



PTSA GENERAL MEETING - MINUTES

November 19, 2012

Call to Order – Edana Peacock

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary's Report – Natalie Roberts

Motion: "I move to approve the October minutes as presented, " by Lani Pedersen, motion seconded by Janda Black Keenan. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Buono (not present) & Taneka Ogden

Cindy will give her full report in January, items to note include:

- The bank statement has been reviewed by a non-check signer.
- We have filed an extension for our 990 tax return.

Principal's Report – Marla Newton

No report given, as Marla was not present due to illness.

Teachers' Report – Kelly Goddard & Katie Tinnea

- Teachers are busy learning about common core standards introduced in Washington (TPEP), as well as undergoing training. (Find more information on the ISD website: <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/>).
- Student report cards are coming home before winter break.
- Teachers expressed appreciation for the book room, as it is being used extensively.
- Newcastle's annual Gift-a-Book and Book Fair are coming up.
- Newcastle's grant to the district for 16K for the new COW (Computers On Wheels) was approved and is being processed. This will be COW #3 for our school, with 20 netbooks on each cart.)

Site Council Report – Edana Peacock

- The Newcastle Library (King County) is on schedule to open on December 8 at 9AM. One week from Thursday, on Nov 29, there is an evening reception all can attend from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.
- The Mutual Material Property on Coal Creek Parkway (brick factory) was sold to a developer. There is potential for 700 apartment units/condos/townhomes plus retail space to be built there in the coming years. These residential units will become part of Issaquah School District and will impact our school population down the line. This property is within the boundaries of the City of Newcastle.
- There is another property to be developed just north of Lake Boren. A retirement community is planned there.
- Regarding student attendance, when parents pick up their children for an early dismissal, it will show up as a tardy on the student's record. Once a certain number of tardies have been accumulated, a letter is automatically sent home. Note that the school office will be cognizant of those tardies/early dismissals that are habitual or excessive, and those that are for regularly scheduled appointments.
- Regarding communication from the school, note all emails (such as the Lion's Page) are being measured for activity levels. The school monitors who is opening the email, who scrolls to the bottom and who clicks on the included links. The latest statistics show 34.8% of recipients open e-news, and of those, 188 clicked on the links.

Parents are asked to please read the enewsletters to make sure they have all necessary information about upcoming school events and policies.

Teacher/Staff in the Spotlight – First Grade - Melissa Canedy and Sarah McKenzie

- Pie Night is happening the week after Thanksgiving, with parents coming to the classroom and reading with their students. Other events throughout the year include Donuts with Dad (January) and Mothers Day Tea (May.)
- Earlier in November, the first graders performed their music concert with a gratitude theme. The event was a great success.
- Classroom rotations have begun, where each first grade teacher takes a subject and students rotate through each room for each activity. This is helpful for student management. Subjects include Health, Social Studies, and others.
- Regarding literacy curriculum, first graders are focusing on comprehension as well as phonic support. Read Across America is coming up, with many events planned: parents come in to classrooms and read aloud, as well as students and teachers dress up as favorite book characters. It is a great week-long event.
- First graders are also working hard on classroom auction projects and teachers have pulled together fabulous 1st grade teacher experience for the auction as well.
- Teachers expressed thank you's for the PTSA luncheons, the book room, and TumbleBooks. They also expressed appreciation for their classroom allotments and popcorn for Charlotte's Web viewing.
- First grade has three science clubs this year (or science-to-go), and have completed one. Students love it.
- Teachers expressed thanks for the COWs, our newly revamped art docent program, the filming of the concert performances, and the \$50 reward for classrooms for PTSA registration participation from classroom parents.

Oral Reports from Active Committees:

Community Liaison – John Jensen (not present), please see Site Council Report above

Legislative – Kim Plowman

- Legislative Assembly was attended by Marnie Maraldo. The top 5 essential priorities for PTSA platform are as follows (more info is available on the WA state PTSA website: <http://www.wastatepta.org/>.)
 1. Advance Basic Education Reforms
 2. Fund Education First
 3. Closing the Opportunity Gaps
 4. Revenue for Kids
 5. Access to Highly Effective Teachers

• **Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF)** – Rebekah Kim

The All-In-For-Kids campaign took place, and exceeded the goal by \$16,000. Cindy Buono hand-delivered our check of \$2500, hopefully this will be covered in local papers. Newcastle PTSA goal is to fill 4 tables for "Nourish Every Mind Luncheon," suggested donation is \$150 per attendee. The luncheon is in May, members can sign-up with Rebekah to indicate interest, it is not a commitment at this time.

• **Parent Ed** – Elizabeth Ury

New Parent Education programs will be rolling in 2013. More information to come.

• **Food Drive** – Kara Beal

Pajama Day won our recent food drive competition. The big day is November 30, so all students can wear pajamas that day. Our school raised 2,000lb of food for the Issaquah Food Drive, this is 2/3 of what we raised last year. We will have another food drive in the spring for Tiger Mountain High School.

• **Polar Express** – Terri Catalani

We are partnering with the Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank again. This year we will also do a holiday shop at Pickering Place. Students will also be able to fill up bins at the school based on the wish list. Please send unwrapped toys with your students to school. Terri will be asking for volunteers for the holiday shop and wrap day, more information will be sent out in the coming days. Polar Express ends on Dec. 10.

- **Box Top Contest** – Meri Hartman (not present)

More details to come, but please note that January is our annual Box Tops contest.

- **Brown Bear Car Wash Fundraiser** – Edana Peacock

The 5th Grade Fundraiser is underway, purchase \$5 car wash coupons from any willing 5th grader. Sales from this efforts offset the price of 5th grade camp and helps fund field trips. Note that Apollo 5th graders are selling cookie dough, please see Edana for information on buying if you are interested in supporting our neighbors.

- **Winter Family Event/Auction Kick-off** – Danielle Dixon

In conjunction with the auction art project displays, Pacific Science Center will entertain kids during the first hour of our Winter Family Event. The Issaquah Salmon Hatchery will also do salmon print-making with students. KidsQuest may also provide some activities. This event is scheduled for February 8, 2013.

- **Art Docent** – Laura Derwin

Art projects are rolling along and the kiln is up and running. Currently, projects are ahead of schedule. The clay is going in for 3rd grade's salmon projects, and 5th grade masks are nearly completed. Laura is creating a How-To-Manual for the newly revamped program, including:

- It is now called The Lion Art Docent Program.
- The Art Docent Program Mission Statement: Creating a greater motivation of learning through art.
- Building more awareness of the program, by promoting the good works of the art docent program and how funding is used. This Includes onsite displays in the office and around our school.
- The program has revamped packaging and made it consistent for all classrooms. They have also created signage (laminated for easy re-use) for each art project to be displayed around the school, including the lesson learned from project.
- There is an online calendar for all art projects (in the Cloud) so parents/docents can access at anytime to get up-the-date information.
- There is a new tracking system of inventory and planned projects.
- Working on safety measures for the kiln.
- Determining a plan for communicating that the PTSA funds this program.
- Laura is developing a “departure” project for each grade as they leave Newcastle, something that remains with the building, and is open to suggestions.
- Michelle Reilly was recognized as a fantastic support to Laura Derwin.
- Laura was recognized for the outstanding effort above and beyond she has put in to revamping the program.

- **Auction** – Georgia Forchuk

Holiday Online auction kicks off on Friday, November 30. The auction enewsletter will arrive that day with the link that takes you to the online auction. This runs through December 6. Over 70 items, including Great Wolf Lodge weekend getaway, weekend in Leavenworth, Westin Bellevue one night stay, Truce Spa donation, Castle Ice Birthday parties, chess4life camps around our ISD breaks, Xbox games, Newcastle Fruit Stand, and more. Our potential revenue is up to \$10K.

Distribution of holiday online items will be Tues. – Thurs, December 11 – 13. We still need a volunteer to staff Wed, 12/12 for 2 hours to help distribute items. Taneka Ogden volunteered.

Sue Wilkos, Neighborhood Procurement:

- Expressed thanks to Georgia for her fantastic leadership!
- Some items currently procured for the auction:
 - Gourmet Dinner for 10 at Kim Moger's home
 - Babes and Bartender Terri Catalani
 - Wine Night and Meet the Seahawk Coaches
 - Stonegate – Instant Wine Cellar

- China Creek/Olympus – Girl's Night Out (limo, Magic Mike)
- Ridgewood --- Outing to the Inn at Langley
- Highlands – Limo Ride to Canlis

Lissa Wax, Business Procurement:

- We could still use a lot of help for follow-up. Please contact Lissa if you have extra time to give.
- Some items currently procured for the auction include:
 - Marcie Maxwell, home in India Wells for one week (2K last time)
 - Lots of Seahawks items available.
 - Food, wine-tastings
 - Author experiences
 - Galapagos or the Sea of Cortez
- Ideas for donation items:
 - When out holiday shopping, purchase something extra to donate to the auction. There is no minimum and no limit.
 - Wine (but don't bring donations to school)
 - Restaurant Gift Certificates
 - Cash!
- We have exceeded corporate sponsorships from 2011 but still shy of goal.
- January 18 is the cut-off for procurement, 8 weeks away. Catalog will go to press shortly thereafter.

Michele Maresh – Database, Invitations:

- Auction invitations coming home on Jan 18 in Kidmail. Note that all registration will be online, and the link will be provided in an upcoming auction newsletter.
- Table Captains needed, there are 40 slots available. Captains need to put together the people for their table (each table seats 10). If you want to be a table captain, start thinking about that now.

Edana Peacock - Games:

- Games will include a prize wheel for gift card or wine prizes. We are still looking for gift card donations. There will also be a square game (like a football pool).

Edana Peacock - Teacher Experiences:

- We have raised \$21K on art projects and teacher experiences from past auctions. This year, grade levels will each have 2 spots to auction off for attending teacher events. Some will be available during our online holiday auction and the rest will be at the live. In addition to grade level teachers, specialists are also donating experiences.

Christine Grabowski - Classroom Auction Projects:

- Volunteers for all classes have been secured and 19 of the 25 have already had their projects approved. There should be no issues with approving the remaining 6. The committee is taking pictures of those and working towards completion by February 1.

Mary Ann Trevino and Tiffany Ryan - Dessert Dash:

There is a need to follow-up after the holidays with Bellevue businesses. On auction day, there is window between 12 to 3PM to deliver desserts to the Westin Bellevue. Those donations that need refrigeration will be stored at parent homes, and we will need more help with this. Please see Mary Ann or Tiffany if you can help. Dessert Dash Forms are going home in Kidmail this week so families can donate directly.

Business – Kim Plowman & Edana Peacock

- Special Funding Requests
 - For: BrainPop subscription, \$1650, covers one year for the entire school, requested by Donna Wood. Our current subscription will expire 12/6/12. **Motion: “I move that the PTSA fund a one-year subscription to BrainPop for the entire school for \$650.00, “ by Taneka Ogden. Motion seconded by Kim Plowman. Motion passes.**

- For: Reading Club (Title 1/LAP), \$420.28, includes one magnetic set of write and whiteboards, 6 sets of magnetic alphabet tiles to teach phonics with hands-on manipulatives for our struggling readers and writers K through 3rd grade, requested by Priscilla Hooke. **Motion: “I move that the PTSA fund the magnetic set of write and white boards and tiles for K through 3rd grade Reading Club for \$420.28.” by Taneka Ogden. Motion seconded by Allison Flash. Motion passes.**
- Special funding requests are completed by a Newcastle staff member and submitted to Marla for her approval. If she approves, the request is then submitted to committee for a vote.
- The Nominating Committee to be approved at January PTSA meeting. This is a group of parents responsible for finding next year’s Executive Committee. Our Presidents will not be returning (2nd of their 2-year term), and various members of the EC have indicated interest in returning. We need volunteers for the nominating committee.
- PTSA family directories will be distributed next Monday/Tuesday.
- Note that there is a Bellevue Downtown Park/Ice Rink Fundraiser from 11/23-12/18 and 1/7-1/13. They will be giving \$3/per person back to PTSA if you attend on these dates.

Announcements – Kim Plowman

- November 14th – December 10th, Polar Express
- November 22nd – 23rd, Thanksgiving Holiday... NO SCHOOL!
- November 27th, 1st Grade PIE Night from 5:30-6:30pm
- November 30th, Newcastle Geography Bee from 1:45 - 3:40 pm
- November 30th, Report Cards Go Home
- December 1st – 7th, Fall Barnes & Noble Book Fair/CPK fundraiser
- December 5th – 6th, Elementary Conferences... NO SCHOOL!
- December 7th, AM/PM Kindergarten Conferences... NO SCHOOL for AM/PM Students
- December 13th, ISD Special Education Parent Night from 6:30 - 7:30 pm at Maywood Middle School
- December 14th, Mochas with Marla at 9:15am
- December 19th – January 1st, Winter Break... NO SCHOOL! If you are keeping your students out of school longer, you need to fill out form at office for prearranged vacation. This needs to be approved by Marla.
- January 2nd, School Resumes

Tiffany Ryan wins door prize.

Adjournment.

Respectively submitted by
Natalie Roberts, Secretary
Newcastle PTSA