Final Draft
Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2013

Minutes taken by PTA Secretary Holly Boime.

Members present: Laura Minato, Allesandra Rueegger, Natasha Nielsen-Porter, Trish Parks, Laura Mason, Holly Boime, Diana Cameron, Drew Raine, Linda Macpherson, Traci Fajardo, Pia Nicastro, Ann Weinstein, Carissa Harrison, and Vany Mangsonghal.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by PTA Vice-president, Trish Parks because President Amy Liber was out ill.

Vote to approve nominating committee for board positions: Pia Nicastro, Carissa Harrison, and Linda Macpherson.
> 1st motion: Traci Fajardo
> 2nd motion: Natasha Nielsen-Porter
> Received majority vote: yes

Vote to approve additional \$620 (forecasted fundraising) for 5th grade field trips to cover additional chaperones.
> 1st motion: Traci Fajardo
> 2nd motion: Laura Mason
> All in favor: 10
> All opposed: 0

Passed.

Vote to add new board position: community service coordinator.
The vote was postponed to re-evaluate at a later date. Amy Liber who proposed the new board position wasn't available to provide information. There was a discussion about the board positions including the number, role of, how many are filled, etc.

Trisha Parks would like to clarify amendments and have detail descriptions of each board member's responsibilities.

State Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer
Everyone introduced themselves. Representative Keny-Guyer lives in the Mt. Tabor neighborhood has children ages 11, 19, and 16. She spent 12 years with her children at Atkinson and loves the school.

She was originally appointed to the Legislature and then won election last year. Working at the legislature involves, "little money and long hours." She interested in education, public health, human services, health, and government efficiencies.

The current "crisis" education budget is $6.1 billion for school funding which will include teacher layoffs. She hopes to find money through the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) savings and "want feedback."

She showed a poster showing 4 budget scenarios:
1. Crisis budget --$6.15 billion
2. More cuts--$6.55 billion
3. Stability--$6.750 billion
4. Investment and improvement--$6.895 billion

PERS savings ideas:
- Start charging an income tax on PERS. And then give PERS bonuses but then people realized that some PERS beneficiaries live out of the state and so wouldn't pay Oregon income tax.
- Cap the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) on PERS benefits to first $24,000.
- Legislative counsel says it won't hold up.
- Could amortize over 25 years instead on 20 years and the State Treasurer is in support of that.

How can we raise more money? We can cut costs. There could be savings on public safety. The Governor appears to be waiting to get re-elected before doing any big revenue reform. The issues that are important to the Governor right now are the Columbia River Crossing (CRC), PERS, and public safety.

Q: So how much hinges on PERS?

A: "I think some PERS reform is needed." She thinks that we should protect the lower paid PERS beneficiaries and tax the upper paid PERS members. She thinks a progressive tax system would be good.

"Our Oregon' group focuses on government efficiencies.

She says that she hears more from constituents about pro-guns and gray wolves than about education. The pro-gun proponents seem highly organized.

There's discussion about how to fix PERS and about education. Need to "tread lightly on PERS." Could adjust COLA benefits cap? Could the pots of money be mixed up?

Representative Keny-Guyer is in favor of a sales tax. And she'd like to make income tax more progressive.

She voted against the Nike tax deal. If Nike will employ 500 additional workers in Oregon then Nike can keep the same tax structure for 30 years.

The PTA membership voted to adopt the January 2013 PTA meeting minutes.

    1st motion: Traci Fajardo
    2nd motion: Carissa Harrison
    Received majority vote: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.