

Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association



Newcastle PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes Monday, February 28, 2022 Zoom Meeting

Call to Order: 7:02pm

Attendees: Mary Vickers, Katie Green, Ellen Lubbers, Hilary Doherty, Brooke Weller, Martin Turney, Mei Atangan, Dr. Wood, Bisa Meek, Rachel, Allison Sweeney, Karen Kim, Scott Vickers, Kelli Medak, Marnie Maraldo, Katie Green, Mary McGuire Brown, Ali Bligh, Bettina Vuong, Pam Calvo, Jamie Xu, Lindsey Davidson, Lara Velasco, Marcia O'Donoghue, Alice Kim

Vote to Approve December 6th PTSA General Meeting Minutes- Mei Atangan motions and Ali Bligh seconds the motion to approve the December meeting minutes. Without any objections or abstentions the meeting minutes are approved.

VIS Representative/ Levy Info: Martin Turney, Executive Director of Finance provided an update on the proposed levy and identified the services/support that it will address. The slides and links will be provided on the website by the Levy 2022 committee and also on the 411 newsletter. Marnie Maraldo (board member for the Issaquah Schools District) requested support for the campaign and to take action to support the levy which will be on the ballot on Tuesday, April 26th. Please visit www.visvote.org or contact Marnie Maraldo at 425-220-3389 for more information.

-An endorsement vote was called and Allison Sweeney made a motion to approve the endorsement of the levy and Marcia seconded the motion. No abstentions or objections noted and the Newcastle PTSA endorsed the proposed levy.

Advocacy Chair- Ellen Lubbers identified the 2022 top 5 issues for the legislative and highlighted increasing access to social/emotional support staff, increasing educational equity by closing the digital divide, supporting and funding for students with disabilities, and preventing gun violence and suicide. The PTSA can choose one of the issues to pursue and contact her for further

resources. The 2022 Legislative session occurred on Monday Feb 21st and five supplemental budgets were passed. Read the full report on the session below and connect with the weekly newsletter for updates.

<https://www.wastatepta.org/protect-your-schools-title-1-status/>

<https://www.wastatepta.org/2022-focus-on-advocacy-february-28-report/>

<https://www.wastatepta.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2022-Legislative-Session-Week-7-2.28.22.pdf>

Issaquah Schools Foundation Update- Hilary Doherty noted that 21 teacher grants were awarded at 15 schools with a total of \$82,000 provided. Student grants are currently under review.

Financial Update

a)Ali Bligh notes that the budget is in good shape as many school events and activities have been limited/restricted due to Covid19 restrictions.

b)Mary Vickers submits a grant request for Newcastle Lion magnets for a total of \$1300.00 for Newcastle families who have joined the PTSA. Membership appreciation is allocated at \$750.00 with \$550.00 remaining in the budget. The idea of increasing the membership appreciation line item to \$1000 was discussed. Lara Velasco made a motion to approve the increase and Marcia seconded and without any abstentions or objections the grant was approved.

c) PE Teacher Mr. Miller is asking for a grant request of approximately \$3295.96 for necessary and enrichment equipment. Some items include: dodge balls, soft play footballs, basketballs, wamo, flying discs, etc. Mr. Miller has a check request available in the amount of \$250.00 for PE equipment. The PTSA discussed the grant request of approximately \$3295.96 to be used by Mr. Miller to support the PE department. After conversations regarding the necessity of such materials, Marcia made a motion and Allison Sweeney seconded the motion to approve the grant request and without any abstentions or objections the motion was approved.

Activities Update

a)Outreach- Food drive completed and abundant donations made. Lunch for the Break and Angel Program are still going strong. Volunteers are always welcome and please contact Marcia for further details. The Free and Reduced Lunch program applications are always needed to ensure access to the program so please ensure parents are aware.

b)Programs- STEM week is still going forward. Art is coming soon to the classrooms.

c)Ways and Means- Read-a-Thon volunteers are beginning to organize. Reach out to Kelli Medak for more details (kellimedak@gmail.com).

For the Good of the Order

- a)The Geography Bee run by The National Geographic is no longer supported.
- b)The Executive Board is looking for interested volunteers. Please contact Rebecca Nguyen at rebeccaaludwig@hotmail.com if interested.
- c)The Golden Acorn awards are open for nominations. March 11th deadline.
- d)The membership drive closes at midnight on February 28th.

Adjourn PTSA Meeting - 8:12pm