

Tualatin Elementary School PTA
General Membership Meeting • January 9, 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.

Foundation for Tigard-Tualatin School (Laura)

Foundation funds all 15 schools in the District. Foundation looks at ways to bring in more teachers into the District with funding.

February is the Fund Drive month – goal for the year is \$200,000 (double funding we provide to schools).

Tualatin Elementary spend money to extend academic support for STEM; Art in the Burbs – CD player for music room, painting/clay class for TEAF; Innovative grant for Weeble Wobble stools

Theme is Aspire Higher – Yard signs are up all of February and they'd like families to sign up. Signs will be delivered to school.

Calls will be different – “warm” phone calls to people who have donated in the past

Need translation in Spanish – if it is a skill you have and you'd like to donate the time to help, please let the Foundation know.

Dynamic Board of Directors right now. We don't have a Tualatin Elementary voice right now. Would love to have representation of Tualatin Elementary on the Board.

PaLa (Elizabeth Escobar)

PaLa – April 27 is the Day of the Child (Dia de los ninos)

Help will be needed. It is a day to celebrate children – first time this event was held at the school was last year. Activities ... pinatas, games, food donated from Chipotle and pizza.

Three for me – 87 families that have volunteers; look at a family number

Another email will go out again to share about the campaign.

Most volunteering has been from 1st grade parents and in the Garden.

Add information about Volunteering and what can be done for classroom help too.

REPORTS

Principal (Mr. Kingery)

Thank you all for attending tonight and Happy New Year. Appreciate Laura sharing about the Foundation Fund Drive coming up. The funds come from the Foundation do make a difference in our school. We are adding STEM activities with the additional teacher. The program continues to be developed in the school and across the District.

Prior to Winter Break we celebrated the Winter Holiday Family Night. Thank you to Jean for helping us with this event.

End of quarter is February 2. First full report card will be coming home.

Site Council is fine-tuning a parent survey to gather information to help improve our programs and serve our school community better.

The blue card (Safer Oregon) on the table is a reference link that is also on the District and school websites – it is a tip line for students or parents of students to use that is a place to report anything that is of concern – bullying, feeling unsafe. We still encourage students to report things here at school as soon as the incident occurs.

We work directly with our school resource officer.

In cafeteria or the BBB, we are gaining momentum on regular attendance discussion here and across the District. Students learn more when they are here. We are addressing some high-level concerns about chronic absences – Attendance is integral to graduation. When they miss one day a month or more than one day per month, they are less likely to have a successful education. You may get a call “why does your child have perfect attendance?” or “What are the barriers to having your student at school each day?” – the District is looking asking these questions across all schools.

ELL (English Language Learners) (Katherine Binford, Tamara Harris)

Each month we like to have a grade or program report at the meeting.

Tamara was a Kinder teacher at this school and has returned to teach ELL and Katherine has been at the school since 2003. They are English teachers and give lessons to students who may need English classes. There are students that come from various backgrounds (China, Saudi Arabia to name a few). The hope is the kids can exit the ELL program by 5th grade.

Classes are every day for 30 minutes. Use National Geographic Reach program (past two years used this program) – social studies and sciences. Teach English through science – kids really like it. The curriculum is aligned with what each grade is learning.

Goal we have as a whole community (especially English language learners) – lots of guided talk with our students who are using other languages...we want them speaking 50 percent of the time.

Assigned partners and the kids talk (controlled) so the teachers listen to when the kids talk and help make corrections and practice with sentence frames. Also, work on writing too.

What are they missing in the classroom when they are in the ELL portion of their day? Rule through out the District is that they aren't missing core subjects...math, reading, writing, social studies.

What per cent of students exit the program by 5th grade – most exited last year (4 of the 11 students – 5th graders continued). ELPA test is given to students to assess readiness.

How many student are part of the ELL program? 87 students are in the program

2 aides are in our unit that help in the classroom...help all students who need help.

Thank you

Addison Cunnington came to say Thank you – She is from Troop 4458. She worked with a fellow Girl Scout on a Bronze Award – it is the first award in a series of community project honors. They repaired and painted the two benches out front and three out back which are on the black top by Head Start and in the garden. It took more time, resources, and money than we expected. She wanted to thank the PTA for the funds to help. Thank you for the effort Addison!

Winter Holiday Night (Jean Buelna-Pastor)

Jean would like to extend her thanks to all the volunteers that came to help...teachers helped after school (400 houses built). Art work was hung, frosting was made, PaLa helped bag 100 bags of candy, set-up by the Ambassadors too. Key Club came from the High School and helped with set-up and during the event.

Liked that the gym was closed – the other parents at the meeting felt the same. The students focused on the houses.

STREAM Night

STREAM event (STEM with art and reading added) is before the end of school. It is also combined with Art Night (Art Lit projects hung up in the Gym), plus art projects.

No volunteer at this time to run the event. Amanda is proposing that TEAF runs STREAM night (grant from District to pay for teachers to help run STEM activities – extended work time), plus have TEAF teachers come and run projects that align with what they teach during class.

Idea is for TEAF to runs STREAM night with the funds from the District grant. Instead of using the \$2,000 in the PTA budget to hire Mad Science, the PTA would donate this money to TEAF. There are supplies the kids can make and take activities that we have left over from Mad Science.

What would the date be? May 18 is now taken by the Auction.

Two options – combine with PaLa on the Day of the Child activity and making the theme of the event – STREAM
The Day of the Child activities can still be offered – if PaLa is OK with that we can join.

If not, we would look at the first of second week of June (June 1) – or June 8. May or may not have book fair depending on the date. The sooner we have a date, the sooner we can see if the book fair is possible. The Book Fair helps because the read-a-thon prize is a coupon to use at the book fair (\$2, \$4, or \$6).

Great way to celebrate TEAF and help.

Motion made by Jean to accept the offer from TEAF to run the STREAM night at the school using the District grant and the PTA will give the \$2,000 in the PTA budget for the family activity to TEAF for future after school classes. Motion seconded and approved.

Garden (Sharell Lien for Paul Taylor)

In December, the 1st grade classes came out to the Garden and fed the birds. Mrs.Soderquist's class did a feeding project with Mr. Michaels' 5th grade class.

Winter Holiday swags were a big hit. We had alumni who are now in the Key Club come and help students make a mixed green swag for their place.

Looking forward to planting peas in February and having 4th grade classes ask for donations for the Garden. Hoping to have a February work party in the garden (date to be determined).

Have Fun in the Garden!

Auction (Sharell Lien for Amy Zuckerman)

The next Auction meeting is January 16 at 7:15 (at Amy Z.'s house).

The Auction has been set for May 18 at World of Speed.

The newest donation is from Dutch Bros. For free coffee for a month!

If you have unwanted Christmas gifts, contact Amy Zuckerman or Kimberly Address...they can be worked into part of the auction baskets!

Read-a-thon

Elizabeth offered to be a part of the planning team and help translate the materials.

PTA Business/Call Meeting to Order

Approved previous meeting's minutes – Prasanna motioned to approve the minutes and motion was seconded; minutes as written, were approved unanimously by the membership.

A quorum was present at the meeting.

Co-Presidents Report (Sharell Lien/Jymn Heathcott)

Membership is holding steady at 53 members. Always accepting new members as there --- Joining the PTA – cost is \$11.50 annually. If you join, you are able to vote on items like the budget, PTA funding decisions, board member elections, etc. If you handle money for any of the upcoming events, we need for you to be a member.

Nominating Committee --- three members to help find officers for next time school year.
Ana Uriostegui and Elizabeth Escobar will lead the Nominating Committee.

Treasurer (Prabha Senthil Kumar)

The current financial report was shared on the table. Large checks were written for Spirit Wear and still expecting additional funds from the Fun Run from corporate matching, the Kohl's check for \$500 came in.

Spring Family Activity, Auction, Fifth grade promotion, Teacher contributions line items have all been fully funded after the Fun Run took place.

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, February 6, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the school library -- joint with PaLA

Co-President Jymn Heathcott adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Prepared by ~

Date presented: February 6, 2018

Michele Warther, Secretary

Approved as Written or Amended

Secretary

Co-President

PTA MISSION:

To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.