

Tualatin Elementary School PTA
General Membership Meeting • November 5, 2013
(Held in the Tualatin Elementary School Library)

Meeting called to order at 6:58 p.m. by co-president Amie MacDonald. A quorum of members as stated in the standing rules was present. Cindy Krahnke is our time keeper.

The membership reviewed the October 1, 2013, meeting minutes. Nancy Otterson motioned to approve and the motion was seconded. Minutes, as amended (changed Auction committee meeting month from November to October), were approved by the membership.

REPORTS

Principal report (Jamie Kingery)

Thank you for coming to listen to Lynn Bird. She was in a tech position at the school and she also comes back as a substitute. [Notes from the presentation are at the end of the minutes.]

Jamie introduced Sydney Prescott – Americorps Volunteer. Sydney had a choice of which school to be at and we are fortunate to have her with us this year. This is her first PTA meeting. She is tied into the reading and math support at the school.

There were recent parent focus groups that the district office held. Three of nine focus groups had TuES parents. Thank you to those who participated.

Thank you to all the volunteers who were involved to make the Family Harvest Night successful. It looked really great and the set-up was the best yet!

Thursday, November 14 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. is the Title One literacy night (come learn about it). ELL group will present what Title One means to the school. The extra funding the school receives for being Title One (\$215,000) helps with reading and math at the school. About 120 students are served each day with the reading/math interventions.

Co-presidents' report (Amie MacDonald)

Amie shared that Linda Blackwood is setting up the “Companions” program. This helps families who are new to TuES feel welcome and connected to a local family. It is a chance for a current family to introduce the family to the school and teachers – provide a school tour...what is it like? This is a time for new families to ask questions. Jamie added it helps make a connection beyond the school office. Families come in throughout the entire year. A sign up sheet was passed around for those interested in being a Companion family. This is the first pitch out to families and the Latino parent group (Pala) will also be asked to help welcome new families.

There were many activities this last month. A BIG thank you to everyone who volunteered!

Also, the can and bottle drive in October collected six big bags of cans and bottles.

Treasurer's report (Elena Molau)

The current budget was shared with the membership. Elena added that money has come in from the Fun Run and other activities, but she elected to let Cara share the grand total for the Fun Run...it was very successful!

Vice President's report (Courtney Kozak)

Spirit Wear store is open – for a limited time only (items will be delivered to the school) – ends on 11/15. Also, socks are \$12 a pair and order them directly from Courtney.

Volunteering opportunities – Dental screening on 11/25 (Mrs. Gillam needs one or two volunteers).

Membership report (Sharell Lien)

Fifty-six members were signed up before tonight. We are one member short of the Silver recognition awards for membership growth (50% more members than the previous year). Oh, but wait! Thank you to Christy Goodell for being the 57th member; signing up at tonight's meeting. Thank you all for your support of the PTA. If you signed up before tonight's meeting, Sharell has your membership card.

Membership cycle is July 1 through June 30. In order to vote at the meetings or handle money at events, please join now or renew your membership if you haven't done so from last school year.

Also, there were 200 students that participated in the Walk+Bike to School Day on October 9. Thank you to Leslie Brenton for all her work and to the other volunteers who helped make this a successful event! If this event is done again, some funding for prizes/participation sacks would be helpful.

BUSINESS

Winter Holiday Night (Jean Keck-Buelna and Cindy Krahnke)

The event is Friday, December 13 at 6 p.m.

It is a fun night – a chance to decorate gingerbread houses and play games! Sign up to volunteer using the list on the TuES PTA website. The Key Club at the high school is helping the night of the event again this year. Also, someone is helping Angela with decorations this time. The first planning meeting is November 6 at 7 p.m.

Auction – April 5, 2014 (Heidi Wallace)

The 250 procurement letters are out, however, the best way to secure donations is by having a connection. Heidi has letters available for members to help solicit for auction items.

Finding a location that holds enough people is key. Places being reviewed are:

- Multnomah Arts Center
- ClubSport
- Metzger Park Facilities
- Lakewood Center for the Arts
- Elks Club in Sherwood

A professional caterer has offered to cook the meal, we just need to get the ingredients (donated or pay for them).

The most expensive part of the event is the Auctioneer. A good Auctioneer helps raise money. Last time the auction was done, the Auctioneer was paid \$2,500. The group is looking to not pay more than that this time.

Fun Run – Friday, October 4 (Cara McClung)

Shirts were delivered to classrooms last week (for kids who raised \$75 or more).

A HUGE thank you to everyone in the room who help – and to Christy Shaver's students who helped get envelopes ready to go. TOTAL RAISED: \$20,995...after expenses **\$20,343!**

Previously, \$15,000 was raised. It was thought that the higher value prizes were a big incentive (iPod Touches). Also, since there was no early turn in, the kids kept seeking donations.

Thank you to Mr. Kingery and the staff who participated in the Run. Having a Mystery Teacher got the kids excited and ribbon sales keep going up each year. The obstacle race for the teacher/staff run was a great addition!

We are always looking for ideas for next year...What is the wish list for the funds raised? It helps to have this information printed on the packet envelopes.

For next time, we may ask for funds to help pay for some prizes.

Garden (Paul Taylor)

The garden is all about clean up right now. The 5th graders are harvesting the scatter garden...many pretty flowers to enjoy.

Little Prince of Oregon gave some ground covers and plants for the garden.

There was a table at the Harvest Festival – kids got jacked up on nature, not just candy! The activity was to find three kinds of leaves and glue them onto paper. Some shirts and cards were sold too.

All classes in all grades have gone through the garden orientation. We are introducing native plants to the Kindergarteners...big leaf maples!

Bear prize day – 12 kids spent their prizes in the garden. They worked on the butterfly garden...pulled weeds and planted too.

TEAF started on October 21. Three classes each week on Tues, Wed, and Thurs. Lesson plan is the same each week for the kids, but tailored to their age. Time to plant peas if you are wanting to enhance your own garden. They made bouquets for the teachers the week of conferences.

Work Party! 2nd Sunday of every month – November 10 from 1-3 p.m. is the next garden gathering. Dress according to the weather for a joyful gardening experience.

October work party was very successful. Thank you to all who participated.

Scrip (Angela Tyler)

For orders turned in on Tuesday morning by 9 a.m., the Scrip will be ready by Thursday afternoon. There are five order days before winter break.

Angela has gift cards available tonight...Starbucks, Fred Meyer, and for Bridgeport Shopping Center.

OTHER (via an emailed written report)

School Directory (Wendy O'Riley; via email report)

School Directory notices will be out to teachers on the 15th of November.

Carnival (Wendy O'Riley; via email report)

Wendy is close to having the Carnival proposal put together. She will have a formal presentation at the next meeting for people to take home and review. We can then discuss it after the Winter Break.

Book Fair (Heather Roberts; via email report)

The Scholastic Book Fair was October 24 and 25 (during fall conference time). Following are the book fair amounts: \$5,311 in total sales, which leaves approximately \$1,327 for the library to spend on books (25% of sales).

Restaurant Night (Amy Zuckerman; via email report)

Wednesday, October 23, restaurant night was at the California Pizza Kitchen at Bridgeport. \$335 was earned from the sales. The restaurant donated 20% of their gross sales.

QUESTIONS and COMMENTS

Please send your PTA activity blurbs to Amy Zuckerman for the Bear Bulletin.

If you want to be on the agenda, please let Jill McCarty or Amie MacDonald know. If you have ideas for programs/speakers for the meetings, please share with one of the officers.

www.tualatinelementarypta.org

tualatinpta@gmail.com

NEXT MEETING (arrive at the earlier time to hear the featured speaker at the meeting):

Tuesday, December 3 – School Library
7 p.m. PTA meeting begins

Co-president Amie MacDonald adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Prepared by ~

Date presented: December 3, 2013

Sharell Lien, Secretary

Approved as Written or Amended

Co-president

Secretary

November Speaker – Lynn Bird

Lynn worked for TTSD for more than 15 years as a TAG teacher and Technology Specialist. At the meeting, she shared exciting websites and apps that are fun and educational.

For Elementary students, find sites, apps, and games that encourage:

- Creating
- Analyzing
- Understanding
- Evaluating
- Applying
- Remembering

Sample websites:

<http://www.kerpoof.com> (make a movie)
<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/>
<http://www.seussville.com>
<http://spatulatta.com>
<http://www.funbrain.com>

Author websites:

- * JK Rowling – <http://www.Pottermore.com>
- * Jan Brett – <http://www.janbrett.com>
- * Robert Munsch (audio books) – <http://robertmunsch.com>
- * Rick Riordan – <http://www.rickriordan.com>

Sample Apps (iTunes Store or Google Play):

Toca Series
Monster Physics
Move the Turtle (programming)
Book Creator
DragonBox for Algebra

How do you find good apps? – Sample Recommendation Sites:

Children's Technology Review: <http://childrenstech.com>
<http://bestappsforkids.com/>
Pinterest: Search for technology and kids (find teachers who like technology)
<http://www.smartappsforkids.com>
<http://www.commonsemmedia.org>