

The April PTA Board Meeting was scheduled for April 16, 2018 from 5-6:30pm in the Lawton Elementary Library.

In attendance:

Jen Wenrick – Co-President
Terry Richardson – Co-President
Bryn Bunich – Co-Vice President
Pricilla Wenneman – Co-Vice President
Gina Craig – Communications, Website
Valerie Cooper – Advocacy Chair
Kassandra Bradberry – Communications, Newsletter
Jenni Currit -Treasurer
Virginia Docktor - Cashier
Amy Sprague – Member at Large
Mikelle Nuwer - Secretary

Agenda

1. Approval of March minutes - Secretary
2. Lawton Cultures Up Close Presentation – Staff Social Studies Committee
3. School Updates - Principal
4. Budget Planning/Survey Results – Treasurer and Co-Presidents
5. Election – Co-Vice Presidents
6. Prep/Advertising for next week’s events – Co-President

Co-President Jen Wenrick called the meeting to order at 5:08pm. After the meeting began, the Co-President asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March PTA Board Meeting.

Motion: A motion was proposed by Bryn Bunich to accept the minutes from the March PTA Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Dold and approved unanimously.

Lawton Cultures Up Close Presentation – Social Studies Committee

Ms. Wong, Ms. Adler, Mrs. McDonagh, and Ms. Armstrong

Ms. Wong presented the history and background of the World Cultures event. She explained that the World Cultures event had become too large and was becoming a burden for teacher classroom planning and student learning. The goal of the World Cultures event has always been to expose the students to the world and all it has to offer, and the Social Studies Committee is very excited about introducing a new Cultures event to the Lawton community. The committee has put together a high impact event for students and families that won’t require a lot of teacher planning or use of class time.

The theme of the new Cultures event is centered on who the students are, what they value, and how our social or cultural values tie our Lawton community together. The proposed new event will be called *Lawton Cultures Up Close – I am, we are.*

It will be a community event focusing on bringing families together to share food and enjoy student art. The event will kickoff the week of May 23rd with a children's concert assembly by Lasl Slomovits of the band Gemini and will culminate in a family potluck. The date of the potluck is currently scheduled for Friday, June 8th. During the week of May 23rd, teachers will introduce the lesson plan based on the book *The Dot* in their classrooms. The book will be used as the launching point to examine who each student is, where they are going, and who they could become. During the week of May 29th, art docents will work with students to create identity dots reflecting the theme *myself, my family, and my dreams*. Student art will be on display in the hallways during the potluck and will be sent home with the students before the end of the school year. Each year the theme and art project with change and grow in complexity.

Teachers/staff will be asked to volunteer to help serve food. Parent volunteers will be needed to help with set up, clean up and serving of food.

Pricillia Wenneman volunteered to be the PTA Board point contact for the event. The budget for the event is \$3000. The committee expects to complete the event under the budgeted amount.

School Updates – Principal Dorian Manza

Mr. Manza will transition to Hamilton next year. He is committed to finishing the year up strong and will work to support the community through the transition to a new principal. Lawton families were informed of the transition by email and will be asked to be involved in the search and hiring process and to provide input during the process. The Executive Director for Seattle Public Schools is scheduled to attend the PTA General Meeting on April 24th and will lead families through an activity that explains the process and timeline for hiring a new principal.

Mr. Manza is currently working with committees to make hires for three new teachers. This week the committees are interviewing candidates for the new Kindergarten, 2nd and 4th grade teachers. The goal is to get the best candidates by interviewing and hiring early. A counselor for next academic year has already been hired. Committees have already interviewed candidates for the art position and a still working to fill the 0.5 P.E. position.

To accommodate the increase in enrollment and the new teachers, the computer lab and music room will be converted back into classrooms. Computers will be distributed to classrooms in need and a number moved to the library. Music will move to room 113 and/or on the stage in the Commons. More classroom space is still needed and many options are being explored. One option is to convert the space currently being used by the Boys and Girls Club to classroom space. The Boys and

Girls Club will maintain an office and will be given priority for another space in the school for their program.

Budget Planning/Survey Results – Treasurer and Co- President Jen Wenrick

The Treasurer passed the most recent budget summary. She had no announcements.

Co-president Jen Wenrick passed the results from the 2018 Lawton PTA Budget survey. The executive Board members are working on a budget for next academic year. This budget will be presented to the General Membership for their vote of approval at the General Meeting on April 24th.

The Co-Presidents will create a one-page summary document to send in advance of General PTA Meeting to explain the changes in the budget and what the PTA funds.

The Board agreed that monies raised at the Spring Art Auction will be applied or credited to the budget for the 2018-2019 academic year.

In planning for next year, the Board would like to set a budget development schedule that aligns with the Seattle Public Schools budget schedule.

Board members would also like to research options for sharing any money raised over the fundraising goal to other PTAs in the region. This may include Magnolia Elementary or a school with less financial resources.

Election Update – Co-Vice President Bryn Bunich

The Co-Vice President announced the slate (below) for the 2018-2019 PTA Board. All positions except Fundraising have been filled. New positions will be voted on at the General Meeting on April 24th.

For Office of Co-Presidents:	Valerie Cooper and Cynthia Dold
For Office of Co-Vice President:	Mikelle Nuwer
For Office of Treasurer:	Kathleen Kapla
For Office of Communications Newsletter:	Cheryl Brenner
For Office of Advocacy:	Amy Lakhani

Other Business

Motion: A motion was made by Jen Wenrick to use PTA discretionary funds to purchase a \$200 gift card to Fred Myer to give to Mrs. McDonagh in acknowledgement of the death of her husband. Terry Richardson seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.