

**Atkinson PTA  
General Meeting Minutes  
October 18, 2011**

*Minutes taken by PTA Secretary Holly Boime.*

**Members present:** Constance San Juan, Darcy Wilde, Terrie Hendrickson, Sarah Statham, Drew Raine, Denise Dekker, Anya King, Tony Moreno, Anne Myrthue, Kirsten Jacobson Croak, Laura Mason, Fernando Rodriguez, Dunja Jennings, Teresa Minato, David Coate, Molly Haynes, Laura O'Hearn, Francesca Quagliata, Andrea Pastor, Holly Boime, Wendy Miller, and Jennifer Povich.

*Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by PTA President Suzanne Harold.*

**Financial Update: Constance San Juan**

- 18 new members; up to 105
- Atkinson Eats Out tomorrow-Wed. Oct. 19
- Tickets for Language Support: Language Committee will have Portland Pilots Saturday, 11/5, game tickets for sale; \$6 each, we get to keep \$3
- Note card: for sale in office. New ones will be printed featuring Stories of PLACE tile images.
- E-scrip brought in \$23 in September.
- Direct donation drive will kick off in November. Our goal is to raise \$36K.
- Audit was conducted by Gayle Meier, Kathleen Joy, and Ron Harold. Thanks to these volunteers! Books were found to be correct. One error was spotted and corrected.

\*Vote called to approve 2010-2011 Audit Report:      Motion: Jennifer Povich  
  Second: Tony Moreno  
  Passed by majority vote: Yes

- Audit team discovered one error in the 2010-2010 Year-End Report. It has since been corrected.

\*Vote called to approve corrected Year End Financial Report: Motion: Terrie Hendrickson  
  Second: Francesca Quagliata  
  Passed by majority vote: Yes

**Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteer Coordinator Jennifer Povich**

Discussed volunteering at Atkinson—gave out list of upcoming events with needs for volunteers.

**Ground maintenance: Laura O'Hearn**

She liked to paint, with the help of volunteers, the handrails at the front of the school.

**Outdoor Learning Garden (OLG) Update: Chairperson Denise Dekker**

- Stories of Place Celebration Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 p.m.: food, dancing, and music.

**General Announcements & Questions:**

- A concern was expressed: How much time do kids have to eat lunch? For grades K-2, recess is first, followed by a 10 minute transition time and then 20 minutes to eat lunch. If your child is not eating enough lunch or any lunch, let the principal or Ms. Winters know so they can check on your child.
- Possible guest speaker at November PTA meeting—Joe Markey.

**Principal Armendariz's Update: Building on our gains, state of the school address, fall 2011**

State of the School Address with Title I school status is required. It's scheduled for November 9 at 6:30 p.m. and is open to the community.

- PPS priority action areas:
  - 1) effective educators
  - 2) individual students support (curriculum for low achieving students)
  - 3) rigorous (new core standards) relevant programs for all (required to use)
  - 4) Collaboration with families and communities.
- Cultural transformation:
  - 1) service orientation
  - 2) equity
  - 3) accountability
- Milestones Framework: focus is on a few critical measures
  - 1) enter 1<sup>st</sup> grade--ready to read
  - 2) end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade--reading to learn
  - 3) middle years--reading for high school
  - 4) enter 10<sup>th</sup> grade--on track to graduate
  - 5) 12<sup>th</sup> grade—graduating on time and ready for college and work.
- DiBELS-implemented last year at Atkinson
- Testing less but later in the school year
- Together 90% of Atkinson 3<sup>rd</sup> graders last year met or exceeded on OAKS reading assessment: 55% exceeded and 35% met
- 48% to Atkinson students met/exceeded on writing last year
- What changed last year?
  - 1) writing-new writing binders
  - 2) increased instructional time (less recess and no foreign language program)
  - 3) testing schedule—tested students less and later
- re: 3-5 grade math, 66% of PPS students met higher standards, 70% of Atkinson 3<sup>rd</sup> graders met higher standard
- 3 items to focus on at Atkinson
  - 1) math instruction
  - 2) sheltering instructional time
  - 3) response to intervention
- Concern regarding instructional minutes—accountability-taking away from creativity?
  - 1) There's research about what works in school regarding instructional minutes/time.
  - 2) There's teacher variance.
- math—first year of adoption of Bridges math program
- Concern: What things need to be corrected at school?
  - 1) reading time
  - 2) math
  - 3) breaks need to be in response to how students are doing.

\*Vote called to approve September general meeting minutes: Motion: Constance San Juan  
Second: Laura O'Hearn  
Passed by majority vote: Yes

*Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.*