**Athey Creek Middle School PTSA**

**Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, January 6, 2015**

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by Saleen Chenevert

Welcome/Introductions: Quorum established with 15 members in attendance.

**Principals Report: *(Saleen Chenevert for Joel Sebastian)***

- Second group of Korean students are coming on Sunday. Welcome Ceremony is on Tuesday at 9:30 am and the field trip is on Monday to Multnomah Falls & Ft. Vancouver. This time, there are 25 students & 3 teachers coming. Eight of our students had stayed at their homes, so work was done to pair up kids. Also have some returning students.

- January 23rd is the end of the Semester. Academy classes are being organized, with the biggest change that the 7th & 8th graders are not being blended. We will need parent volunteers like last time to help students sign up. More information will be available soon.

- May is the OAKS testing.

- March/April is forecasting for the 8th graders

- The week after spring break is outdoor school for the 6th graders

- Next Wednesday is Early Release at 1:45 pm

- Wrestling starts soon

**Presidents Report: *(Saleen Chenevert****)*

Reader board sign – We ordered the sign before Christmas, so got the discount. The district did all the prep work to make this happen including permits, so they probably will have spent about $7000 in prep work and installation for the sign. We should have it installed by the end of January.

- School Supply Company emails are coming in, but the answer from Joel is no, we are not doing that.

**Treasurer Report*: (Lola Skates) reported by Saleen Chenevert.***

- Bring in the school store numbers

- Lola combined our savings & checking to just checking so we don’t have to transfer money back and forth. We currently have a little over $23,000, and will be writing a check to the district for $12,000 for the sign.

**Student Leaders Report:**

Ashton, Delaney, & Ryan came to report on Student Activities.

- Homework helpers: support students who need extra help in Academy classes

- Peace Local: Looking at what Stafford has done with the 1000 drops of kindness, and also meeting with Rosemont researching Dr. Rhodes & Julie Parrish.

- Peace Global: Researching possible speakers & looking into recognizing kids once a month

- Spirit: Designated days before break, PJ day, etc. Asked if they could be of help for the Winter Dance, let them know through Toni Snapp.

- Green Team: Talked to Mr. Washington about where the most garbage is produced at the school.

- Celebrate: They’ve been interviewing the new teachers to get to know them better.

- Activities: IExcel for math support

- Project Unify: Met with Life learning kids and did activities with them including bingo and other games. They are planning to do more activity days with them during 4-5pm.

- Outreach Program: They went to two care centers, the last one they made gingerbread houses with the residents.

- They organized a toy drive before Christmas.

**Committee Reports**:

Winter Dance (Allie Jensen).

The winter dance is on Friday, January 16 from 6:30 -8:30pm. The next group of Korean exchange students will be here to attend and they get in free. The DJ is booked and Allie looking into having fog machines set up. Kate Hoots has the VolunteerSpot set up for parents to sign up, and we will need extra help in decorating/set-up. Allie has new fun props/costumes for the photo booth.

**Garage Sale: *(Saleen Chenevert)***

Garage sale is April 11/12 (Sat/Sun). The next drop off is Jan. 14th from 8-9 am at the back of the school. The hallway will be lined with tubs to sort the items. After working the first drop off, we would like to have more boxes for each drop off. If everyone could bring boxes to pack things into, they would stack easier in the container. Allie has great news about the Container: After asking about discounts, the company offered it for no monthly fee (was $125/month for a 40’ container). We just have to pay the drop off and pick up fee of $95 each. Supplies needed: Big markers, strapping tape, garbage bags. Jim suggested we send them a thank you letter with the tax information.

**Student Store *(Shari Winters*)**

Polly worked hard to make this happen last year, and Shari is working hard to make it a continued success with the new FDA guidelines! Joel is proud of our store, especially for it’s compliance with FDA regulations, and that it brings parents in during our nice calm lunch their kids are having.

All old food items are gone and the kids are still buying new options of fruit leathers, organic pops, seaweed, trail mix. We also carry graph paper, pencils, and other supplies. We always need volunteers and so far this year have raised $1069.

**TASA & Closet Shelves report: (*Margaret Koch*)**

After looking at many options, Margaret felt that the Container Store had the best layout/best use of space for our needs. They have a sale right now, so we were able to get a great deal for $420 that includes pull out drawers. The whole back wall will be filled with shelves. Saleen suggested to call Lola to arrange payment either directly to the Container Store or to her. Shari suggested we give a $50 Home Depot gift card to Margaret’s brother-in-law for helping us clear out & installation help. Jim Kamikawa proposed we spend the money for the shelving system, it was seconded & all raised their hands in agreement.

TASA report: Jan. 21 is the next TASA with a New Year’s Brunch theme.

**Community Reports:**

**Education Foundation: *(Jim Kamikawa & Elaine Cozart)***

HOT campaign: Jim Kamikawa reported that at Athey, 100% of teachers/staff were recognized. So far about $60,000 was raised and this will enable one full-time teaching position. They are going to schedule a breakfast for the class captains as a thank you.

Elaine Cozart reported on a new campaign in April: Night with the Blazers. Goal to sell 300 tickets! All sales are going directly to the Foundation. There are two experiences we will have available that night: 1) Raffle for Courtside Kids: our kids will get to go on the court while the Blazers are warming up.

2) After game Court: Everyone who bought tickets in our group gets to go on the court and shoot baskets after the game. MARCH 2 deadline to order tickets. The Foundation will have a spot in   
Athey’s office with blank order forms and for completed orders.

**WLWV District & Oregon PTA Update (Betty Reynolds)**

- The District Levy & Capital bond measures passed so that means retaining teachers, a new Middle school in the Wilsonville area and a building replacement of Sunset. For Athey, it means upgrades to security, maintenance & technology, along with the other schools. Thanks to Joel for helping to get the word out to support both measures.

- Oregon PTA: Parent engagement in student achievement a priority—she will be presenting at the next Clackamas Council of PTAs meeting this Thursday at 6:30 pm at the primary school at Sunnyside & Happy Valley about new curriculum, assessments, and parent resources. (parent resource sheet was handed out). Betty encouraged a representative to attend.

- The governor’s budget for education was increased slightly, but with other costs, it actually was a decrease. Education partners are working hard to advocate for adequate and stable funds for K12 education.

- Promise of Oregon campaign – They believe students are our future and they are showcasing students and putting a high priority on supporting public education. Betty was appointed to a National School Boards policy committee and is Oregon PTA’s Federal Relations Chair & has two more trips to Washington DC to support federal education policies, and impact at state level on education policy. Visit their website for ways to help & get involved.

- S & H Mining Site update: Composting was not allowed 1500’ from school grounds by a 2013 bill. S & H still had a mining permit and went ahead with their proposal. The Friends of Stafford filed an appeal of the county’s decision to permit mining, and in December LUBA sent it back to the county on remand over some fairly significant issues. At this point, Tualatin & West Linn oppose inclusion in the Urban Growth boundary because of infrastructure issues, but long term development should be monitored.

- Betty would like us to pursue applying for the School of Excellence to the National PTA next year which would basically recognize PTA efforts to engage families and students. Saleen looked into it this year, but was not able to complete the process by the deadline. No Oregon schools were recognized, and Betty feels we do this well at Athey, so would like to see us try for it.

- Reminder that parent involvement makes all the difference for student achievement and thanked all of us parents at the meeting for being involved.

New Business:

Reader Board Sign: (Saleen Chenevert)

None to report at this meeting.

Upcoming Dates:

1/10: Korean exchange students arrive,

1/13: Welcome Ceremony at 9:30

1/14: Garage Sale drop-off, back of school

1/16: ACMS Winter Dance (6:30-830pm)

1/21: TASA – New Year’s Brunch

**Adjourn**: Meeting adjourned at 10:21 am.

Want to continue the discussion or join a committee that presented today? Here is contact information for the presenters:

Saleen Chenevert – saleenc@gmail.com Joanne Masters – joanne.gmasters@comcast.net

Allie Jensen – alliejensen1@me.com Shari Winters – shari@broadwaybody.com

Margaret Koch – kochs3@frontier.com Kate Hoots – katehoots@yahoo.com

Jim Kamikawa – jimka512@hotmail.com Emily Schmidt – mle@yrbantwist.com

Elaine Cozart – Elaine\_cozart@hotmail.com

Betty Reynolds – bettyreynolds1@comcast.net

Attachment A: Sign-In Sheet

Attachment B: Treasurers Report

Date Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

President: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_