

Atkinson PTA Meeting Minutes - approved

November 17, 2009

Minutes by Sanquinetta Higgins.

Meeting called to order by Karla Zirbes at 6:35 pm.

Tonight's agenda circulated & approved, previous minutes circulated (not approved).

Special Intro: Mini Demo Music Class

Kim Heron presented a demo music class, getting all parents involved. Fun and interesting to see how she engages the students in music. The 4th and 5th grades work with singing and instruments, listening, music history. Engage children in appreciation of our culture and different cultures around the world. 59% of the 5th grade class is involved in band. The students are dedicating themselves to before school practices, lunch and recess practice. 3rd graders are learning recorder. All children get .3 music literacy once a week. For K-1st-2nd graders, there is community building, music games, singing and playing instruments. Kim teaches body percussion that relates well to learning an instrument. The patterns in music translate to math patterns, as well as music developing both halves of brain. Kim also showed overheads for the Flipforms. Karla reminded her that Sanquinetta has offered to assist with that proposal.

Principal's Update

Fire marshal has shut down the new volunteer space. Leadership team will discuss volunteer space options.

Kristine Klein will be PTA Teacher Representative. Chris will cover her class while she is in PTA board meeting.

Vietnamese/English teacher aide from State of Oregon. Master list of classroom sheltered English instruction to show when ELD is offered every day for students. Superintendent Deputy Hunter visited, our goal for Atkinson is 1.0 PE Teacher/Specialist. This is a mandated change from the education board. Budget opening for next year for more ELD help. We have 6 to go to make 100%. If every teacher were certified ELD then students would not be pulled out & more time would be given to whole class. Atkinson leads in teachers trained in ELD. Next year there will be a complete switch in serving ELD students. Klein will report back at next board meeting with how ELD teachers are structuring this time with students. Volunteers are needed to make this happen.

Chris talked about the new internet-based phone system. This would make leaving general messages and messages to teachers available at all times. They are learning the new system. Message will be taken and put into teachers' inboxes. Staff phone training on 11/30.

Impact of Ballot Measures 66 & 67

Tyler Whitmire for Stand for Children presented. Stand for Children is a grassroots organization dedicated to children and schools. How individuals can get involved-information about these ballot measures needs to be out by January. Stand & Defend Oregon are working together on these ballot measures. 800 members need to contact 100,000 voters. Help is needed in phone bank, canvassing, and signing a pledge to vote on January 26th. Volunteering is fun, child care is offered, board games, etc. Ballot measures 66 increase taxes for those individuals and couples whose income is \$250,000 and over. Measure 67 increases taxes for corporate incomes over 250,000. More information is available through Stand for Children and Defend Oregon.

Financial Updates

Laura Mason reports on financials. There is just under \$82,000 in the PTA operating budget. Check was given to Café Au Play, which is very close to opening this Spring. Thank you from Café Au Play. Many thanks from teachers who were very happy with the checks/funds distributed at the staff meeting.

Events & Fundraising Updates

Angie Janson reported on events and fundraising. Book fair is coming up, and volunteer positions are all covered. Winter Singalong, we need to get something in FYI for volunteers - Anne M coordinating this. Volunteers are needed for setup, takedown, food serving/sales, etc. Clever Cycle fundraiser on December 11th. Atkinson gets 10% of all sales for that day. Money from the Clever Cycle fundraiser will go to fund recess equipment. Angie's funding proposal was reviewed, voted on, and passed. Direct requests for specific equipment from teachers. Three Kings in January needs a coordinator. This event will not happen if someone does not step up. Lunar New Year will be on Tuesday, February 23rd.

Outdoor Learning Gardens Updates

Annie Tucker will be stepping down as chair. Denise Dekker will be stepping into the role. This will bode well for keeping program sustainable. Annie will still be a part of OLG & helping Denise bridge the gap. Americorps volunteers & 40 children came out Friday for Service Day. Rosie Ohara is working with Atkinson language program. Alicia is getting learning program out within Harper's groups. Alicia's Americorps hours are done, but she is staying on as a volunteer.

Executive Committee Updates

Check distributions are done & teachers were happy about getting them.

Funding proposal form, which includes procedures, will make funding for ideas easier and more open. All proposals will go through PTA Board except those under \$250. Proposals would potentially go through further approval through PTA meeting, and if needed through principal. Since the form contains new procedures and will change our Standing Rules, a move was made to use it for all new proposals, was voted on, and & passed. See attached.

Membership dues update is online & copies to be made for office. Also translated on website.

A teacher has requested that playground lines be repainted. Traci S. stepped forward to check into this; Karla will email her info.

Previous Business

Chris Weber presented a funding proposal for a climbing / traversing wall. Will benefit all kids in school & before/after school, and give mental and physical skills. Part that will take the longest will be the district paperwork. A sunnyside parent is willing to help us with the district paperwork. After Chris is trained, he can train other teachers. Signups for parents training & use of wall. Diane from Sunnyside will come and talk w/teachers. Funding Proposal of \$10,351 for climbing wall was moved on & passed.

Traci Sullivan spoke about the solar system for the school giving 40% of energy. This can be a lot bigger than just the kiosk that Chris G mentioned. Every school (Nine schools were given solar roofs) has access to \$10,000 from PGE and Bonneville for curriculum. This curriculum is for learning about solar energy. There is a big blue box full of different curriculum, experiments and plans. For example, building solar cooker, student-run energy audit of classrooms. Perhaps we could do a solar curriculum expo for teachers was proposed for teachers to see what is available. Perhaps bringing solar curriculum into the OLG program/curriculum.

New Business

Immersion Representative for PTA Board-Gabriela Goldfarb. There was an Immersion PTA group at Atkinson at one time, although over the years it has eroded. Gabriela noted that, in particular to Atkinson, we have immersion and neighborhood programs mingling together, which is very positive. Suggested an Immersion parent position be created for PTA Board. Proposed that this position is created & volunteered for. Moved & passed. Gabriela will see if a parent is interested at the 11/30 meeting. Three Spanish teachers want to go to bilingual teachers conference in Denver & are short \$400. Need to discuss with Chris G., need more info to make any decision. Possibly come from discretionary fund.

Quick Announcements

Traci S. - Café Au Play-“Jingle & Mingle” tree sale Saturdays & Sundays open until Christmas Eve. Possibly open sale for Friday, as this would be a good time for Atkinson families to purchase trees.

No December general meeting. Meet again in January.

Drawing for Gigibar gift certificate. - Traci S won.

Karla Zirbes adjourned meeting at 8:10 pm.

Atkinson Elementary PTA Funding Proposal Form

The PTA has a current or proposed budget and limited discretionary funds. But if you have an idea for a new program, event, or item you believe supports our mission or you want to expand an existing one, please fill out the information below. After filling out the Funding Proposal Form, it should be submitted to the President using the inbox in the office or email. The Executive committee may approve items requested under \$200. Proposal need to be first approved by the Board. If the Board does not give approval, the submitter will be notified with a reason. The submitter may appeal the

decision in person at a Board meeting for a final yes or no vote. If the Board approves, it can then be presented to the PTA membership for a vote at the next available general meeting. A notice of the upcoming vote will be made in the FYI. Please bring copies of this form and two copies of attachments (one for minutes, one to circulate.) If the proposal passes by a vote at a general meeting, an officer will seek approval from the Principal if needed. The submitter will then be notified of results. Feel free to contact an officer if you have any questions: current contact info at www.atkinsonelementarypta.org . Thank you!

Submitted by: _____

Date: _____

Email/Phone: _____

1. The primary goal of this idea is to:
 Build community, entertain, and/or educate students and/or families, Fundraise to generate revenue, Show appreciation for students, staff or families, Other _____

2. General description of proposed idea:

3. How will this benefit our students? _____

4. Proposed schedule: _____

5. Proposed location of item/event: _____

6. Number of volunteers required: _____

7. Approximate number of attendees/involvement: _____

8. Please list associated costs, including any supplies and start up cash required. Attach a separate sheet if necessary.

9. How will this be funded? Existing funds or Other: _____

10. Please use attachments for details or more information if needed.

PTA USE	Board approval <input type="checkbox"/> approved or <input type="checkbox"/> not approved	General membership approval <input type="checkbox"/> approved or <input type="checkbox"/> not approved	Principal approval if needed <input type="checkbox"/> approved or <input type="checkbox"/> not approved
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