

Lawton Elementary

PTA General Membership Meeting

Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2016

Attendees: Sign in sheet attached

1. Welcome (Dorian)

- a. Lawton is utilizing the Multi-Tiered System of Support
 - i. Coherent system that streamlines all services
 - ii. Identify struggling students
 - iii. Staff will know everyone by their name, strength and needs of all students
 - iv. Every class will have a charter
- b. 4 P's for closing the opportunity gap
 - i. Positive Learning
 - ii. Positive beliefs
 - iii. Positive relationships
 - iv. Positive Partnerships
- c. Staff is working on the concept of Equity and Deeper Learning by Pedro Noguera. The following areas are taken into consideration when helping students:
 - i. academic
 - ii. social
 - iii. emotional
 - iv. psychological

2. Closing the Gap (Aaron Swartzman)

- a. Aaron and Audra Gallegos are the SEA building representative
- b. The school participated in the Day in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter. Some teachers wore shirts and apparel and most taught age appropriate lesson in their classrooms
- c. Kelsey spoke about how she is using this as an opportunity to speak to her students about fairness and standing up for fairness.
- d. PTA/SEA/ District are looking at equity issues and how to teach this in the classrooms
- e. Typically the white students perform higher and the Blacks and Latinos perform lower
- f. The largest gap is in 5th grade.
- g. Lisa Rankin is a good source of information for families
- h. They want to encourage members to vote for a pro-education ticket.

- i. Lawton will include Boys and Girls Club in communication regarding Closing the Gap.

3. PTA Board Introductions

- a. Amanda Armes, Co-President
- b. Jennifer Wenrick, Co-President
- c. Deanne Allegro, Co-Vice President
- d. Bryn Bunich, Co-Vice President
- e. Kassandra Bradberry, Newsletter Communication
- f. Gina Craig, Website Communication
- g. Kamila Kilayko, Treasurer
- h. Jenni Currit, Cashier
- i. Pricilla Wenneman, Recording Secretary
- j. Mikelle Nuwer, Member at Large
- k. Terry Richardson, Co-Fundraising Chair
- l. Marilene Bysshe, Co-Fundraising Chair
- m. Valerie Cooper, Advocacy Chair
- n. Kelsey Fatland, Staff Liaison

4. Vision and Mission of the PTA

- a. PTA wants to enrich students experience financially, emotionally and socially
- b. PTA wants to have open communication with families.
- c. PTA wants to help bring the community together
- d. PTA realizes that we need a better way to get notice to parents.

5. Playground Overview (Anthony Spinelli)

- a. A two year project at a cost of \$332,030
- b. Lawton fundraised \$342,299
- c. Committee is returning \$10,269. The committee recommends the PTA starting a maintenance fund for the playground.
- d. Lawton was the only playground project in the district that completed their project by the first day of school.
- e. Committee has a punch list of items to still be completed
- f. Nature path way will be installed by the students
- g. Community provided 1800 hours of volunteer time

6. Budget (Kamila)

- a. PTA added a line item for playground maintenance fun.
- b. Operating expenses
 - i. Academic support has been increased. It allows for an extra half day of library and an academic interventionist (they help wherever the need is greatest)
 - ii. Enrichment budget is under \$30,000
 - iii. PTA created a 4th grade fundraising committee for Islandwood
 - iv. There is no funding by SPS for a lunchroom or playground supervisor. We expect the cost to increase next year as we implement \$15 minimum wage

7. Direct Drive (Terry)

- a. 66% of pledge cards returned with check or credit card information on pledge form. 33% done online
- b. Terry and Kamila have emails out regarding the convenience fee and if it can be tax deductible.
- c. PTA will get some pledge cards to Boys & Girls Club
- d. Please watch the Direct Drive video on the Lawton website
- e. The Direct Drive goal is \$115,000
- f. Spring Auction is on May 5, 2017
- g. Completed Direct Drive Activities
 - i. Launched 10/3/16
 - ii. There is a tracking banner in entryway
 - iii. Online pledge cards
 - iv. 444 pledge cards delivered via kid mail
 - v. 3 weekly newsletter articles
 - vi. 3 room parent emails
 - vii. 2 flyers send via kid mail
 - viii. 101 handwritten thank you notes
- h. Planned Direct Drive Activities
 - i. 2 newsletter articles
 - ii. 2 room parent emails
 - iii. 2 updated flyers
 - iv. On the last week of the drive, we will pick up and drop off signage
 - v. Donor tax letters will go out in November
- i. Current status of participation by grade level
 - i. K-34%
 - ii. 1-42%
 - iii. 2-36%
 - iv. 3-34%
 - v. 4-21%
 - vi. 5-40%
- j. Currently have 34% participation.
- k. We have not met \$67,000 of our goal

8. Volunteers needed (Deanne)

- a. PTA still needs a chair for 5th grade promotion. It's typically a 4th grade parent. If no one can do it, Deanne will do it.

9. School Funding Issues (Valerie)

- a. State funding is the top priority. The goals of the legislature assembly:
 - i. plan and prioritize for the year
 - ii. closing the gap
 - iii. basic education
 - iv. breakfast after bell
 - v. social and emotional learning
- b. A good source of information for parents is Washington Paramount Duty (non-profit) and Soup for Teachers (Facebook page)
- c. There is a district survey regarding bell times. The survey asks where that extra 20 minutes should be added.
- d. Magnolia Elementary to be opened in the Fall 2018. Dorian is working with the principals at Coe and Blaine to discuss how the boundaries will be drawn.

Attendees:

Marilene Bysshe
Bryn Bunich
Katya Adams
Pricilla Wenneman
Valerie Cooper
Kelsey Fatland
Dorian Manza
Amanda Armes
Jen Wenrick
Aaron Swartzman
Ola Mork
Julie Carr
Kevin Craig
Terry Richardson
Deanne Allegro
Kim Courtney
Jerry Bridges
Kathryn Ficarra
Jennifer Allman
Kamila Kilayko