

Tualatin Elementary School PTA
General Membership Meeting • March 6, 2018
(Held in the Tualatin Elementary School Library)

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Jymn Heathcott, PTA co-President of the 2017-2018 school year.

Call Meeting to Order and Welcome

A quorum was present at the meeting.

REPORTS

Principal's Report (Mr. Kingery)

Kindergarten registration night happened on the February 15. The turnout was OK, but the school is always looking to reach all the potential incoming students to best forecast the coming year. Do you know of a new family in the neighborhood? Any 5 year-old kids? Help the school get families all the information they need to get started in the Fall.

Very successful Read-a-thon with more than 32,000 minutes read by our students. We really appreciated this reading encouragement - it helps with our connection to the library, love of reading, and putting the student together with topics they enjoy. [Mr. Kingery is looking forward to the pizza party with the top 6 students from the Read-a-thon.] The Read-a-thon was a nice transition from our OBOB program and see it as a friendly competition between all the grades.

Last week was our 5th grade Civil Rights music program. We really like to celebrate the focus on equality and it's always a happy/sad night as it's the 5th graders last music program at our school.

A timely note to mention about school safety in-light of the recent school tragedy in Florida. School safety is something we continually access throughout the entire school year in addition to over the summer. We review current practices and this also evolves over the course of the year. If you do have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to your student's teacher or Mr. Kingery and they'll share with you the procedures - what we practice during the school year, the parent's role, your student's role and what that looks/feels like in our school specifically.

We have conferences coming up, so please feel free to ask your teachers at that time too. During Spring conferences, teachers will reach out to parents directly to request meetings with you about your students, if you weren't reached out to, you can request a time.

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The superintendent selection is coming up - the listening session have ended, the process for applicants (an open search across the country) and screening interviews are this week. Finalists will be selected next week and the wrap-up of the process is slated for Spring Break with an announcement by April 9th.

This weekend is daylight savings - don't forget to turn your clocks ahead on Sunday.

Co-Presidents Report (Sharell Lien/Jymn Heathcott)

Our unit has 53 members as of tonight, we are above the goal set for this year and holding steady.

If you'd like to attend the Oregon PTA conference, you can join this event to learn more about the PTA. The next conference is April 14-15, if you'd like to attend we have a budget allocated to send representatives from our PTA. It'll be at the Holiday Inn at the Airport.

Reviewed the calendar of events (see the reverse side of agenda) - we have Spring Break coming up at the end of the month and also includes an extra day of teacher training on April 2nd following the break. The next big event coming up is the Day of the Child/STREAM night event on April 27.

Our next meeting will be a shared meeting with PaLa and will be held on April 10th.

Treasurer (Prabha Senthil Kumar)

The current financial report was shared on the table, any questions please reach out. We wrote large checks last month for Art Lit and Music. Discussion about funds still remaining in the grade enrichment budget, wanted to make sure all the teachers are aware of it and using it up. Reached out to individual teachers or programs to let them know.

PaLA (Sharell Lien for Elizabeth Escobar)

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Next PaLA meeting is a joint meeting with the PTA. They are working right now with the TEAF coordinator on the Day of the Child/STREAM event. Have also invited the parents from Juntos Aprendemos (program on Wednesdays after school) to participate in the event that night. The DJ has been confirmed. Candy is needed for pinatas.

Nominating Committee (Sharell Lien for Elizabeth and Ana)

We have one person running for Secretary. We still have a lot of open positions. On the PTA website you can see all the descriptions for the roles along the time commitment (estimated hours outside the meetings, etc.)

Ask to all the PTA members to please reach out to your fellow parents in your classrooms that are here next year, neighbors or other interested parties about the open positions. Reach out to Elizabeth or Ana if someone is interested.

As a reminder we do need at least 4 members (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) on the board to operate next year, we can make adjustments to fit the best makeup for the incoming board. The past-presidents are here and available next year to provide support, but can't run themselves due to term limits.

NEW BUSINESS

Read-a-thon (Prasanna Raghupathi)

We were excited to host our fourth annual Read-A-Thon last week. Thank you to the parents who helped. There were 123 participants that read over 32,800 minutes and raised \$4,000. We had 5 kids that read over 1,000 minutes, we usually only have 1 or 2, so we are going to shift a bit from the proceeds to cover the book store gift cards.

3rd year in a row Mrs. Waibel had the most number of readers (over 50% of class), she sponsors each of the kids in her class as an incentive. Mrs. Soderquist's and Miss Lepore's classes had the most minutes (lower and upper grades). There were two drawings this year, thanks to Amy Zuckerman/Auction Committee, for children's theater events.

This was a fun event to encourage students to read and build literacy skills while also raising funds for our school. The proceeds from the Read-A-Thon help fund programs for student enrichment such as Art Lit, technology, field trips, TEAF, and library books.

Opportunity next year to move it to be before/during the OBOB program so those books count.

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Scrip (Cris Gehmn)

Would love to get someone trained up for next year. It's a small time commitment and very flexible to run. Next date for orders are Mar. 20, Apr. 17, May 15, June 5.

Garden (Paul Taylor)

Mr. Taylor had conversations with the 5th grade about being a landscape designer (he draw circles for a living!). He brought in a few of the designs that he's have done over the year and explained a bit more about the role, as well as his career path - it wasn't a straight line. Showed a bit about a day in the life and they discussed how different kinds of smart can enjoy different roles

The 3rd graders are planting peas in the garden. You can do it yourself at home too. Peas fix nitrogen in the soil, which enhances the soil. Great exercise in not just gardening, but listening and following directions too. There are strings throughout the gardens and we were lucky to stagger the planting so we'll have many pea tasting to come.

The 4th graders asked ProGrow (compost provider) for a unit of compost which we got this week, we buy one and they provided one to us. It makes the garden lively and full of worms, always invest in soil. ProGrow is running by the grandson of Evie Andrews, who was a Tualatin Elementary School teacher for over 30 years. 4th and 5th grade classes will be working on Monday the 12th and Thursday the 15th to disburse all the compost.

The Garden Committee is making a door mat out of retired garden hoses for our upcoming auction with our TEAF class. Look what you might be able to buy - it's going to be fab.

We also have a garden "meetup" aka work party on March 17th 9-11am. No special gardening skills are needed - we are going to have a pot of gold hidden somewhere in the garden.

Have Fun in the Garden!

Memory Book (Amber)

The 60-page memory book is available for \$20. They will be distributed the last week of school. We had flyers this year which resulted in about 40 additional books and we have 39 parent tributes. We expect to sell more books between now and Spring Break.

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Book Fair (Sharell Lien)

We really need someone to help run the book fair during the Day of the Child/STREAM event. Kathleen is available to help set-up the event. We are also looking for someone be the volunteer for next year, there are 2 book fairs during the year. If you want to walk through the fair this year and learn how to run this please contact Kathleen Cunnington (503-720-3972 or kcrismor@yahoo.com). Michele is also going to reach out the volunteer list with the ask for support in the short and long-term.

Community Announcements (Sharell Lien)

Request - Had a recent request from TerraSource, an Environmental researcher, that is surveying on behalf of Metro Srvs. that is asking to interview a staff member or parent who lives near the school about the impact from the composting business in the community. Sharell will send along the request to Jymn.

Caring Closet - Stuff the Bus is going to be on April 27th. We'll go over what this year's request for Tualatin Elementary students. If you have donation outside of the evening event, there is a drop-off at the school and the Caring Closet location near the Tigard Swim Center.

Flowers – Mr. Taylor brought flowers for a PTA-appreciation. Check out the pictures of the winners on the sustainable garden FB page.

QUESTIONS and COMMENTS

If you want to be on the next agenda, please let Sharell Lien or Jymn Heathcott know.

www.tualatinelementarypta.org

tualatinpta@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/groups/TualatinElementaryPTA

NEXT PTA MEETING:

Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the school library - joint with PaLA

Co-President Jymn Heathcott adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Prepared by ~

Date presented: April 10, 2018

Michele Warther, Secretary

Approved as Written or Amended

Secretary

Co-President