

PTA Minutes: 9/11/07

Approved 10/9/07

Present: A. Keny-Guyer, S. Campbell, C. Hayes-Lattin, M. Bernardi, J. Lawler, A. Myrthue, T. Sullivan, B. Davisson, M. Chen, A. LasCombe, L. Mason, C. Lally, H. Boime, Y. Daul, L. Kocher-Moar, K. Moar, S. Smith, C. Smith, A. Rueegger, A. Storrs, S. Springer, A Mooney, R. Carter, R. Belcher, J. Cohen, C. Watanabe, A. Johnson. J. Pratt, J. Cowal, S. Voss-Tothmeier, E. Flores-R., P Flores-Flores, V. Rodriquez, J. Pultz, A. Tucker, C. Raak, J. Laden, K. Mountain, S. Reich, R. Tucker, G. Dursch, J. Hastings, E. Quiroz, A Maria, C. Ramirez.

Welcome: Alissa Keny–Guyer welcomed parents and teachers to the PTA.

PTA Officer Introductions:

President: Alissa Keny-Guyer and Sheri Campbell will share this role.

Vice President: Jean Hansen

Secretary: Courtney Hayes-Lattin

Treasurer: Jim Laden

Volunteer Coordinator: Amy Mooney

Room Rep Coordinators: Alessandra Rueeger and Amy Mooney

Site Council Parent Reps: Currently Angie Beer and John Redder served on the site council last year. John would prefer to be replaced; Angie is willing to continue but would step aside if two new people want to join. If interested please talk to Chris Gutierrez.

Principal's update: Chris Gutierrez encourages everyone to come to Back to School Night to learn more about the status of the school. Neighborhood enrollment numbers are lower than expected. Immersion enrollment is as expected. Atkinson DID meet AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) this year. There are two new immersion teachers this year: Stephanie McDonald and Sasha Luria. Rob Stewart has moved out of the classroom and is now the curriculum coordinator. Every year the staff reviews the goals for children. These include all types of diversity: linguistic and SES diversity for each classroom. As such, please see the classroom placement process described below.

Classroom Placement Process: Several teachers, including Kim Heron, Rob Stewart, and Lillian Sarlos, described the process for classroom assignment this year. This process was a renewed effort to ensure diversity in each room. The following criteria were used: ESL, Reading Level, TAG, Resource (ERC), Family Involvement Rate, Gender, Social Issues, Discipline Issues and finally parent requests.

Treasurer's Report:

\$105K in our account, divided as follows:

\$40K designated for the outdoor covered playground

\$30K designated for teacher aides

\$15K for specific purposes such as Outdoor Learning Gardens, Audio System

\$20K in reserves

Activities:

Outreach Committee: Sandy Templeman and Lydia Hernandez were not in attendance but sent the following information: “Next outreach meeting is on October 17th (Wednesday) at 6:00 pm at Sandy’s house: 5530 SE Tibbetts Street, Portland, 97206, located midway between SE Division and Powell, corner of SE 56th and Tibbetts, right behind Franklin High School. For questions call 503-320-3619.”

School Directory: Doug Glancy. The school directory will again be published. Please submit your information in clear handwriting.

PTA Membership and Volunteer Sheets: Membership forms were not discussed.

Website: Looking for a volunteer to maintain the website. PPS hosts this site.

Outdoor Learning Garden: Looking for classroom garden representatives to spend an hour a week with your student’s class. Do not need to be a botanist! They will train you. Anne Storrs also discussed her “A Year in the Garden Project,” for which she received a \$5,000 grant.

Outdoor Covered Play Area: Jim Laden is temporarily leading this group, but would love for someone else to step in. There is 40K set aside for this project. The estimated cost is 100K. Still need lots of fundraising, design etc. Interested? Contact Jim.

Posada: Carmen Ramirez (kindergarten teacher) mentioned that this event will take place in December.

Lunar New Year: Janet Cowal announced that this all school event will take place in February.

Running Club: Kate Mountain is expanding this program to include all kinds of movement activities. She is seeking a grant through Nike. The new activities will include Ti Chi, Rumba, Frisbee, Jump Rope and Hacky Sack. The new club will be named – Move-Li-Tu Long-Mover.

Library Help and Book Fair: The librarian needs more help processing books. This can take place on your own time and you can bring younger siblings. Leslie Daily and Amy Mooney will be helping with the scholastic book fair in November.

RIF (Reading is Fundamental): Barb Frank, Lauri Daugherty-Green and Janie Cohen have coordinated this event for several years. It is a federal grant to give each child at Atkinson a free book, three times a year. Julie Hastings volunteered to be mentored this year.

Carnival: Julie Montagne will again be organizing this event but will need lots of help!

Ice Cream Social: Amy Mooney organized this event in September. Thank you!

Community Clean Up Day: Jen Pultz organized this event in August. Thank you!

Taste of Atkinson: Janet Cowal discussed this new event. It will take place October 6th from 10-3. It will be great, please come.

Mt Tabor Stand Chapter: Angie Beer is the link to this child advocacy group.

Recess Help: Via Janet Cowal, Angie Beer asked that people consider helping at recess time.

Tabor Commons: Alissa Keny-Guyer updated the group on the progress of the former Wake Up Deli across the street. A non-profit organization will be starting a coffee shop soon. Funds should go to SE Uplift.

FUNDRAISING:

Auction: Jim Laden will be chairing this event. Most of the key roles are filled by returning volunteers. Still need help with cashiering and will call. The date will be February 29th.

Gift Wrap: This fundraiser is taking place in September. Packets will go home soon. The assembly is optional and there are no more individual or classroom rewards. The school will earn all-school rewards (for example hoola hoops).

Chinook Books: Great fundraiser – coupon books for green stores and services. Will go on sale in September--October. Half of every \$20 book goes to Atkinson.

Run for the Arts: Heather Rickson and Sandy Carter Templeman will help organize this April event.

Atkinson Cards: Anne Storr started this successful fundraiser of using student art to make school stationary. She is looking for someone to take this project over. If no one wants to do it, the project will close.

Announcements:

- *We will have an artist who works with gourds this year.
- *Please join the yahoo discussion group for PTA updates:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AtkinsonPTA/>

Business:

- Final Minutes from May and June were approved.
- Courtney Hayes-Lattin was formerly elected as PTA Secretary (motion moved by Janie).
- A smaller group will meet to formalize the PTA Calendar of events.