Athey Creek Middle School PTSA

Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, March 3, 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: *(Kathy Gregg for Joel Sebastian)***

OAKS testing! Samples were handed out for Language Arts & Math components.

LANGUAGE ARTS: The whole process will take about 2 ½ hours. It’s divided into 2 parts:

1. Computer Adaptive: Similar to previous tests with some multiple choice and some short answer.

2. Performance Task: (New this year) After several schools conducted pilot testing, which Athey participated in, a request was put out to enable the teachers to have some time with the kids to prep them before they begin the actual test. This was granted, so the teachers will have about ½ hour to conduct in-class interactive activities with the students.

ACTUAL TEST: They will then begin the actual test which has 2 parts:

1. Short answer research questions-they have to show evidence from readings given.

2. Written essay – each child could be asked to write a different approach; ex: opinion/fact, informative, argumentative, etc.

MATH: This testing will take about an hour.

1. Computer Adaptive: they will actually have to manipulate the data on the screen

2. Performance Part: 8th graders will still take a test similar to last years (1 – 1 ½ hours)

We have from April through the end of June to complete these tests and we won’t get any results until sometime in the summer. We will be looking at carefully scheduling these because we know there are lots of activities happening this time of year too.

Technology needs: We have 4 sets of 35 new Midi computers, cart of 20 MAC pro’s & chrome books. We will be testing at least 4 classes at a time, so there should be enough computers for all. This is new, and we will have a tech person available during the testing in case a computer freezes up. This test means the same as the previous OAKS tests, and the use of appropriate technology has been a concern and addressed. How parents receive the testing results is yet to be determined.

MAPS testing: These tests are strictly for teacher information. This is a one shot look at where the kids are at and they are looking at mostly the grade level work, not on individual scores. We will look at the Fall & Winter tests and look for any growth or any other issues, so teachers can then form the next steps in instruction. We had planned to conduct another one this spring, but given the OAKS testing, we probably won’t have time to do this too. This is a formative assessment and is not connected to the grades.

The Language Arts teachers have been working hard with the students to help them practice finding evidence in the text of the material they have read.

**Student Reports from the Natural Helpers:**

They are working on a RESPECT WEEK, so the “R” word is Respect instead of Retard. Next week there will be events on Mon, Wed, & Fri and they will end in time so any student can take the activity buses home. They purchased 750 white T-shirts so that during the week, the students can decorate their own T-shirt. There will be a big banner for all to sign a pledge to be respectful.

Mon: After school BINGO night in the commons

Wed: Activity Night: Board games

Fri: Gym Kickball game

They are working on advertising by making a video to focus on what they all can do and posters will be hung around the school. Each month they are planning a new theme.

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

Jazz Café earned about $4700, almost twice as much as last year.

Friday night is the Kickball/movie night with Mrs. Bowen, who offered this for $15 a student (30 students) at the Jazz Café.

Reader Board Sign: It is at the district, and they have chosen one of the three bids for installation. It should be installed by mid-March.

Staff Lounge Update: Since we have enough teachers that joined, we can now proceed with the update. Toni Snapp will gather information from the teachers to find out what they would like, we will take that information with staff wishes, and check with Joel to find out what we can & can’t do.

Bus Driver Appreciation Week is coming up in May. More to follow.

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

The only significant change was the $12,000 check for the sign cleared, so the balance is now $9000.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership: *(Joanne Masters*)**

Reported that 22-23 teachers have signed up and we can now proceed with the staff lounge update. We had around 200 PTSA members total this year, more than ever before.

**TASA/Closet*: (Margaret Koch)***

Next TASA is March 11, Dine Around the World. Last month went really well trying out the vegetarian menu. We made thank you cards listing the families that contributed food items for each of the tables, and that seemed to really help families be willing to bring items. We will organize the closet at some point before the end of the school year.

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

We have four Wednesday mornings left to bring donated items in. We did one Saturday drop in February, and are planning one for March 14 & one for April 4. We have from Wednesday through Friday to set up and have it ready for the Saturday/Sunday sale.

Wednesday: We plan to set up tables, and sort out the clothes.

Thursday: Working with the PE teachers, we hope to have the kids bring in the boxes from the containers and place the boxes in their labeled areas.

Friday: Unpack & Price! We plan to have section captains to guide the pricing as the boxes are unpacked.

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

We have made almost $1800 and are doing great. The organic lollypops, baked chips & the seaweed are selling great. Rosemont had to close their snack shack because they were out of compliance with the Federal guidelines, so we did good to get on board early & make that transition! Thanks Shari for your hard work in making the store incompliance! Jim Kamikawa donated scented erasers to sell!

**Eighth Grade Dance (*Allie Jensen)***

Scheduled for June 10. We are hoping to have the yearbooks there so the students can all sign each other’s books, so that will be confirmed soon.

**Community Reports:**

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

Elaine: The Foundation Count Campaign starts on Friday. The goal for the Blazers ticket sales was 300, and we have sold almost 370 so far! This was more of a fun event as we don’t make that much money on this, but felt it was important.

Jim: For The Love of Schools: Tonkin Race is on June 7 and it will begin and end at the Audi Wilsonville Dealership. We still have sponsor tables available in tented spots for the after event party. We expect around 2000 people to be there. There is a 5k, 10K, also looking at maybe having a Fun run for the kids and a Doggy Dash.

Friday there is an Education Summit at the district office. If you are interested to attend, you can ask to see if there are any spots left to represent Athey Creek. There will be an update to the Honor our Teachers program, information on the districts initiatives, and information on the kick-off of the Count Campaign.

**WLWV District & Oregon PTA Updates: (*Betty Reynolds*)**

See attached page, ATTACHMENT A

**New Business:**

Bus Driver Appreciation coming up in May (dates to be determined)

Eighth Grade Dance on June 10

**Upcoming Dates:**

3/11, 3/18, 3/25: Garage Sale Drop offs (8-9:30 am)

3/11: TASA – Dine Around the World Luncheon

3/14: Saturday Garage Sale Drop-off (9-10:30am)

3/15: Look for the New Athey Creek Sign Installation!

3/18: Early Release at 1:45 pm

4/4: Saturday Garage Sale Drop-off from 9:30-11:00 am

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 10:39 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 Schmitt – mle@urbantwist.com

Elaine Cozart – Elaine\_cozart@hotmail.com

Betty Reynolds – bettyreynolds1@comcast.net

Attachment A: Betty Reynolds Report

Attachment B: Treasurers Report

Attachment C: Sign in Sheet

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

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

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

**ATTACHMENT A: Report from Betty Reynolds**

Don’t forget OPTA conference April 17 and 18! I’m hopeful that Governor Brown or Congresswoman Bonamici will be keynote speakers, and there are great workshops and networking opportunities.

The past two months were busy: I was in DC last month and participated on the NSBA Rules and Policy Committee and helped develop their legislative policies and priorities, attended the NSBA Advocacy Institute and met with Oregon’s Congressional delegation, and do the same thing in DC next week for the National PTA Legislative Conference.

I testified on student data privacy bills in the Oregon House and Senate, and on an Oregon Education Investment Board sunset bill about adding a parent voice. Please let me know if you want more information.

One highlight is that the Oregon Education Association, Oregon Department of Education, and OEIB developed assessment proposals and recommendations, which place more emphasis on formative and interim assessments, professional development, and change the use of results. I’ll provide input on behalf of Oregon PTA, and believe the proposals will change the conversation re: assessments statewide and most importantly, will improve the learning environment for kids and for educators.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act – that’s the Act containing Title I, with a focus on disadvantaged students and equity (the 2002 version is No Child Left Behind), provided an impetus for Common Core State Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessments aligned to new standards. ESEA reauthorization bills in both the House and the Senate are on the fast track, after 13 years. However, optimism is about reauthorization is tempered by a potential veto, which adds to the significance of Oregon’s waiver request, due March 31st.

With the Oregon Department of Education I participated in ESEA/NCLB waiver and Educator Equity stakeholder groups, collaborated on statewide Family Nights to provide information about new assessments, and served on the Blue Ribbon Panel to recommend Nutrition and Wellness Award winners.

The Senate education Committee has put together a stakeholder group regarding the OEIB sunset, and we’ll be meeting every Tuesday for the month of March. That could have an impact, for example, on our Achievement Compact process.

One of the most significant issues for schools is State School Funding, and the Ways and Means subcommittee began hearings yesterday. I attended a Town Hall Meeting with Senator Richard Devlin and Rep. Lininger, and met with Senator Devlin and LO Board members. He is our State Senator; as Co-Chair of Ways and Means, he shared valuable insights about education funding.

Education partners (COSA, OSBA, OEA, OPTA) have collaborated on grassroots campaigns to reverse decades of disinvestment in public education which has resulted in some statewide statistics you’ve heard about (e.g., on time graduation rates). One of the campaigns is Promise of Oregon, showcasing Oregon students as the future of Oregon. More specific is a poster showing the impact statewide of the co-chairs budget, compared to what the education coalition believes is necessary - $7.5 Billion

If you all could act as ambassadors– visit the PromiseOregon.org website for resources including the poster/flyer – and when you have a chance talk to your constituents, civic groups, friends, neighbors – everyone – about the statewide need for adequate and stable funding for public education, that would be terrific!!