

The January PTA Board Meeting was scheduled for January 8, 2018 from 5-6:30pm

In attendance:

Jen Wenrick – Co-President
Brynn Bunich – Co-Vice President
Pricilla Wenneman – Co-Vice President
Kassandra Bradberry - Communications
Jenni Currit -Treasurer
Virginia Docktor - Cashier
Valerie Cooper – Advocacy Chair
Amy Sprague – Member at Large
Kristen Noel - Staff Liaison
Mikelle Nuwer - Secretary

Co-President Jen Wenrick called the meeting to order at 5:05pm. After the meeting began, the Co-President asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November PTA Board Meeting.

Motion: A motion was proposed by Virginia Docktor to accept the minutes from the December PTA Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Pricilla Wenneman and approved unanimously.

Budget Report –Treasurer (Jeni Currit)

The Treasures continues to work a consultant Bianca Gracsyk of the WA State PTA to resolve the inconsistencies and bookkeeping errors in the 2017-2018 budget. She has been advised to not make any major changes to the budget for this academic year. She plans to correct all bookkeeping errors and changes to the organization of the budget so it is easier for members to read and understand. Since these changes are only organizational, they do not need to be approved by vote by the General Membership. These changes will be made before the General Meeting on January 24th and an announcement will be made.

Rollover and Pass-Through accounts were not line items on the budget for the 2017-2018 academic year and we do not need a General Membership vote to reorganize these line items.

The budget for the 2018-2019 academic year will include all of the changes to structure recommended by the consultant. We will also add line items for IslandWood Fundraising and Playground Maintenance. For this academic year, the school will have to submit a specific ask to Lawton PTA for funds for IslandWood and playground maintenance.

The Treasurer presented the Board with the current budget statement. The budget is still not balanced and the bookkeeping errors reported in the December PTA Board Meeting have not been corrected. These corrections will be made before the General Meeting on January 24th.

Lawton School Update – Principal (Dorian Manza)

The Principal reported that staff and students have transitioned back to school successfully after the winter break.

The rollerblading unit starts this week in P.E. Information and forms were sent out last week by School Messenger.

The MLK Assembly is scheduled for next Wednesday from 8:30-9:30am. The assembly will be led by the 4/5 teaching team and students.

Kinder registration starts today. The Principal asked that the Lawton Community remind families in the neighborhood to register students early. Early registration is important because budget for next year is based on projected/registered numbers. Enrollment is currently at 460 students.

The Principal reported that playground needs constant maintenance and asked that the Board consider creating a Playground Maintenance fund and hire a company approved by the manufacturer to maintain the equipment so that it stays under warranty condition. If the equipment is not maintained correctly, it will not be under warranty and will not be replaced by the manufacturer.

Upcoming Important Dates:

1/15 No School - MLK Holiday

1/31 No School - Day off between semesters

2/7 Open House night at 6pm. Parents only; no kids.

2/16 School tours for new families at 8:30Am

The brochure for new families has been updated by Carrie Wheeler and Amy McCue.

School committees will be meeting on Wednesday. Math Night will be rescheduled.

Staff Updates

Erika Jamir has been hired for lunch and recess supervision. The administration is still searching for another supervisor for lunch and recess on Fridays.

No other staffing updates were made.

Questions from Board to Principal

The Principal does not have any additional information regarding the search for a new Superintendent for Seattle Public Schools (SPS). Information about the search was sent to families last week from SPS.

A board member asked a question about the Advanced Learning pathways. The Principal reported that SPS was conducting a study and that a final decision had not

been made. He stressed that Lawton will continue to offer Advanced Learning opportunities for enrolled students.

The Principal did not have an update on the Magnolia School. The school is scheduled to open in the fall of 2019.

The Principal will have an update on the budget and challenges for the next academic year at the February Board Meeting.

Vice President Update – Co-Vice President (Bryn Bunich)

The Vice Presidents reported that they have begun the search for a Nominating Committee for PTA Board positions for the 2018-2019 academic year.

The Vice Presidents will send a message to all Board Members and ask that they respond with their intentions for next year. The term for all positions, except Cashier, are for 2 years. Members may serve in the same position for only 2 terms.

Board Members made suggestions for people to serve on the Nominating Committee. Members of the committee must be members of the Lawton PTA and should not be Board Members.

The members of the Nominating Committee must be voted on at the General Meeting on January 24th.

A reminder was made that a PTA Board or Lawton staff member needs to be present at all PTA functions. A suggestion was made to add the requirement to the planning form for all events and to alert the chairs of the events that they need to recruit a PTA Board member or Lawton staff member for their event.

The Lawton Administration will send out a reminder of the expected code of conduct for students, and the PTA Board will be asked to remind families of these expectations and enforce the school rules during PTA events.

President Update – Co-President (Jen Wenrick)

The Co-President reminded Board Members about the scheduled Bird and Bees presentation on January 24th from 6:30-8pm at Catherine Blaine Elementary. Board members were asked to get word out about the presentation to their friends and neighbors. Flyers will be sent out by School Messenger and Room Parents.

The event is geared towards elementary students and funded jointly by the Lawton and Blaine PTAs. General PTA announcements and vote(s) are scheduled for the beginning of the meeting.

The Co-President announced that the offerings for the second session of Lawton After School Programs have been finalized. Registration will be through 6 Crickets. Information about registration will be sent home by kid mail this week. Registration is currently open on 6 Crickets. Registration closes on January 19th.

Class assignment will be by lottery. Some changes to the registration process have been made. It will now be a two-step process.

The Co-President asked if there was interest from the Board and Lawton staff to have a third party create and sell a school supply kit. Both the Board and staff support the idea and requested additional information.

The Co-President also suggested the PTA fund a collection box for Box Tops outside of school so that community members can contribute. Schools that do this can raise thousands of dollars.

Membership Update - Member At Large (Amy Sprague)

It was announced that we only need 15 additional memberships to be recognized by WSPTA and be entered in a lottery to win a monetary prize. The Board agreed that an announcement should be made in the newsletter and on Facebook.

The meeting ended at 6:18pm.