

Approved
Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2013

Minutes taken by PTA Secretary Holly Boime.

Members present: Natasha Nielsen-Porter, Amy Liber, Drew Raine, Pia Nicastro, Sonya Kauffman Smith, Carissa Harrison, Trish Parks, Laura Mason, Holly Boime, Linda Macpherson, Debbie Armendariz.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by PTA interim President Amy Liber.

Pia Nacastro: Auction

- 232 people attended and \$30,838 netted.
- Bought auction software for \$75-not used for checkout.

Q: Could the auction software be tested for Auction checkout by a different fundraiser, i.e. t-shirts sales?

- Sheri Campbell's husband was a great help again at the auction.
- 10 volunteers from Chief Joseph School came to help at the auction. We'll reciprocate and help at their school's auction on April 26th at the venue Castaway.
- The auctioneer is sending a check as a donation as well.

Nominating committee report

- Constance San Juan can stay as the Treasurer
- Trish Parks can be the President.
- For VP and Secretary—maybe found two people.
- Anyone else interested in the executive positions?

Treasurer's report: Amy Liber filled in for Treasurer Constance San Juan

- In February Pizzicato fundraiser brought in \$360.
- Lunar New Year event brought in donations of \$262.
- There was one new PTA member—now there are 124 total members.
- 4/5 grades overnight field trip fundraising goal was reached--\$13,275 raised and the goal was \$13,234.
- Outdoor Learning garden t-shirt sales have broken even.
- It was the "best auction since 2007," in terms of the amount of money raised.

Principal: Debbie Armendariz

- She presented a shortened version of the parent coffee information.
- She discussed programming and how decisions get made based on the following:
 1. district strategic planning
 2. milestones

3. bell curve
 4. new report cards with the “canary in the coalmine” –the subgroups that need improvement
 5. Assessments are changing: i.e. need to be able to cut and paste, move and highlight
 6. school improvement plan
 7. recess/lunch supervision
 8. parents
 9. kids
 10. teachers
- Report cards: for Atkinson
 - Total 80% met reading
 - Free and reduced lunch 77% met reading
 - Hispanic 72% met reading
 - Special Education 62% met reading
 - English as a second Language 47% met reading
 - Context
 1. Supervision lunch/recess
 - Losing staff for this: Confucius teacher, 504 EA (educational assistant), and ESL assistant.
 - Together this staff accounts for 12 out of the 48 ten minute slots per day of lunch/recess supervision time.

Q: Can we go back to two lunch times from the current three?

A: No, not logistically possible.

 2. Need staff to teach 4th grade math for 4th graders in 4/5 grade split classroom.
 3. CAN- arts tax
 4. Anticipated budget cuts???
 - Programming requirements vs. current staffing-- areas can change:
 1. .375 FTE school counselor
 2. .5 FTE Librarian
 3. .5 FTE P.E.
 4. .7 FTE reading specialist
 - Teacher input—asked two questions:
 1. What’s currently working?
 2. What would you like to have?

Answers:

1. equity in access to instructional technology and reading support
2. release time

Homeroom teaching staff can teach art, P.E., music, etc.

Q: Haven't heard anything about school counselor.

A: She's a .5 FTE/half time staff member and meets with small groups of students and individually regarding different special needs issues.

You can take an Oaks sample test at home.

Standing Rules

Voted on changes to standing rules including deleting parentheses:

1st motion: Trish Parks

2nd motions: Drew Raine

Rec'd majority: yes

There were some questions such as about the pay range 25-50% and who or what decides it specifically. The membership would like clarification from Karla Zirbes who drafted the standing rule changes.

Vote to table it—postpone voting on standing rules:

Rec'd majority vote: yes.

Secretary Update: Holly Boime

She gave input to the nominating committee regarding the secretary position. She said what's most important is to show up to the meetings because the secretary is responsible for taking the minutes/notes of the meetings. Holly has only missed one or two meetings in the two plus years that she's served as secretary. And then it's important to summarize the meetings. It's not necessary or advised to record the meetings word for word; she attended some PTA secretary training.

April will be art appreciation month at Atkinson.

The next PTA meeting will be June 4th at 6:30 p.m.

Member input is requested regarding losing the Confucius scholar. We could have afterschool mandarin for \$300/student for 1 class/week/year.

Q: How many kids are in the Spanish classes?

A: Grades 3-5 have 15 students and we're not doing the morning program because we didn't get enough interested students.

The language program has come out \$1,500 short because of scholarships.

Trisha Parks states that the PTA's goals should be tied to budgeting.

Q: Is there a PTA membership list?

A: There's an e-mail on the PTA membership form.

Trisha Parks would like to use an Atkinson PTA member e-mail list to communicate with members.

The prices of Shine, an afterschool program, are going up to cover the costs. There's discussion about this. Linda Macpherson who used to work at Mad Science thinks the Shine classes are very reasonable prices.

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

1st motion: Linda Macpherson

2nd motion: Laura Mason

Received majority vote: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.