

Atkinson Elementary PTA-General Membership Meeting
February 13, 2018

Call to Order

President Carissa Harrison called to order the general membership meeting of the Atkinson PTA at 6:35pm on February 13, 2018. The meeting was held in the school library and a quorum of members were present. See attached sign-in sheet (Attachment A)

Approval of Minutes

Kim Jarema presented the minutes of the January general membership meeting. The minutes were approved as presented.

Principal's Report

Updates from Ivonne regarding transition from Run for the Arts to Run for Atkinson and status of art funding for Atkinson students.

In past years, Run for the Arts was used to fund art programming at Atkinson through the Young Audiences (YA) organization. Last year, Atkinson chose to do its own fundraiser instead of one through YA in order to have more flexibility with the funds. The fundraiser's name was changed to Run for Atkinson. Principal Dibblee clarified that the Run for Atkinson will continue to fund the arts programming budget line item for Atkinson, in the amount equal to the average spent on arts over the past 3 years. Any surplus funds left after the 'arts programming' budget line item is funded, will go towards Atkinson Foundation to assist with funding for staffing. Teachers can utilize the arts funds at their discretion, keeping in mind the need to balance instructional minute requirements as well as other state mandates. PPS has a signed contract with YA, as well as with Vibe Art Studio. Contracts for additional art options will continue, but funding cannot be increased to accommodate every art program. Therefore, next year teachers will decide on a single art option, of which there will be multiple choices.

Staffing information for 2018-2019 will hopefully be out in March.

President's Report

Update on recruitment efforts for *elected* board positions for this school year:

The Vice President position is currently vacant, and there are two PTA members who are interested in joining the board as co-Vice Presidents. The board will present an amendment to the Standing Rules at the March general meeting to reflect this change for the position of Vice President. The new Co-VPs will be elected at the March meeting.

Update on recruitment efforts for new elected board members for 2018-19

Elections for open positions for the 2018-2019 school year will be held at the May general meeting. At this time, it is determined the President position will need to be filled. In May, a nominating committee will nominate interested members for this and any other elected position that may need to be filled for next school year.

Update on recruitment efforts for to fill vacant *appointed* board positions this school year:

One appointed position has been filled:

Board Member Spanish Immersion Program, Evelyn Solares

The Fundraising Chair position remains open.

President's Report (cont.)

Update on recruitment efforts for next school year's appointed board positions:

Jasmin Kratzer will finish out this school year as volunteer coordinator, but Melissa Soll will take over this position for the 2018-19 school year.

The board is considering creating a new appointed board position for next school year: Hospitality Chair.

If you are interested in serving on the PTA Board, please contact Carissa Harrison at president@atkinstonelementarypta.org

Planning process for next year's PTA Budget and Programming

The board will be reaching out to committee chairs to review current budgets, make budget changes, discuss new proposals, as well as discuss continuation of chairs and co-chairs for the 2018-2019 school year. Budget proposals will be presented to the general membership at the April Meeting. The final adoption of the 2018-2019 preliminary budget will be approved in May for the 2018-2019 school year.

Update on Silverware Drive

February 26th will be the first day Atkinson uses the new silverware. Volunteers are welcome to come during lunch time to assist with reminding students to not throw away the reusable silverware. Thank you to Eco School Network who donated a large amount of silverware.

Update on Book Harvest

Atkinson collected 1000 books for the book harvest.

Thank you to Collaine Kelly for all your hard work to make this happen.

Treasurer's Report:

New Funding Proposal: \$150 for Recess Equipment (Attachment B).

It is noted that recess equipment is for outdoor use only and is kept separate from P.E. equipment. Carissa stated this request is annual and could be added as a line item in the budget. In the past, there used to be district warehouse where teachers could get replacement equipment, but this resource no longer exists. Motion to approve funding proposal and make it a permanent line item in the budget. Kim Jarema moved to approve the funding proposal. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

New Funding Proposal: \$50.00 for 3rd grade geologist visit (Attachment C).

Board unanimously approved the funding proposal and added it as to the "Field Trip Donation" line item in the budget.

Dine Out Income: Fernando's (\$122.00), Laughing Planet (\$345.00), Hopworks (\$546.98)

5th Grade Overnight cost of \$3000 was paid.

\$300 bonus for moving bank account to Chase Bank was deposited.

Programs Report

After-School Scholarship Program

There were 10 applications submitted for the after-school program scholarships. Three could not be accommodated due to cancellation of the program or due to reaching vendor 'scholarship match' maximum. Kara mentioned the after-school programs may still be out of reach for some parent's budgets, even with a scholarship offering. It was discussed to possibly increase the scholarships from 50% to 75% of program cost. It was decided to wait and give more time for word to get out about this new program.

Auction Update

Ticket sales are going well, and the goal is to sell at least 50 more tickets by February 24th.

Earthquake Committee

An Earthquake Preparedness Informational Presentation

The presentation will be March 1st from 6:30pm-8pm in Atkinson Cafeteria. Speakers will be presented by Susan Romanski (Mercy Corps) and Tom Walsh (Portland Fire and Rescue). Volunteers are needed for childcare. Older kids are welcome to volunteer for childcare with their parent.

Earthquake Preparedness Fundraiser

A fundraiser will be held for the Earthquake Preparedness Committee at Fire on the Mountain on March 6th from 5-10pm. 25% of sales will be donated to the EP committee to use for purchase of more costly supplies.

Jamie Busch is Co-Chair of this committee. Next year will be Jamie's final year at Atkinson and she's hoping to assist with training someone to step into the co-chair position. Please contact Jamie at jamiqbusch@gmail.com if you are interested.

Special Guests

Mr. Barr, Atkinson School Counselor – Discussion on his role at Atkinson and curriculum for social/emotional skill development,

Second Step is a social and emotional curriculum that assists him in supporting the school on a systemic level. He provides this curriculum via consultation with principal and staff. The program is then taught to students daily, by the teachers, in the classrooms. He feels this is a more useful way to utilize the program because teachers are with students daily and are very aware of social and emotional interactions and needs of their students. This enables all students to benefit from the curriculum, and therefore, is not limited to students that only meet with the counselor individually. Often the students know the skills but need extra help applying the skills. The principal also checks for fidelity to be sure all teachers are utilizing Mr. Barr's curriculum.

Restorative justice practices are also taught. One example of restorative justice is a 'community circle' that happens weekly, if not daily, in the classroom. Students and teachers come together as a community to practice sharing, kindness, and compassion. They learn how to honor each other by listening to others, and also learn to solve class problems by working together as a whole.

How can parents get involved?

Mr. Barr encourages parents to discuss 'Homelinks' with their student's teacher. Homelinks help communicate to parents what is taught in class such as 'we talked about empathy today' or 'we worked on problem solving today'. Parents can also practice these topics at home.

Mr. Barr's Goals

He hopes to get a council together to assist him with implementing ideas for more civic engagement of students, parents, and teachers in the community. Another goal is to have more community building activities such as practicing 'no name calling week' or 'random act of kindness week'. See Attachment D for more information.

Special Guest

VIBE of Portland- New opportunities for arts enrichment.

Vibe thanked us for offering scholarships to students and are very excited to offer art workshops for Atkinson. Teachers have all received information on the offering that is available to them via Run for Atkinson funding. Vibe also offers art classes in the morning on late start days and escorts students to their classrooms at the start of the school day. Vibe is also interested in offering after-school music classes onsite at Atkinson or more music curriculum during the school day, as an option to a second recess.

Announcements

- **Saturday, February 24th 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm:** Auction @ Oaks Park Dance Pavilion
- **Tuesday, March 6th, 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm:** Atkinson Earthquake Preparedness Fundraiser at Fire on the Mountain, 3443 NE Fremont St location only!
- **Tuesday, March 13th, All Day:** Dine Out fundraiser at Pizzicato, 6042 SE Division
- **Next PTA General Meeting: Tuesday, March 13th, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm.

Next General PTA meeting is March 13, at 6:30 pm in the Atkinson Library.

Prepared by Kim Jarema, Secretary

Attachments:

Sign in Sheet (Attachment A)

Funding Proposal for Recess Equipment (Attachment B)

Funding Proposal for 3rd grade geologist visit (Attachment C)

Atkinson Elementary School Counseling Program Disclosure Statement (Attachment D)

Presented on 3-13-18

Approved as Written

President

Secretary