

PTSA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2013

Call to Order – Kim Plowman
Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary’s Report – Natalie Roberts

“I move to approve the January minutes as presented” by Cindy Buono, seconded by Edana Peacock. Motion passes.

Treasurer’s Report – Cindy Buono & Taneka Ogden

The bank statement has been opened and reviewed by a non-signer. More details will be reviewed with our budget review later in the meeting. If you need a check reimbursement for the 12-13 school year, please submit right away.

Principal’s Report – Marla Newton

- Next year, Newcastle, along with other elementary schools in district, will be operating with a Dean of Students. This is a full-time position and will not be shared with another school. The position will help relieve the pressure on the administration, including handling student discipline, allowing Marla to get out more frequently. Carly Hancock will be our Dean of Students and Carol Best will be moving to Discovery Elementary full time. This transition is already in the works.
- Marla will be working part-time in September and Shirley Roberts (a retired Principal) will be working the rest of the week to support Marla during the remainder of her maternity leave.
- The book room has moved into the teacher/staff break room. The portable will house 2 classrooms for the 13-14 school year.
- It is more than likely that there will be 2 ½ day Kindergarten sessions.

Teacher’s Report – Laura Berry & Kelly Goddard

- Priscilla Hooke has organized a book swap. Kids can bring in books tomorrow and Wednesday. On Thursday, kids can choose from other donated books for the “swap.” Books swapped will not go to the library.
- Through the Amazing Race, the school raised \$1200 for Tacoma schools and 70 gently-used sporting equipment items. Sara Berry, Laura’s sister, is the site coordinator for Tacoma schools and reports that the kids are thrilled with the donations.
- Teachers who are on the new evaluation system have now completed that process.

Oral Reports from Active Committees

- Spring Book Fair – Laura Berry: The book fair was super-successful! \$3400 in book credit to UBS. Laura is putting together her list of books we will get over the summer for the school library. Our next book fair is scheduled for May 2014 to coincide with our spring walk-a-thon.
- Mackinvia – Laura Berry: The ISF (Issaquah Schools Foundation) has 2 kinds of grants. Laura received the Big Idea Grant for Newcastle (along with Cascade Ridge), and received a subscription for e-books. These are accessible from any device, tablet or reader although you may need to download the appropriate apps. To access, you must find our school on the site and your student’s ID. The district has put all of the e-book subscriptions on Family Access. Information will be sent home before the end of school. Some books are permanently available and there is also a subscription database (Starwalk Media) fee for one year included in the grant. After the first year, it will need to be funded at \$595/year.
- Yearbook – Meri Hartman: Yearbooks will be distributed this Friday. Please get the word out and send students to school with color Sharpies. They will hit classrooms Friday morning.

Business

- Budget Presentation for 2013-2014 School Year – Cindy Buono

Cindy Buono presented a line by line review of each of the budgeted items for the 2013-2014 school year.

- Raise the Paddle is designated for Curriculum/Technology Support and is a separate expense line item for 13-14.
- Teacher Book Bonus -- \$50 incentive will continue on for 13-14 school year.
- Brain Pop – This is an ongoing subscription that will continue on for 13-14 school year.
- TumbleBooks – This will continue on for 13-14 school year.
- Playground Equipment - This will continue on for 13-14 school year.

“I move to approve the proposed operating 2013-2014 budget,” by Lani Pederson, Michelle Riley seconds. Motion passes.

- Discussion about how to spend remaining 2012 – 2013 balance of \$9000. Suggestions included:
 - Emergency Prep (\$4500)
 - Add'l Money towards Bookroom (Teacher Checkout)
 - Setting dollars aside for curriculum/technology support for 2013-2014
 - 9 iPads for Reading Club (Bell Program)
 - Meri Hartman is exploring possible signage possibilities: \$4K to \$14K is possible with this.

“I move to approve spending \$6K for 12 iPads to support the Reading Club,” by Lani Pederson, seconded by Lisa Dow. Motion Passes.

“I move to approve the \$1K special funding request to increase the budget for new teachers to build their classroom library.” by Marla Newton, seconded Danielle Dixon. Motion passes.

- Open EC Positions for 2013 – 2014: President position is open.
- Open Chair Positions for 2013 – 2014: if you know of someone interested in a position, contact Meri Hartman, the incoming VP of Volunteers.

Announcements – Kim Plowman

- June 17th - **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL for AM/PM Kindergarten!**
- June 18th - LAST DAY TO PICK-UP MEDICATIONS... parents must pick-up medication kept in the health room
- June 18th - 5th Grade Promotion from 9:45 am in the Commons
- June 18th - Report Cards Go Home...
 - Please send in a stamped, self-addressed envelope if your child will be missing the last day of school
- June 18th - **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL for Full-Day Kindergarten and 1st-5th Grade!**
- June 18th – Newcastle Neighborhood Life 4th Annual Block Party Noon – 5pm at Lake Boren Park

Respectfully submitted by Natalie Roberts, Secretary.