

Tualatin Elementary School PTA
General Membership Meeting • September 12, 2017
(Held in the Tualatin Elementary School Library)

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Jymn Heathcott, PTA co-President of the 2017-2018 school year.

Call Meeting to Order and Welcome

Introduction of PTA Board – Jymn Heathcott – Co President; Sharell Lien – Co President; Kate Heathcott – Vice President of Programs, Michelle Mikesell – VP Volunteers; Prabha Senthil Kumar – Treasurer, Prasanna Raghupathi – VP Communications, Elizabeth Escobar PaLa Liaison

Approved previous meeting's minutes – Amanda Thorderson motioned to approve the minutes and motion was seconded. Minutes, as written, were approved by the membership.

A quorum was present at the meeting.

REPORTS

Principal

Mr. Kingery welcomed our new and returning families. Started 17 years ago at Durham and has been here for the last 7 years.

Great start to the year from the school side-- hope parents have felt that too.

1st -5th started last week and Kinders started yesterday – seeing responsible students and helping others learn the school expectations.

Back to School Night (BTSN)

5:30-6:15 p.m. - first session

6-7p Family/Community BBQ (community partner with Horizon who provides the evening's food)

6:45-7:30 p.m. - second session

K-2 during first session (Spanish translation available)

3-5 during second session (Spanish translation available)

Clarification to parents:

Last year, in-house child care in the gym (check-in/out) was tried, but it was a system that created long lines to check-out the kids; some families late to sessions. That care isn't being provided this year.

Recommend you work with family members/friends to help watch kids as you go into sessions, if you don't want to bring child in with you. Some teachers prefer you to have the child not with you, others want the child to attend. No parent will be turned away if bringing a child works best for your situation.

Staff members will be on the playground providing monitoring.

This night is a community event – BBQ for all!

Tualatin Public Library is doing the "Library after Dark" – Saturday, October 7 (6:30-8p)

More information will be coming out (flyers going home).

Co-Presidents (Jymn Heathcott and Sharell Lien)

Already this year the PTA has provided breakfast for the teachers on their first day back in August and supported Supply Drop-off for both Kinder and 1-5 grades (provided treats). Two welcome events (BooHoo/WooHoo) with coffee and refreshments have also been done – great time to connect with new and returning families.

This week is the First Friday Coffee Social too – less formal session on Friday mornings once a month.

Back to School Night we'll be looking for volunteers to sign ups and selling spirit wear.

Started with 23 members tonight; now we have 26 people!

Membership: 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 events, we need for you to be a member.

Open Board Positions:

* Secretary – have needs for this position – required position to operate a PTA. We very much need to fill this position.

* VP of Fund raising position is also open currently.

* President-elect position – allows for incoming presidents to train the new president. Jymn and Sharell are not able by by-laws to be president next year.

* Treasurer elect-position – similar to the above but for the Treasurer position.

Calendar of events (see reverse side of agenda)

VP of Vounteers (Michelle Mikesell)

Michelle reported Great hearing screening – thank you to the volunteers and those additional people offering to help that we didn't need. We'll find something in the near future for you to help with!

- Fun Run 10/6 – they'll be talking more about needs at this meeting.
- Picture Day – need several parents to help (free photo packages for your child when you help).
- Harvest Festival – volunteers needed – more to come later in the meeting.

##

Mr. Kingery shared about Background Checks:

New this year --- volunteers are required to have a Background Check – we are one of the last districts in the area to adopt such a review to help safe guard the kids.

We don't want to turn away volunteers. If someone is going to be a regular volunteer during the school day, need to get the word out to them to complete the process www.helpcounter.net/ttsd

Who needs one? Those that have been volunteers and are volunteering, those that plan to volunteer – field trip, or other class activities, those working events in the evening, those helping with the after school program.

Contact the office if there are concerns or questions...we value the families and community members and we don't want this to be a barrier to anyone. Background checks will have a rolling expiration date; some may be valid for as long as three years.

When you come into the school to volunteer or visit, please stop in the office to sign-in on the computer. A name badge will be created for you (Visitor or Volunteer). If name not on the list, talk with the office staff or Mr. Kingery.

Kate Heathcott added that the name badge printer is new this year. The computer is connected to HelpCounter where people log in and track hours, plus from a security perspective now name badges will be created.

We are excited to create a culture where people always a badge on (visitor or volunteer) to help build a sense of community – nice to call people by name! This a little change that we added, but a benefit this year.

##

Restaurant Nights – anyone willing to follow-up with a few restaurants to look at opportunities to work with them? Some restaurants will donate back to our school. McMenamin's application is in to see if we will be given a night.

Caring Closet Liaison – anyone willing to be the school's liaison?

Donations we get here to take them where they need to go.

PaLa (Elizabeth Escobar)

3 for me! School-wide volunteer campaign was shared. Email went out to share the information; more info at BTSN.

Everyone can pledge to work 3 hours this school year.

Increasing parent involvement, shows that students are more successful

It is a challenge – per classroom goal is to have the most hours – the tracking system will be displayed in the Rotunda on the walls.

First PaLa meeting this year is Tuesday, October 10, @ 7 p.m. [open to all families to attend]

YMCA On-site Director

David Welker joined the meeting tonight and introduced himself (site director and after school program coordinator) and shared about the YMCA before and after school program available at school. He is the

excited to be here again this year with the new and returning families. Working on having activities for the kids that include STEM, Art, and a pen pal program.

Standing Rules

The Standing Rules were shared and no changes were suggested from the previous year.

Motion made by Kate Heathcott to approve the Standing Rules for 2017-2018, seconded, approved.

Audit 2016-2017

Audit of financial books was shared.

Amanda Thorderson made a motion to accept the audit, it was seconded, all approved.

2017-2018 budget

The same budget that was approved in June as the preliminary budget so PTA work could continue through the summer, was presented again at this meeting as the proposed budget for 2017-2018.

There was a motion made by Mike Creswell to adopt the budget, it was seconded, and approved by a vote of the membership.

Library/OBOB (Kathleen Cunnington)

To keep this fabulous library running, more help is needed for the Library times for the following teachers: Ripley, Perry, Soderquist, Mann, Heath, Cooke. No one has signed up to help for Sivieke, Hagerman, Seward.

A volunteer to pick up books in the morning is needed --- 8:10 a.m. (check the books in and shelve them)
2nd person for Tuesday and Wednesday would be helpful.

Oregon Battle of the Books – Once a month on Thursdays during 4th graders lunch and Fridays for 3rd and 5th grades. Parent help is needed to help the kids with their practice at each of these meetings.

Book Fair is another opportunity to help with literacy at school – this is one of the largest fund raisers for the school library. PTA members work the cash registers, decorate, and help can be used for set-up and tear-down. More to come soon!

Contact Kathleen Cunnington (503-720-3972 or kcrismor@yahoo.com) for any of these items above.

Art Literacy (Sharell for Kimberley Andress and Natalie Hess)

Always looking for volunteers! A flyer is available on the counter about this great program at our school.

First project will be on Sept 28th – do instruction for the parents in the daytime and in the evening on day a month.

Memory Book (Amber Nickle)

Amber is the Memory Book coordinator this year and she is excited to help with the memory book for all children at the school like her mom helped with her yearbook in school.

Order forms are available (\$20 per book; \$10 for tribute to 5th grader).

Garden (Paul Taylor)

Garden is in the 8th year and it is looking fantastic! Thank you to all the families (2 each week) who helped during the summer. Next year you can be on the list if you weren't on it this year. Yes, you too can be a garden celebrity! Thank you to Greg and Ashley who worked in the garden during the recent week of high temperatures.

- Many parents attended the BooHoo/WooHoo events and many are excited to help in the Garden.
- Join the Garden FB page – Tualatin Elementary Sustainable Garden
- Cool things that happen in the garden and we are very blessed by many people saying YES to the outdoor garden/classroom. The garden grows food for the cafeteria and provides place for learning.
- Garden committee meeting was held this week and the first Work Party will be Sunday, October 1 from 1-3 p.m.
- Next Garden Committee meeting Oct 2 after school 2:45-3:15 p.m. in Mrs. Soderquist's classroom.
- Thursdays will have a TEAF gardening class (after school program).

Garden orientations for each class will be done – students visit and learn the garden rules (come with a responsible adult) and learn all about plants, do plants, and care for the garden. Have fun in the garden!

TEAF (Amanda Thorderson)

TEAF stands for Tualatin Elementary Arts Foundation – after school classes on Arts and Education. A few teachers and Mr. Taylor are often TEAF instructors. Rely on Volunteers to teach the programs. If you are interested in donating your time to teaching – please let Amanda know. Your child would receive first choice of class and the class is free. Looking for foreign language education and if you teach. This will start in the October 23 (runs for 8 weeks). Fall Harvest is a fundraiser for TEAF. This will be the first Friday in November (11/3).

Many classes prepped and ready to go – Lego Robotics (iPad has lessons); supervising and giving help Engineering with Kinex – lesson on catapults and the kids have time in teams to create them and show them off. Paper crafting class; Computer Coding class. – Needs to know by Friday if you wish to do those classes.

End of the month the registration form comes home. Classes are mostly for 2nd-5th. Only a few for 1st graders.

Classes are one hour in length. Another TEAF series starts in January and another in April

Fall Harvest Dance is a fundraiser for TEAF. Volunteers to help that evening are needed.

Talk to Amanda Thorderson or Michelle Mikesell about volunteering.

Fun Run (Amy Pattison)

This year's Fun Run will be Friday, October 6th. Fun Run is TuES biggest annual fund raiser – gets the kids excited about fitness and health. Will send collection envelopes home with each student soon with information about prizes. Flat donation rates. Based upon how much a student raises, they will receive prizes for the different levels. Everyone gets something for participating that day. Envelopes and the monies are due on the day of the Fun Run. Week before and after will have ribbon sales before school. Each ribbon (different colors) goes with a different teacher runner. There is also a mystery runner each year. During this week, there are also spirit days. Employer matching is also very appreciated. Recruit some volunteers for ribbon sales each morning for 30 minutes. Day of the event, very much need volunteers. Amy will continue to come to the PTA meetings to share updates and to enlist volunteers.

Prize examples – Nike swag, Blazers, Timbers, Nike earbuds, Headphones, Dance Party with Miss LePore. Top sellers, weather report with Andy Carson, Disney on Ice tickets, Rock Climbing passes, Top Golf, Limo rides

Week before and of Ribbons are sold –.25 each or 5 for \$1.00...mystery runner
2 volunteers each morning to sell. Day of volunteers needed to count money, distribute prizes, help with snacks.

Spirit Week

Neon day, Pajama, Wacky Wed, Spirit/school colors on Thursday,
Shhh...surprise for the kids – it looks like all students may get a t-shirt this year!

Walk & Roll (Sharell Lien)

International Walk and Bike day is the week of the Fun Run (on October 4). Another spirit and exercise event! Looking for volunteers to help pass out prizes. Information about kids participating will come home.

QUESTIONS and COMMENTS

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

www.tualatinelementarypta.org

tualatinpta@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/groups/TualatinElementaryPTA

NEXT PTA MEETING:

Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 7 p.m. – School Library

Co-President Jymn Heathcott adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

Prepared by ~

Date presented: October 3, 2017

Sharell Lien, Co-President for Secretary

Approved as Written or Amended

Co-President for 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.