

Tualatin Elementary School PTA
General Membership Meeting • November 4, 2014
(Held in the Tualatin Elementary School Library)

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Amanda Thorderson. A quorum of members as stated in the standing rules was present.

The membership reviewed the October 7, 2014, meeting minutes. Cindy Krahnke motioned to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded. Minutes, as written, were approved by the membership.

REPORTS

Principal report (Jamie Kingery)

Thank you for all who helped with Fall Harvest. It was a successful and fun event! It was a very welcoming event with great decorations and many smiles on the faces of students.

Safety protocols have changed in TTSD and in other Washington County schools. Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is being used in all the schools so everyone is speaking a common language between students, staff, and responders/law enforcement. Common signs covering the below information are going up in the building.

In an Emergency

When you hear it. Do it.

- Lockout! Secure the Perimeter.
- Lockdown! Locks, Lights, Out of Sight.
- Evacuate! (Directions to follow)
- Shelter! (Directions to follow)

School safety is becoming more of a refined process. Since Jamie has been here, they've been trying to determine what an evacuation would look like. The incident with the black bear created a lockout situation. For evacuations, it is important to establish for families where to reunite (fire, earthquake). One site being looked at is on Teton, if only TuES needs to evacuate. A larger site is being determined if all schools need to evacuate (perhaps a local church). In these instances, buses take the kids away from the school (district, school personnel, and emergency responders are present).

A Common Core parent night was held on October 14. This meeting helped families get to know the Common Core State Standards. Jamie encourages parents to review the information on the web site, in the Black Bear Bulletin, and attend the future meetings. The Smarter Balance Assessments will also be taking place later this school year. These new tests help show the learning growth.

Common Core – Upcoming TTSD meetings for Parents, more info at:

http://www.ttsdschools.org/pages/ttsd/District/Curriculum_Instruction/Common_Core

February 5th, 2015 6:30-8pm Twality Middle School	Supporting Students through the CCSS Transition
April 21st, 2015 6:30-8pm Hazelbrook Middle School	Looking Into the Future

AmeriCorps – Sarah Clark is the school's AmeriCorps member this year. Welcome Sarah! She is from upstate New York (Syracuse) and has worked in YMCA programs and other youth education. Sarah is interested in teaching.

President's report (Amanda Thorderson)

To be a *Unit in Good Standing* there are some basic requirements. We need to vote on the Standing Rules to incorporate the change from last year, which allows more than one person to hold a position, as long as duties are well-defined and communicated to the membership. Another suggested change is the wording of Membership to Outreach for Standing Committees.

Cindy made a motion to change Membership to Outreach. The motion was seconded. A question was asked if it couldn't be "Membership/Outreach." The motion was amended to add Outreach to Membership. The motion was seconded and approved by vote of the membership. Ana has offered to be the PaLa liaison and fill the Outreach/Membership standing committee chair position.

Starting in January, childcare will be offered at the PTA meetings by the school's teaching assistants. Next month at December's meeting, we will vote if the PTA will cover the cost of the childcare. The school is not able to assist this year with that expense, but it is possible next year that it could be incorporated. We are waiting to see if the addition of childcare increases attendance.

A teacher survey was recently done and will be shared at the December meeting. We need to figure out how to do a parent survey to find out what is important to them. Please reach out to Amanda if you have ideas.

Picture retakes needs a few volunteers on November 20.

Membership report (Sharell Lien)

Membership applications are available tonight. Dues for the 2014-2015 school year are \$11.50 per person. Currently, there are 41 members, plus six more who wish to join tonight. Thank you to everyone who has signed up and will be signing up tonight!

Treasurer's report (Wendy O'Riley)

Wendy reminded the group that double-counting funds is important when money is taken in.

BUSINESS

Library (Kathleen Cunningham)

Kathleen expressed her appreciation for having more money to support the Library. It has been helpful to provide education about the Library this year and offer more books to the kids. The new Diary of a Wimpy Kid books are arriving soon. Also, 80 students have signed up to be in OBOB.

Garden (Paul Taylor)

Fantastic things are happening in the garden. Sight words are being incorporated in the Kinder activities in the garden. TEAF classes are happening. Each student made a wood cookie name tag. Garlic was harvested in August and has aged and it has been planted to grow again. Weeding is being done this week! Lots of weeding! The Garden table at the Fall Harvest was active with garden art activities. Tree names are being learned...like *Acer macrophyllum* (big leaf maple). The 4th grade staff are working on a grant through Whole Foods for the outdoor classroom...a cistern to save the rain water from the roof. A \$2,200 grant would pay for two 500 gallon or one 1,000 gallon storage tank for watering the summer garden.

The undercover teaching area should be finished in the next week or so (professionals are doing the roof and gutters). This was an Eagle Scout Project by Dylan Girardi.

Next work party – November 16th 1-3 p.m. Main activity is putting gravel in the outdoor classroom area and weeding!

Book Fair (Heather Roberts) – October 20-24, 2014

This was the most successful book fair ever! More than \$7,700 in books and items were sold (\$2,000 was on the Monday night opening). There was also money raised with the coin drive. The Library is getting \$2,500 to spend on new books. The Scholastic Book fair is still online!

Art Literacy (Heather Roberts)

Help! Livingston's class needs a volunteer or they won't be able to do Art Literacy. Amano's class needs another volunteer as the current volunteer may not be able to continue helping.

Heather is working to find help for other volunteers for the classrooms who have only one person.

TEAF (Heather Roberts)

Heather is the TEAF coordinator (since September 2014). TEAF came about to provide extended and additional learning opportunities that aren't the same as the school day. Basically, we are starting over with funding for the program. The annual budget for TEAF is \$27,000. It costs approximately \$18,000 to run the remainder of TEAF for this school year (teacher time, bus, curriculum, coordinators salary). Class options are not being expanded without more funding. A TEAF committee (each grade plus music) has started meeting regularly. Heather is working to reduce costs...having teaching students conduct a class for credit, rather than pay. To see the program grow we need to find classes the students want as not all the sessions fill and some sessions need new supplies (chess pieces broken).

Heather is working on a corporate campaign...partnering with local businesses as sponsors. Applying for grants is another funding source. She is looking into a specified TEAF fundraiser (e.g. craft fair next year). She is seeking donations too. The new classes offered this year filled immediately -- chess and OBOB. With the annual budget of \$27,000, and the checking account has \$9,000. Heather would like \$7,500 to help with the funding this year (\$10K would be ideal).

Cara added that the Fun Run was being billed as a fund-raiser for the library, field trips, and TEAF. Fun Run made \$22,000. The PTA can vote how to divide up the funds earned from the Fun Run, keeping in mind that at least \$12,000 is needed to begin next school year.

More discussion will occur and a vote next month.

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

The event came in under budget.

Winter Holiday (Jean and Cindy) – December 12, 2014

On December 12, come to the school from 6-8 p.m. and decorate assembled (by teachers and staff) graham cracker houses. Bring a base for your house and candy! Icing provided.

Sign up to help as many did last meeting, but there is always room for more!

First planning meeting is Wed. Nov. 12 at 7 p.m. at Cindy Krahnke's house.

Scrip (Kim Eldridge)

Amanda reported that Kim Eldridge has offered to co-coordinate Scrip with Karen Field.

Kim shared that with the Holiday season coming – Black Friday, employee bonuses, etc. it is a great time to buy Scrip. Total PTA profit since September is \$491.52. There is \$246.20 in the teacher account. Next order date is November 18.

Spirit Wear (Courtney Kozak)

Online store is open and \$400 in Spirit Wear has been sold (some sold at Harvest Festival too Back to School Night too).

Calendar update – see the back of the Agenda

Music department (Melissa Myers)

Melissa shared that she has been inspired by music programs in Oregon and in our District that use Marimbas. She'd like to bring them to the school. Marimbas have large keys so students developing fine motor skills have an easier time playing songs correctly and feeling successful. Two students share one instrument. Marimbas come in varying sizes to teach students about pitch, range, and timbre.

A video of how Alberta Rider's music program is using marimbas was shown. Video can be seen at <http://vimeo.com/108752924>

Melissa would like to have someone help with the fund raising for 10 instruments; approx. \$8,645.

1 Bass Marimba - \$2,100
1 Baritone Marimba - \$1,000
4 Tenor Marimbas @\$850 - \$3,400
4 Soprano Marimbas @\$650 - \$2,600
---5% school discount offered = \$8,645

The marimbas are built by hand in Estacada. Rosebush Marimbas come with a lifetime warranty and offer the best wood and quality instrument for the price

OTHER BUSINESS

The check request shared at the meeting last month that was for last year's field trips was researched further. The 4th grade bus in June was part of another reimbursement. The total needed for this check request is \$145.73. Cara made a motion to pay the \$145.73. The motion was seconded and approved by the vote of the membership.

Fun Run t-shirts (for students with \$75 or more in donations) should be done next week and will be delivered the week after.

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, December 2, 2014 at 7 p.m. – School Library

A motion was made to adjourn, it was seconded and approved by a vote of the membership. President Amanda Thorderson adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Prepared by ~

Date presented: December 2, 2014

Sharell Lien, Secretary

Approved as Written or Amended

President

Secretary