

## Edgewood PTA Meeting Minutes

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Attendees:** Tanya Bunson, Meridith Turnbull, Chelsea Donahue, Susan Carey, Rob Drummond, Genna Osborne, Ali Megan Wagner, Beth Casper, John Stapleton, Amelia Reising, Gayle Sawyer, Michelle Stecher, Anna T. Galas, Mitzi Shirk (2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher), Larry Williams (School Principal), and David NT. [Meeting minutes taken by David NT].

1. Introductions.
2. Meeting minutes: Genna makes a motion to pass meeting minutes from 11/17/15, Michelle seconds. Minutes from previous 11/17/15 pass unanimously by group vote.
3. Guest speaker: Elizabeth Goward of School Garden Project speaks to group about their efforts and projects using standard education standards in science for hands-on garden education in various schools in Lane County. Mentions that they have been in conversation with Edgewood for a few years. They offer both in-school and after-school programs. Should Edgewood become involved, the school would be fifth school to participate from the 4J School District.
4. Principal report: Larry provides report. Edgewood is “in a good groove” and many things going well. He just completed formal observations of teachers. 8 teachers participated in a standard/formal review, 3 teachers are probationary, will finish observations in February. Edgewood classes will release salmon over the next couple days; an annual event for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Larry mentions that Tanya has been working hard on donation boxes, and the generosity of many families has allowed us to secure food for many families over the holiday. Money has been donated toward those as well. Larry has been working with the district on improving existing school/classroom heating systems, as some are loud and/or need updating. Looks like this summer the district will help improve those. When school resumes in January, district-level student assessments for benchmarking testing will commence. John had a question about results of the previously-reviewed school emergency procedures, Larry said that this spring there will be additional A.L.I.C.E. training for staff.
5. Teacher report: Mitzi said that she did speak with teachers about the available PTA resource money. Mitzi stated that one teacher had a question about a piece of furniture for the classroom, and that teachers also inquired about possibly allocating some of that money for future Outdoor School (ODS) trips. John replies that we need to meet still and discuss meeting the existing financial needs for past and future Outdoor School. A question from the group arises about the shortfall for ODS for this year, which this year’s fifth graders already attended, and about \$7000-9000 is still owed for that. Group discussion about potential ODS fundraising opportunities and ideas to increase families’ understanding of the costs of ODS and ongoing needs to raise funds in advance of ODS.
6. Written reports: Anna indicates that a co-chair for the Fun Run will be needed for next year. Beth comments that it’s helpful and appreciated that these types of announcements are made early.
7. Volunteer appreciation: Beth recognizes Meredith, primarily for efforts for help with food pantry; Rob Drummond for volunteer coordination; Ali Megan for photo shoot as well as taking on coordinator position for Direct Donation Drive; Jennifer Ludwig for help with Edgewood Village and Thanksgiving/Winter Baskets.
8. Other PTA matters: Gayle and John attended a meeting with the new Superintendent, discussed some quick takeaways from that. They also inquired with group if there’s interest in partaking in any shared events with other schools/PTAs. Some discussion about that, including an idea to possibly share our calendars with other schools.

9. Teacher appreciation event: John presents an idea for some sort of catered meal during the teacher appreciation week in May. Meredith clarifies that there's a budget item of \$500 for this. Mitzi asks the group what would be helpful for the next teacher representative to bring to the next PTA meeting? Beth suggests a per-grade overview of events to include in PTA announcements. Christy McCaslin is teacher appreciation committee chair. Group needs to identify reimbursement for Fun Run (\$195). Gayle makes a motion to move \$500 from "communication" to "teacher appreciation", and \$150 from magnets and \$50 from reserve to reimbursement for Fun Run. David seconds the motion. This motion passes by majority vote: 11 votes for "yes", 1 "nay". Gayle makes a motion to move \$200 from reserve for teacher supplies for Jen Huang, Michelle seconds the motion. Passes unanimously by group vote. Group reviews that Beth, Jen Ludwig, Tanya Bunson, and Bree Bouse are PTA checks signors.
10. Weekend snack packs: Gayle reviews purpose of weekend snack packs, shows example, and makes announcement requesting help compiling and assembling packs.
11. Meeting ended.