**Athey Creek Middle School PTSA**

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

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by Dana Callaghan

Quorum established with 19 members in attendance.

Welcome/Introductions

**Principals Report: *(Joel Sebastian)***

Smarter Balance Test results were formulated from a series of focus groups. Students were mailed their test results from May/June testing. Two important points: 1. This is a Baseline score for the first run of this test., and 2. This is a more comprehensive test then the past OAKS tests. In the past, the tests were more comprehensive, but with all the budget cuts, they were streamlined. Basically if your student was in the 3’s section, they are at grade level. The Language Arts section was more interactive along with a written part for a combined score. The attempt is to measure how kids thought and then how they communicated the information. The State is doing an assessment now to see what the tests are showing us. We have been doing similar teaching at Athey, so we will continue to work collaboratively with all to improve student learning and adjust our teaching as needed. The results from our children were not necessarily surprising, we knew they would do well—despite the negative view of public schools.

Conferences start tomorrow, Wednesday night. This is an important opportunity to connect with families/students. Sixth grade is having the student & family meet with 1 teacher for 15 min, other grades are doing it conference style.

Athey Idol is coming up, Cross Country is continuing for a couple more weeks.

**Presidents Report: *(Dana Callaghan)***

Curriculum night went well. The New Student Breakfast was on September 15 with 100 students invited and 15 attended. We are looking to change it for next year, so will be talking to Toni Snapp to figure it out. Conferences are tomorrow (Wednesday night) and Thursday. Turkey Trot is coming up in November, and information will be coming out soon. There are new volunteer opportunities coming up with the library & Turkey Trot and Kate will be sending out notices along with the VolunteerSpot sign-up. Thanks to all who volunteer! It helps our school so much!

**Treasurer Report*: (Sheila Adams)***

There are lots of checks coming in & working with the new bank has been great. She reported all the income so far, so you can refer to the attached report for the specifics. The biggest expenditure was the Teacher Grants at $3,700. We currently have 640 students at Athey Creek.

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

We have 197 members, including 9 who are teachers/staff. Last year we had a total of 215, so we are on track. We will be doing another membership push around Turkey Trot time in November.

**Committee Reports**:

**Volunteer Coordinator: *(Kate Hoots)***

Dana reported for Kate, who was out sick. We have new opportunities coming up with the library & Turkey Trot, so there will be emails coming out.

**Back to School Dance: *(Emily Schmitt/Amanda Curdy)***

The dance was very successful and we had a lot of kids show up! The teen lounge was a big hit as were the glow sticks that were completely sold out. All the food and most of the drinks were sold out also. We received complements from the JAM organizer!

**School Store: *(Shari Winters)***

Starting out with higher expenses to get it set up, so it should equal out soon. We have lots of 6th grade parent volunteers helping out, but looking for more at the 8th grade lunch.

**Turning Point: *(Dana for Becky Luther)***

Becky Luther was not able to attend, so Dana read from her notes. Many things have changed since she did this in the past. We had 80 girls & 90 boys attend. In the check-in process, she reported the need for another parent to concentrate on last minute check-ins. The food count was okay, boys probably needed a little more, girls night had a little left over. We have 3 T-shirts left over. Papa Murphy’s will be charging us $10 a pizza instead of $6 next year as the price of cheese has gone up. The game trucks were a big hit. Photo booth was a little slow a getting the pictures out. The DEB girls did a great job with our girls—four of them came. They were paid directly, but it was brought up that maybe we should be making a payment to the DEB’s, not the individuals. Scott Stein was paid $75 for the boys. He did some Marshal Arts and kick boxing at the beginning. For next year an attempt will be made to try and schedule so Cross country is not the same night as Turning Point.

**TASA: *(Margaret Koch)***

The first TASA is on Wednesday, Oct. 6 from 3:30- 8 and coincides with conferences. This is the first time all the spots were filled, so it made our work at the event so much easier!

Directory: I am hopeful that we will have the Directory done before Thanksgiving despite Joyce letting us know that about 88 families have not confirmed their contact information yet. We felt that was enough families that we will wait a couple more weeks to finish that. I have all the other sections updated & ready to go, so when I receive the Excel list of students/families, it won’t take long to finish it up for printing.

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

We will have two containers again this year by the side of the school next to the Gym doors in January. December 15 is the first drop off day!

**Athey Idol: (*Saleen Chenevert*)**

The choir kids participate to fundraise for the choir. It helps pay for anything they need, curtains on the stage, the new piano, the new floor on the stage, new speaker system, etc.

Thurs, Oct 22 at 6:30 pm Dress Rehearsal

Friday, Oct. 23 at 7pm Athey Idol. There are 31 acts and yes, the Idol can be bought! You can buy tickets through eticket express.

**Webpage: *(Jane Bernasconi)***

There were 55 visits to the PTSA website in the past week. There were 7-68 visits a day since September. Continue to send her any information you have so she can keep the site updated.

**Community Reports:**

**Education Foundation: *(Elaine Cozart)***

The Foundation met last week to work on the HOT Campaign that starts the Monday after Thanksgiving break. They were able to find a new website person, who happens to be a parent to update the Foundation website. He if offering his work on a pro-bono status and his work has been great. He is making it more user friendly and easier to navigate around. We are looking for people to represent each school at the meetings, so encourage anyone interested to contact me.

**Oregon PTSA & WLWV Board of Education: *(Betty Reynolds)***

We had a school board meeting last night and enrollments have increased 301 District wide. The District was able to make staffing additions so that the class average is about 25 or less at the primary level. At ACMS the student teacher ratio is 21.2.

There are openings on both the Long Range Planning Committee and Budget Committee – we have some real leaders here and I’d encourage you to apply, or let others who might be interested know about it. Applications are on the District website, or let me know and I can give you more information.

PTA Vacancies: I resigned earlier as VP for Legislation of Oregon PTA, and Jennifer Dalglish resigned as Secretary. Those interested in these leadership positions could contact the OPTA President, Collin Robinson.

At the state level, I participated in the Senate Education Committee’s SB 215 work group where we considered recommendations on state education governance, like: Potential Scope and Duties of the Chief Education Office and Officer and a Joint Education Board model

Metro will hold hearings on Urban/Rural reserves and they could revisit the designations, which could have implications for schools and Stafford hamlet residents.

At OSBA’s September Board meeting we had a very engaged conversation with Lindsey Capps, who is the interim Chief Education Officer and education policy advisor to the Governor. He described her education and other priorities, including stable and adequate funding for education; closing the opportunity gap; making sure we continue to sustain and grow the economy in the entire state; and ensuring a seamless system from birth to career.

Also, I was honored to be elected President Elect and will take office on January 1, and will automatically become President in 2017.

**New Business:**

We are looking for new ventures for large projects that the PTSA can focus on for the school, like the sign we did.

**Student Representatives: (*Toni Snapp*)**

Toni offered her assistance in promoting more membership from staff/teachers. Discussion on what could be an incentive. One suggestion was to offer the soda machine at no cost to staff. Grandparent lunch is today & Mrs. Melnychenko has worked really hard to get the Book Fair set up too. She has been working with the students in the leadership class as to leadership qualities. There are two students from West Linn High who are managing a donation to the troops of Halloween candy. Toni asked to let her know if you have any ideas of ways for the leadership students to partner and do outreach in the community. There is a blanket drive for Dornbecker Hospital. The main focus is how do we all positively impact the lives of others.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember:**

- October 20, Tuesday: Picture Re-takes

- October 22, Thursday, 6:30-8:30pm Athey Idol Dress Rehearsal

- October 23, Friday: 7pm Athey Idol

- October 28, Wednesday: 7pm Fall Band Concert & Pizza Night

- October 29, Thursday, 7pm Fall Choir Concert

- October 30: NO SCHOOL

- November 3, Tuesday PTSA Meeting at 9:30am

- November 20: Turkey Trot

**Adjourn**: Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

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

Dana Callaghan – dana.callaghan@gmail.com Joanne Masters – joanne.gmasters@comcast.net

Saleen Chenevert – saleenc@gmail.com Shari Winters – shariwinters@outlook.com

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

Sheila Adams – sheilathepeetnik@gmail.com Emily Schmitt – mle@urbantwist.com

Elaine Cozart – Elaine\_cozart@hotmail.com Amanda Curdy – curdyfive@gmail.com

Betty Reynolds – bettyreynolds1@comcast.net Jane Bernasconi - nanineko@yahoo.com

Attachment A: Sign-In Sheet

Attachment B: Treasurers Report

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

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

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