

The October PTA Board Meeting was scheduled for October 9th from 5-6:30pm in the staff lounge and Lawton Elementary. The President began the meeting at 5:04pm and the meeting ended at 6:46pm.

In attendance were:

Jen Wenrick – Co-President
Terry Richardson – Co-President
Bryn Bunich – Co-Vice President
Pricilla Wenneman – Co-Vice President
Kassadra Bradberry – Communications, Newsletter
Gina Craig – Communications, Website
Cynthia Dold – Fundraising
Valerie Cooper – Advocacy Chair
Mikelle Nuwer – Secretary
Amy Sprague – Member at Large
Kristen Noel – Staff Liaison
Virginia Docktor - Cashier
Jenni Currit – Treasurer
Dorian Manz – Principal

Erika Jamir – Guest; Move-A-Thon Chair
Stephanie Skinner – Guest; Spring Auction Chair

After the meeting began, the President asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September PTA Board Meeting.

Motion: A motion was proposed by Valerie Cooper to accept the minutes from the September PTA Board meeting with the addendum to the phrasing for the Advocacy statement. The motion was seconded by Bryn Bunich and approved unanimously.

School Updates - Mr. Manza /Mrs. Noel

Curriculum Night is scheduled for October 10th at 6 and 6:45pm. The event is an opportunity for teachers to share grade curriculum and classroom expectations. The staggered sessions are offered to accommodate families with multiple children at Lawton or allow two parents to attend a session. Curriculum Night is a parent only event.

Lawton Elementary staff, students and family welcome Ms. Folkins. She was teaching at Adams Elementary in Ballard before her reassignment to Lawton. She is a wonderful addition to the staff and the school is very lucky to have her.

The classroom reassignment and transitions were difficult, but successful. Forty-seven students in three grades were affected. A lot of time and thought went into classroom reassignments and the staff is confident that the classroom changes were necessary and will benefit all children in the impacted grades.

Seattle Public Schools will not be releasing core funds based on changes to FTE after the start of the academic year to schools that are not considered high need. Even though enrollment at Lawton is above 450 students, the school will not receive a 0.5 counselor and the nurse will only be available 1.5 days/week.

Ms. McCue as Assistant Principal and Ms. Wheeler as the Administrative Intern will be expected to fill some of the roles and/or duties of a school counselor.

The administration is currently seeking a replacement for Ms. Hoffman as an Instructional Assistant. All other positions have been filled.

The staff is pleased with the new literacy curriculum and feels confident in its implementation since the beginning of the academic year.

A sister school assembly is scheduled for Wednesday, October 11th. Lawton will be paired with a sister school in Africa. The staff is very excited to reestablish this program and connection.

A presentation of RULER by Ms. McCue is scheduled for November 7th. Families will be invited to learn about the program and write their own Family Charter.

A reminder of the cell phone policy will be sent to Lawton families. Students are not allowed to use cell phones or other electronic devices on school property during school hours. Students are also asked to refrain from using devices at the bus stop and on school busses.

A reminder will also be sent regarding posting photos to social media sites. Photos taken at Lawton or on field trips that include other children should not be posted on social media sites.

Vice President Updates – Bryn Bunich

The Vice Presidents were pleased to report that most committee positions have been filled. The only vacant chair is that for fifth grade promotion. Bingo Night and IslandWood only have one volunteer. The Board may also need to recruit a chair for IslandWood fundraising for the current fourth grade classes.

The Vice Presidents distributed the Room Parent list. Mrs. Wong and Mr. Swartzman are still searching for room parents. Both plan to advertise at Curriculum Night.

The Art Docent program is now running smoothly. Shannon Sigler has volunteered to chair the Art Docent Committee. The Art Docent committee has already hosted an orientation meeting.

The Bake Sale Committee requested that a schedule for upcoming events be posted. The Board requested Bake Sales during the Fall Festival (Oct 27), RULER

presentation (Nov 7) and Bingo Night. The committee will also be asked to bake for Teacher Appreciation Week. A suggestion was made to have a range of prices for baked goods at Bake Sale. Bakers will be asked to provide range of baked goods to sale at range of prices.

On November 7th, the PTA General Meeting will be paired with a presentation of RULER by Ms. McCue. Students and their families will be invited to come to a RULER presentation to learn about the socioemotional program and create a family charter. Any general announcements for PTA members will be made at the beginning of the presentation.

It was suggested that the PTA provide pizza and a Bake Sale to encourage attendance. Families will be asked to RSVP to the main office before the event.

Motion: A motion was made by Bryn Bunich to move \$500 from the Math and Mingle Night line item in the budge to the RULER presentation night on November 7th. The money will be used to purchase food and beverage for Lawton families. The motion was seconded by Virginia Docktor and approved unanimously.

Fundraising – Cynthia

The Direct Drive was officially launched on Monday, November 9th with the publishing of the Monday newsletter. The drive will run from October 9th – November 10th. The start of the Direct Drive was delayed because of the classroom shuffle. The PTA Board was asked to make their contributions to the Direct Drive before the official start date and ask other Lawton families to do the same. As of October 9th, ~\$20,000 has been raised with a participation rate of 9%. Families or individuals who make an early contribution will be entered into a raffle.

Advertising and information about the Direct Drive has been posted to the PTA website and newsletter, and was sent home by kid mail. Room parents will be asked to remind families to help meet the goal of 100% participation. Mrs. Noel has been asked to make announcement at staff meeting to encourage 100% participation by the staff.

The Board would like to thank Akiko Baron for her time and creative genius to create the visual art on the Direct Drive flyers and posters.

The Chair asked the Board to consider redirecting doncation from the Move-A-Thon to IslandWood in future years. Erica Jamir who has a lot of experience as the chair for the Move-A-Thon and an IslandWood volunteer, was asked to share the fundraising history of the Move-A-Thon and make recommendations for the future. The Board discussed the request but was not able to come to a consensus. The Board agreed to reflect on the information and concerns presented and continue the discussion at the next Board meeting.

A suggestion was made to request that the current 5th graders share their experiences at IslandWood with all Lawton students.

Membership – Amy

There are currently at 81 families who have paid for Lawton Elementary PTA membership. Last year only 67 families paid for memberships. A number of families have donated memberships for teachers. It was suggested that we offer memberships through a lottery to teachers interested in joining the PTA. It was suggested to have PTA Membership forms available at Curriculum Night. Another suggestion was made to have a PTA Membership Table at every event to encourage families to join the Lawton Elementary PTA as it is our goal to have 100% PTA membership.

For the last two years, student listed on Family Memberships have been marked as paid members in PTA Avenue. Students should not be counted as paid members since the cost of a Family Membership only covers the dues for two members.

Advocacy – Valerie

The Seattle School Board passed a formal resolution to ask the Seattle School District to formally submit a request to include a school in the City of Seattle environment impact review of the Fort Lawton land. The Advocacy Chair considers this a large victory and would like to recruit families to join her at the next School Board meeting to thank them for their action. The next Seattle School Board meeting will be held on October 18th at 4:30pm with public testimony beginning at 5:30.

The Advocacy Chair encourages families to be vocal to the Seattle School Board and District on their concerns about the Fort Lawton land use and capacity issues in the Magnolia, Queen Anne and Ballard neighborhoods.

A summary of issues related to the Fort Lawton land redevelopment was sent through the PTA newsletter

Spring Art Auction Update – Stephanie Skinner

The Spring Art Auction Chair reported on the successes of the 2017 auction and how the committee thinks the event could be improved in the future. The Chair passed out documents summarizing the details for the 2017 auction and plans for 2018. The 2017 Spring Art Auction netted ~\$78,000. Approximately 200 tickets were sold.

The date for the 2018 Spring Art Auction has tentatively been set for April 27th. Incentives will be used to encourage advanced purchase of tickets and preregistration.

Budget Report – Jenni Currit

The Treasurer presented the current budget with a description of pending budget line items. More money was spent on printing of calendars for the first day packets

than was allocated. A motion was presented to transfer funds from the PTA General Priority fund to cover the overage.

Motion: Kassandra Bradbury proposed a motion to transfer \$178.94 from the PTA General Priority Fund to the Doing Business Day line item to cover the overage for the printing of calendars. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Dold and approved unanimously.

Motion: Amy Sprague motion proposed a motion to include the Treasure's Report from 7/1/17-9/29/2017 to the minutes for the 10/9/17 PTA Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Dold and approved unanimously.

Attachments to include:

Agenda (below)

Spring Auction Updates (2 docs provided by Stephanie Skinner)

Treasurer Budget Report

Lawton Elementary School PTA Meeting

October 9, 2017

5:00- 6:30 PM

Teachers Lounge, Lawton Elementary School. Childcare will be provided in the library

Agenda:

September Meeting Minutes Review/Approval - Mikelle (1 min)

Rotary Club - *guest* Thomas Powell (10 min)

School Updates - Dorian/Kristen (10 min)

- Curriculum Night Oct 10th
- New classroom transitions
- Other

Vice Presidents - Bryn and Pricilla (10 min)

- Committee Updates
- Bake Sale Events
- Room Parents

Fundraising - Cynthia (20 min)

- Direct Drive
- Move-a-thon

Membership - Amy (5 min)

- Your membership for 2016-2017 was: 289. So far, we are at 145 for this year

Advocacy - Valerie (10 min)

Budget/Monthly Financial Report (10 min) - Jenni

Spring Auction (10 min) - *guest* Stephanie Skinner

Open/Other Updates (5 min)

Reminders:

- October 9th - Legislative Assembly Survey Closes at Midnight <http://www.esurveyspro.com/Survey.aspx?id=40b6ac5d-0727-48f2-a85c-5d32d4e21605>
- October 25th - Flu Shots
- October 26th- PTA and the Law Webinar 7:00PM - 9:30 PM
- Registration is open for October WSPTA legislative assembly. October 20-21st at the Hotel Muano in Tacoma
- November Lawton PTA Board meeting **11/13 5:00- 6:30 PM**