

# Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association



## General Membership Meeting Agenda

April 16, 2024

6:30pm-8pm

Newcastle Elementary Library

**In attendance:** Mary Vickers, Mindy Niehaus, Ellie Diaz, Dr. Wood, Shellie Colby, Fiorella Tapiarene, Bisa Meek, Ellen Lubbers, Katie Green, Jennifer Choi, Becky Butler (in lieu of Katie Affman teacher rep).

**Call to Order** – Mary Vickers/Mindy Niehaus  
6:39pm

**Vote to approve February 6th PTSA General Meeting Minutes** – Mary Vickers/Mindy Niehaus  
Posted on PTSA website. Motion passed unanimously. Minutes were approved as is.

**Golden Acorn Winners** - Mary Vickers/Ellie Diaz  
Alice Kim & Bisa Meek - 2023-2024 winners - Ellie read the summary of Alice and Mary read profile of Bisa and presented her with a plaque of recognition.

**Issaquah Schools Foundation Update** -- Hilary Doherty - not in attendance  
Mary thanked those in attendance at the Nourish Every Mind luncheon. Unknown at this time total funds raised.

**Financial Update** – Kathryn Sciba (not in attendance)

**Playworks Funding** - Ellie Diaz  
Shellie, Mindy, Mary, Ellie met earlier to discuss the ability to bring back for another year. Auction funding paid for the first year of the program. Other option for continued funding: ISF Grants which awarded in January. Trisha Marshall, ISF President, discussed previously with Mary PTA could fund and then request grant from ISF but there is a potential grant could be denied.  
Another school did a paired down version of the program for less costs by using a Para to teach and coordinate. Discussed potential contract position if a Para takes on leading it.

Questions raised on number of participants, numbers/data, Dr. Wood confirmed data is being collected but hasn't been presented to Dr. Wood yet.

Members Voted to approve up to \$27k for Playworks to fund for another year. The motion passed with 9 votes in favor, 2 absentions.

**Teacher Representative – Becky Butler**

Discussed funds remaining in Teacher allotment after recent passed amounts for literacy slides, social funding - still over \$10k remaining.

Spring Fling - Feedback from teachers - Teachers expressed good baggies not needed, toy trinkets were hard to manage, punch cards were difficult to track. Discussed being in favor of a field day for kids to play games, have popsicles - keep it simple.

Discussed will have additional funds from not being able to host STEM night or Winter event - \$1500 - potential use towards funding more games/bounce house.

**Legislative Representative – Ellen Lubbers**

Discussed updates from recent WPTA Advocacy Newsletter - Senate passed preventing gun violence legislation which prohibits the manufacture, importation, distribution, sale or offer for sale of any assault weapon, with few exceptions.

Change Champion - if you have a topic that impacts youth you would like to see PTA advocate for, May 1st is the deadline for the first step for drafting to WSPTA Advocacy Director. June 1st is the final deadline for submissions. Current issues, resolutions and legislative principles can be found on the advocacy website. ([wastatepta.org](http://wastatepta.org))

**Bond Committee - Katie Green**

Katie Green is participating in the Issaquah School Board Bond Committee, made up of 70 people including teachers, parents, community members. Discussion held regarding meetings held in past several weeks for preparation to recommend bond amount and what to be include to ISD Superintendent. Committee has determined priorities/focus as Critical Repairs and focus on Clean Building Act, Safety and Security, Innovate at secondary level, overcrowding at high school, accessibility and inclusion and career opportunities in HS and MS. Discussion on upcoming election ballot importance of bond to pass to fund important improvements to school to adhere to the Clean Bld act (otherwise ISD would face penalties for being over energy usage level determined acceptable) and for building of the new high school which was originally slated to be funded from 2016 bond amounts but due to land acquisition issues and other legal matters never got built. Costs of construction have only gone up. Suggestions were made to include in the details the incremental increase on taxes, be specific what the bond would be including, property taxes in our area are highest all around. Helpful for folks to know incremental increase from 2016 bond.

**Activities Update – Outreach, Programs VPs**

BookFair - Ellen - Total funds raised allowed for \$135 to be given to each teacher in Scholastic money. Fund raised \$15,480 - Profit to the school \$12,888 - 15% \$6100 can be applied for next year (including funding angel program). Discussion it was well received that the top winners in the class were able to purchase items using scholastic money.

Notes for next year - need 3 registers, better Wifi (tape to window), host 2 family shopping events (vs 1), middle of March worked well for timing. Guidance for providing teachers for how they can spend the money, Scholastic has other things besides books (ie. furniture).

Programs upcoming events: Movie Night - Wanka, MultiCultural night, Spring Fling moved to Monday June 17th, still in need of a chair

Staff Appreciation Week - sign ups for lunch, will be providing sandwiches otherwise

Reminder to confirm if purchased yearbook

**Ways and Means** – Orange Ruler, Mariners, Dining Out

Orange Ruler - started yesterday and will go thru April 30th (last day to donate online), May 3rd

Fun Run during lunch recess (optional), if meet goal pie Dr Wood in the face, 4% participation so far, Thursday will have 2 winners per grade level

Ms Game - April 27th - email was sent with the link to collect tickets (from: "Mariners Fan Care")

Dining out - week of May 13th - possible Frosty Barrel

**For the Good of the Order** – Mary Vickers

**Adjourn PTSA Meeting** – Mary Vickers

7:41pm adjourned

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**Principal chat with Dr. Wood**