 20 minutes. Student and teachers (and parents) should know about areas in the school. It help people feel comfortable in the garden. Parents are welcome to come with their class. The scheduled was posted on FB.

It would be helpful to have more help watering the garden in the coming weeks as it is still warm. Please sign up for one of the weeks (continuing through October). Beans, kale, and tomatoes are being harvested now.

Paul distributed fragrant thank you gifts (herb bouquets) from the garden to those that watered over the summer. Stay in touch with the Garden news on FB – TualatinElementarySustainableGarden

Book Fair (Amanda Thorderson via written report from Heather Roberts)

The 2014 Book Fair will run Monday, Oct. 20 thru Friday, Oct. 24 and the theme is "Sir Read-a-Lot's Castle: The Kingdom of Books".

* We will have set-up on Thursday, Oct. 16 after school and teacher previews will run on Friday, Oct. 17 before and after school. The Fair will be open after school Monday thru Wednesday with an exciting Kick-Off Event on Monday evening.

* Instead of a "Grand Event" this year, we'll be doing a "Bagels and Books" event before school on Wednesday morning.

* The Fair will be open, like years past, all day on Thursday the 23rd and most of the day on Friday the 24th - closing early on Friday at 3p.

* We will be doing a change drive called "All for Books" the week prior to the Book Fair to increase awareness for the Fair and all proceeds allow us to directly purchase books for our library from our Book Fair inventory.

* We will actually get to take paid pre-orders for the new Diary of a Wimpy Kid book that will be released the first week of November!!

Heather will send a Google doc Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet the last week of September. In addition to regular volunteers to be in charge of check out at the fair, a couple of volunteers to help coordinate decorations and set-up would be helpful, and Heather is in need of someone to help secure donations for the Bagels and Books event. Contact Heather robertshlm@yahoo.com.

Fall Harvest (Wendy O'Riley) – October 30, 2014

The committee from last year is mostly returning and will be meeting early October. There is a need for someone to do the posters/flyers. The date approved for the Fall Harvest event is October 30, 2014, starting at 5:30 p.m. and ending at 7:30 p.m. Volunteer sign-up will come at a future date.

Key club and ambassadors are helping again this year too.

Winter Holiday (Jean) – Decemeber 12, 2014

The committee isn't meeting quite yet, as Fall Harvest is first. Save the date for Dec. 12 from 6-8 p.m.

At this event students decorate gingerbread houses. The teachers build 350 graham cracker houses. The icing is provided and families bring candy and the foundation (cardboard, plate) to hold the house.

Spirit Wear (Courtney Kozak)

A big order of Spirit Wear is here. Sales will take place at Back to School Night. There are youth and adult sweatshirts and t-shirts, as well as socks available for purchase. Credit cards can be taken that night. The Online store opens in October.

Memory books (Cindy Krahnke)

Memory books sales will be offered at Back to School Night, Fall Harvest, and Winter Holiday. Cost will be \$20 each, but tonight they are \$16 each (Amy, Christy, and Jean also on committee). The book covers all activities during the school year (until the books goes to press). Fill out the memory book order form and turn it in tonight after the meeting.

Other

Amanda mentioned that there may be Spanish-speaking parents that wish to come to the PTA meetings. Please let her know if you can help with translations.

Kathleen mentioned there is OBOB money left over – \$407 was spent last year. With the remaining money she'd like to register (in the next few months) for next year. Since last year's financial books have been closed out, a new motion to cover this would need to be made. Merrily motioned to add \$550 for OBOB books this school year. The motion was seconded and approved by the membership.

QUESTIONS and COMMENTS

If you want to be on the agenda, please let Amanda Thorderson know.

www.tualatinelementarypta.org

tualatinpta@gmail.com

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, October 7, 2014 – School Library
7 p.m. PTA meeting begins

Jean made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded and approved. President Amanda Thorderson adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Prepared by ~

Date presented: October 7, 2014

Sharell Lien, Secretary

Approved as Written or Amended

President

Secretary