

Edgewood PTA Meeting Minutes

January 19th, 2016

Attendees: Michelle Stecher, Sky Schual, Bree Bouse, Tanya Bunson, Ali Megan, Beth Casper, Amelia Reising, Jill Mina, Robin Detmer, John Stapleton, David NT, Sally Krueger (teacher), Rhian Arp (teacher), Larry Williams (Principal). [Meeting minutes taken by David NT].

1. Introductions
2. John distributes meeting agenda dated 1/19/16. John opens meeting discussions with reminder that additional, positive feedback continues to come in about the work that Edgewood PTA is doing.
3. Amelia makes a motion to pass meeting minutes from 12/15/15, Ali Megan seconds. Meeting minutes from 12/15/15 pass unanimously by group vote.
4. Committee Reports: John provides a handout on committee statuses, and then reviews announcements and current statuses of PTA committees with the group. Movie night coming up this Friday. Amelia reminds group of upcoming Dine and Donate event. Green team is looking into being a host location.
5. Teacher Reports: Rhian provides overviews of classroom events on behalf of Edgewood teachers. 2nd grade has been talking about Martin Luther King, Jr., science on changes, a field trip to the landfill is coming up, and sewing some snow men; 3rd grade is working on rocks and minerals, and in general 3rd grade is now feeling more settled in having three sections of 3rd grade; 4th/5th grades are working on probability, Martin Luther King, Jr., wrapping up unit on Pilgrims, and now magnets and motors in science. Sky mentions that Jordan Schnitzer currently has a contest going on related to Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken".
6. Principal's Report: Larry just returned from this year's first budget meeting, by January a discretionary budget needs to be developed. Discussions from that meeting indicated that that next year's budget at state level is already looking better. Staffing may see benefits from that. By March we need to identify how many teachers needed. School tours take place January 25-28, need volunteers for that. On January 26th Larry will meet with district risk representative, conduct a safety walk through, and develop a safety plan for Edgewood. Amelia asks about upcoming school choice and if Edgewood will participate in that. Larry discusses reasons why we don't participate or recruit (our numbers are high, no initial district support for students out of attendance boundary).
7. New Business: John talks about some early discussion about possible Pre-K programs at Edgewood, as well as upcoming A.L.I.C.E. training (safety/emergency response training) , invites group to attend.
8. Direct Donation Drive: Ali is committee chair. Everything coming along, looking for volunteers to count money, typically the DDD event takes about 2 weeks from envelope hand-out to returns of donations. Looking for a local business that we can reach out to. Robin clarifies that they are also currently sending out elicitations for local business, and would prefer not to have conflicting donation requests to local businesses. Ali further discusses that she is making posters, working on design for email blast, and going to take some approved, school-wide pictures to use for media. Ali asks group about possible student incentives for returning envelopes from Direct Donation Drive. Group discusses some ideas, including a suggestion to handout tickets for Fun Night for turning in DDD envelopes. Larry suggest that every quad have one day that wins to ensure balance.
9. Other New Business: John mentions that Lane Arts Council wants to come in and speak. Tina has asked to have some PTA meeting time to discuss an upcoming ballot measure. Rhian briefly explains the ballot measure, called "A Better Oregon". John talks about the "Curriculum Committee", haven't gotten around to discussing this yet, but John asks if the group would prefer to address it tonight, this would be to determine if we should officially develop a "Curriculum Committee" to have an organized way of disbursing money and to allocate funds from the Budget Committee, as needed/requested. Currently, we have the funds but have to vote each time to disburse funds. Robin makes a motion to create a "Curriculum committee", Michelle seconds that motion. Establishing a "Curriculum Committee" passes unanimously by vote. Group discusses that it should have a different/better name.
10. Outdoor School Funding: John explains the ODS fundraising issues and the PTA's efforts to help improve the situation. John proposes an idea to use a fund to close the shortfall and create a more sustainable approach to fundraising for ODS. John suggests that this effort will either need to be put under the existing Fundraising

11. Committee or that we'll need to create a separate committee. Sally provides an overview of Edgewood's experience of attending ODS, and other fundraising and grant writing efforts. Sky makes a motion to create an ODS Committee, Bree seconds the motion. Establishing an ODS Committee passes unanimously by group vote. Bree makes a motion to move the entire fund needed for this year's ODS shortfall , Robin seconds that motion. This passes unanimously by group vote. Bree makes a motion to move to have Bree be the Chair of the ODS Committee, Michelle seconds the motion. This passes unanimously by group vote.
12. Rainy Day Recess: Amelia talks with group about the current recess situation when it's raining, and the importance for outdoor active play. Discussion with Larry about recess and outside access protocols for heavy rain days. Larry says that we're looking into options, using the gym is not an option as it is scheduled for other use throughout the school day. Group reviews the need for a covered play area and ideas for developing one.
13. Meeting ended.