

Present: R. Tucker, G. Tucker, A. Keny-Guyer, C. Hayes-Lattin, K. Martin, A. Lindsay Bell, M. Bell, L. Mason, L. Eby, P. Battle, O. Kosansky, N. Schulak, K. Mountain, J. Cohen, B. Frank, R. Boime, J. Hansen, A. Storrs, C. Aldez, E. Quiroz, I. Solis, M. Arreola, E. Fonseca, M. Woods, S. Juarez, M. Bedolla, T. Juieirez, S. Templeman, J. Pestrana, E. Lancaster, A. Hernandez, A. Fortanel, A. LaCombe, J. Caso, J. Wilf, I. Munguia, J. Pratt, M. Lazaro, R. Belcher, C. Ramirez, G. Huerta, A. Myrthue, C. Raak.

Update from the principal:

- Tonight's meeting will be simultaneously translated into Spanish using headsets and a professional translator.
- **Title One:** PPS receives money from the federal government under Title One. To receive these funds, the school must have a certain percentage of Title One eligible students (free and reduced lunch). This year our official number is 42% (down from 45%). If we drop below 40%, we lose the funds. This funding covers 3 teachers and 2 instructional assistants. Why is our percentage dropping? In part, because people aren't turning in the free and reduced form (they do qualify – but the district doesn't know.) One form = 700 dollars. This year we have a big push get the forms in. Because of this effort, our projection is 50%!!
- **Neighborhood Language Program Update:** Our neighborhood program has 300 children. The neighborhood language program is growing to the point where 30 children are in the classes. In order to reduce these numbers, we have discontinued the program for kindergarten. They will instead be introduced to both Spanish and Chinese within the classroom. This has created smaller classes for the 1-5 grade language classes. We will be getting more materials and training. Lillian Sarlos will be creating lesson plans for all the language programs.
- **Test Scores:** Unfortunate news. Our rating went from "exceptional" last year to "very strong" this year. The standards have increased and students were given only one opportunity to take the test. These factors lowered our scores. However, writing assessments showed great leaps.
- **Custodians.** We have only 2 this year; we get the same number as other elementary schools, even though we are larger than most. K-2nd grade will have floors cleaned daily, but 3-5th floors will only get cleaned occasionally. Garbage in all classrooms is removed daily.

US BANK presentation: David Wynde from both US Bank and PPS school board came to present Atkinson with a grant for the simultaneous translation funds. He was very impressed with our grant application. US Bank gave us 4000 dollars to fund our translating.

Sandy Templeman was the driving force behind seeking these funds (thank you, Sandy!) and Sheri wrote the grant application (thank you, Sheri!).

Taste of Atkinson (Karla): Thank you to all the volunteers. Aprox. 500 people were here for this new event. PPS media and the superintendent came. The event was a great way to reach out to neighborhood.

Tabor Commons Update—the developing non-profit coffee shop across the street (Alissa): Dept of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will do a free environmental cleanup this fall, which would have cost approx. \$200,000. Oregon Tradeswomen Assoc will donate labor to renovate the interior. Atkinson parent **Traci Sullivan** will donate her electrician skills. We need to raise \$10,000 to pay for renovation materials. Atkinson parent **Karla Martin** offered to help with material donations from the Environmental Building Supply Center. The next fundraiser will be a Halloween party at the First Unitarian Church. Please take flyers and put them around town.

Site Council Reps: The Site Council is looking for two new parent representatives. This council is an advisory council for the school. It meets Monday at 4:00 or 4:30, but the schedule can be changed to accommodate new members. **Angie Beer** will continue if necessary. It would be great to have a representative from the Latino community. **Concepcion** has volunteered. Concepcion and Angie were elected.

Budget Review (Jim Laden, treasurer): See the Proposed Budget Handout. Jim presented the budget; small modifications were suggested:

- Gift Cards were added. Cost \$300, Income \$1,500.

- Carmen suggested that we add funding to send two parents to the “Caba” workshops. Sheri suggested that we keep it more open – not just bilingual workshops, but rather any type of parent education that would help Atkinson. The attendee would then share the knowledge with Atkinson. There was discussion about whether this was a current priority since we committed to focusing on the covered playground this year. Perhaps a discretionary fund under “leadership training” at the level of \$2,000 would be more appropriate, and conferences not requiring travel costs would stretch our budget further. This was approved and added to the budget.

Gretchen moved that we approve the amended budget. It was seconded and approved.

Covered Playground (Jim Laden): Additional volunteers were recruited: Rob Boime, Sandy Templeman, Mike Bell and Karla Martin (and later Jodi W.) volunteered to work on the committee. Contact Jim Laden to help.

Business:

September minutes were approved.

Announcements:

Outreach mtg- Oct 17, Sandy’s house. This year we will make more of an effort to include our Chinese and Vietnamese communities. Potluck.

Annual Fundraisers: Please sign up at [escrips](http://escrips.com) to get a percentage kick back from your credit card use for Atkinson. You can read details at www.Escrip.com. Our code is 8560848. We have been getting about 30 dollars a month from this.

Email contact: Please sign up for the yahoo group; put your email on the sign-up sheet.

Headphones: People who used the translation headphones said they were great.