

PTSA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 27, 2014

Call to Order – Edana Peacock

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary's Report – Natalie Roberts

"I move to approve the September minutes as presented," by Cindy Buono, seconded by Michelle Riley. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Buono & Rae Miller

- The bank statements have been opened and reviewed by a non-check signer.
- The budget has been updated, pages 2 through 5 show committee budgets (see attached).
- Taxes have been filed. We used HR Block this year.

Principal's Report – Marla Newton

- Students should wear their Seahawks gear for Blue Fridays.
- Stanford testing has begun.
- Third graders taking MSPs online, other grades to follow next year.
- Kindergarten RoundUp/Orientation is coming up. Parent Information night is February 11. Kindergarten registration is March 5 and 6. Full-day Kindergarten lottery is March 11.

Teacher's Report – Laura Berry & Kristin Cakarnis

- Thank you from Mrs. Schaff (Literacy Support) as each new teacher to our school got a kit of books to start out their classroom from the PTSA.
- Thank you from Mrs. Hooke for all of the iPads. The iPads are used to reinforce what has been learned all week.

Site Council Report – Kim Plowman

- No site council meeting in January – nothing to report.

Presentation of Written Reports

- None to report.

Oral Reports from Active Committees

Community Liaison – Rob Wyman, Newcastle City Manager

- Mr. Wyman shared a map showing the current projects going on in the city of Newcastle and how it impacts the school.
- There are 7 different projects in various stages of development in Newcastle.
- For the next 2 to 3 years, the City projects 62 additional elementary students, 22 additional middle school students, and 19 additional high school students.
- Mr. Wyman said there is no easy, cost-effective solution for the increased traffic around the school during pick-up and drop-off times.
- The city is projecting 900 Renton SD students or the school going in at the corner of Newcastle Way and 116th.
- There has been decision from ISD (Issaquah School District) towards getting Newcastle Elementary another portable.
- The city is open to studying the possibility of adding speed bumps around the school.
- Mr. Wyman recommends the PTSA looking in to possible traffic solutions and making a recommendation to the city council.

Presidents' Report/Community Values Survey – Edana Peacock

- Newcastle is one of 3 schools in ISD with 100% PTSA membership.
- This year is a renegotiation year for teachers with their union. The PTSA is conducting a survey to find out what matters to most about parents about their schools and delivers this information to those at the bargaining table, as this year is a renegotiation year for teachers with their union. The results can be found online at issaquahptsa.org.

Legislative – Denelle Wolff

- Focus Day is next week on Tuesday when PTSA members from across the state go to Olympia to lobby for issues. All Newcastle PTSA members are welcome.

VIS/ISF – Kim Plowman

- The ISD Levy is right around the corner. Please go online and endorse the levy. There are 3 different levies, all are replacement levies. There is no tax increase to voters, and we lose 22% of our teachers if these don't pass. There are 2 days of "honk & wave" to stand on the corner and hold signs to encourage voters in passing cars. Signup sheet for this was passed around by Meri Hartman.

Parent Ed – Danielle Dixon & Stina Fluegge

- There will be 2 Love & Logic presentations for parents. The presenter is Tori Benton. Dates are: Tuesday, March 4 and Thursday, March 6.

Winter Family Event – Michelle Riley

- This year's Winter Family Event will have 2 big inflatables and Charles the clown magician will be entertaining the kids. It is a Seahawks theme, so attendees should wear blue and green. Kids are encouraged to make Seahawks posters to be displayed during the event. There are still volunteer opportunities. Sign-up sheet was passed around. Pizza sales to fundraise for the 5th grade class.

Yearbook – Michelle Riley

- Yearbook order forms are coming. You can also go online and order. Please send your cute photos to Meri Hartman, and please send the highest resolution possible.

Walkathon – Michelle Riley & Lissa Wax

- The PTSA still needs a chairperson for this event. Seth Miller would be helping to execute the walk-a-thon during specialist time (PE & Music). Then there will be an evening Health/Fitness Family Event in the evening on Friday, May 16.
- Another option is to outsource the fundraiser to Orange Ruler, a 3rd party company. We could hire them for a 2 week program. They start out with an assembly and donations/pledges are all online. The approach is team-based, by classroom, and the teacher is the lead/coach. At the end of the 2-weeks there is a 20-minute fun run. Orange Ruler would charge 35% of the money raised. Our last walk-a-thon we raised \$21,000.

Presentation of Committee Plans of Action (POA's)

- "I move to approve the Committee POA's as presented," by Natalie Roberts seconded by Michelle Riley. Motion passes.

Business

Special Funding Requests - Edana

- "I move to approve the 1st Grade Toymaker in-house field trip for \$490," by Meri Hartman, seconded by Danielle Dixon. Motion passes.
- "I move to approve the STEM request for GLAD (Guided Language Acquisition Design) for \$175 to benefit the entire school," by Laura Berry, seconded by Michelle Riley. Motion passes.

Budget Re-Allocations & Revisions – Cindy Buono

- The following adjustments were made to the budget:
 - Tax Return Preparation: budgeted \$400, actual is \$600.
 - Spirit Wear: additional expense for expedited shipping is \$181.
 - Increased income line item by \$1700 (pass-through)
 - Increased expense line item by \$2400 (pass-through and shipping)
 - Increased BrainPop subscription amount by \$75.
 - Increased Tumbleweed press subscription amount by \$30.
 - EA Time: Budgeted \$20K, actual is \$12K, Difference is \$8K.
 - Move \$3,000 from EA time to Videotaping
 - Move \$5,000 from ES time to Unallocated

Nominating Committee

- Lana Miller, Janet Cloud and Heather Ackerman volunteered to be Nominating Committee members. The Nominating Committee helps find parents to serve on the EC next year. Katie Burris will serve as an alternate, nominated by Lana Miller.

- “The nominating committee shall consist of at least three members and one alternates. The election of the members may be by voice vote if there are no more than three nominees otherwise a ballot vote must be taken. The election of the alternates may be by voice vote if there are no more than two nominees otherwise a ballot vote must be taken. The secretary shall record the process used and results in the meeting minutes. “

Golden Acorn Committee

- This year’s Golden Acorn Committee is Laura Derwin, Michelle Riley, Lance Gytoku and Georgia Forchuk. Golden Acorn forms will go out in Kidmail this week, please consider filling out the form. The submission deadline is March 4.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities – ISD Elementary School Auctions

- Cougar Ridge Auction is Saturday, March 28, at the Hyatt Bellevue. Please let Meri Hartman know if you can volunteer.

EA Funding (BEL/Reading Club)

- ISD pays for 1 through 3rd grade BEL/Reading Club support. WA State PTA does not recommend PTSA fund any staff positions, due to fluctuations in budget. The Newcastle PTSA started funding it years ago, and increased it year-over-year. It is currently staffed by one person at 3.5 hours. It was 2 resources @ 3 hours in prior years. Priscilla Hooke and Karen Nelson work closely with each other to ensure the needs of the students are met. One resource creates consistent instruction and minimizes the need to manage/train more than one resource. The EA then supports Priscilla.
- Newcastle PTSA funded the EA position to allow for our teachers to focus their time on the general population in the classroom. The EA working with the kids who need it most means all children get the reading instruction they need. The PTSA needs to determine what the recommendations/needs are for next year. Current approved budget supports 3.5/hrs of instruction a day with one resource who then qualifies for benefits vs. 6 hrs of instruction a day from 2 resources.

Raise the Paddle Auction Funds /Unreserved Balance – \$51,888 total

- “I move to approve \$19,140 from the Raise the Paddle Funds for 30 Dell Laptop computers at \$638.each for grades 3 through 5 for testing and then for computer labs,” by Natalie Roberts, Laura Derwin seconds. Motion passes.
- “I move to approve \$3,886 on safety supplies to sustain the school and surrounding community in the event of a major disaster for 48 hours, including pop-up canopies, privacy screens, makeshift toilets, chairs, blankets, lanterns, emergency stretchers, emergency triage set-up,” so moved by Danielle Dixon, seconded by Stina Fluegge. Motion passes.
- “I move to approve spending \$12,151 for a new AV system for the gym and cafeteria,” by Michelle Riley. Danielle Dixon seconds. Motion passes
- The funding request for 32 iPads @ \$461/each = \$14,752 was presented to provide literacy support for the K – 2 classrooms. “I move to approve spending \$14,752 from Raise the Paddle Funds,” moved by Laura Berry, seconded by Meri Hartman. Motion did not pass, as further discussion about training and security was recommended. At this time, the PTSA will create a taskforce to discuss how best to bring iPads into the school and under what plan. The co-presidents will regroup with Marla to form a plan for the next general meeting.
- There was no new business to report at this time.

Announcements – Edana Peacock

- January 27th – 31st – Stanford Testing
- February 11th, 6 PM – Kindergarten Parent Orientation for Fall 2014
- March 20th, 6:30 PM – 4th Grade Concert

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by Natalie Roberts, Secretary.