**Athey Creek Middle School PTSA**

**Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, November 3, 2015**

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:31 am by Dana Callaghan

Quorum established with 18 members in attendance.

Welcome/Introductions

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

Thanks to the PTSA for the support to the school. It is uncommon to have so many active members and it is great to have all your efforts helping the kids and the school. Friday was a workday for the teachers to prepare grades as Thursday was the end of the first Quarter. There has been discussions about Quarter vs. Semester grades. Right now we post grades at first Quarter, but they continue on and grades are mailed out at the end of the Semester. Discussion will continue, but he feels having grades at the end of each Quarter gives the kids hope that are behind or need extra help that they can catch up or start over.

We do a lot of staff training in our district. Most districts stopped the training days because of budget cuts, but are now adding some back into the schedule. Our once monthly early release days and the Monday & Tuesday of Thanksgiving break are all training days for the teachers.

We have purchased Chrome books & laptops with the Technology funding available through the district. Chrome books are smaller than laptops, connect immediately to internet and all google apps are interconnected. The students documents are not stored on the chrome books themselves, so it doesn’t need so much memory. They are 1/3 the cost of a computer, durable, require very low maintenance, and have great accessibility even when kids are away from school. We have about 450 machines between the chrome book & laptops. We are moving towards having students submitting assignments electronically, but we have to figure how to use for the students & teachers benefits. There will be more trainings on Google apps & how to engage students with the technology.

Turkey Trot is Friday, November 20 before Thanksgiving break.

There was a question to Joel on what the school offers for advanced challenges in math, STEM (Science, Technology Engineering Math) program available? Joel responded that we don’t do rote memorization here, that we help students understand the content of the units. We teach less units, but more deeply. There is discussion about offering Mathcounts & coding clubs for advanced students.

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

Nothing to report.

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

She is managing the change from the student store! There have been a few deposits. Also requested that you text or email her when you submit a reimbursement form so she knows it is at the school. She intends to have a quick turn-around for these.

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

We have 206 members which is a record for us. Toni will be getting back to us if having free soda available is an incentive to have teachers join the PTSA.

**Committee Reports**:

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

We have a plethora of volunteers and we always seems to have a lot of help when needed. Yeah us!

**Winter Dance: *(Emily Schmitt/Amanda Curdy)***

The Winter Dance is scheduled for Friday, January 15. Athey has first priority for use of our facilities so we will have the gym & library available if we decide we want to use them. Will let everyone know

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

Going strong, we have lots of 6th graders who love the lolly pops & sun chips. The whole grain rice krispie treats are selling well & don’t taste any different. The granola did not sell. We are always open to having new volunteers work the store during the school lunch hours. We have made $478.28.

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

First TASA went well. Our next one is tomorrow, November 4 with a Harvest theme. Again, thanks to Saleen’s help in advertising on Facebook & emails, all food requests are filled! This is so great & makes it so much easier on the volunteers working it!

**Directory: *(Margaret Koch)***

We are waiting on the list of students so I can proceed with preparing the directory for printing. All the other sections are updated and finished, so when I receive the list it should go fairly quickly. Goal is to still have it ready before Thanksgiving. We have almost 200 ordered so far.

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

Sale date is April 16 (8-4) & 17 (9-1). Alli has contacted Erika at the container company, so once we have all approvals from Joel, we will have two containers donated that will be placed by the outside gym door around January 5. We just have to pay for the drop off & pick up of the containers. December 15 is the first drop and we will be storing these items at the school. Please no big furniture! January 12 will be the next drop date & then every Tuesday after that. There is NO drop during Spring Break! There will also be monthly Saturday drop dates: 1/23, 2/27, 3/12, 4/9. Saleen has had realtors contacting her to find out dates of the drops so they can let people know they are working with to clean out their stuff. The elementary schools will be notified in January. We are working on better signage, something to designate the volunteer workers at the sale, and placing an ad in the Tidings.

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

There were 40 visitors on the webpage this past week.

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

Two students came to report. In October, they hosted a Grandparents lunch, Athey Creek science Fair students got to meet Jane Goodall and participate in the Science event, Athey Idol, and Fall Band Concerts.

There are students at West Linn High school organizing collecting leftover Halloween candy to send to the troops serving out of the country.

Spirit week, we had Monday: PJ day, Tuesday: Twin day, Wednesday: Pink day in honor of breast cancer survivors, Thursday: Tacky Tourist day.

November 20th is Turkey Trot. There will be an ASB food scarcity awareness on the day of event & will have students bring non-perishable food items to school to donate.

**Community Reports:**

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

HOT campaign will run from Monday, Nov. 30 until Monday, December 14. The Principals of each school in the district are making action teams to help get the word out. Representatives from each school will be help distribute flyers about this event. HOT is Honor Our Teachers. When you make a donation to the Foundation, you can name a teacher to honor. At the end of the campaign, the foundation delivers a letter and a certificate to all the teachers, staff, administrators, custodial who were named. Thank you to all who support the Foundation!

**New Business:**

None to report.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember:**

- November 20: Turkey Trot

- November 23-27: Thanksgiving Break

- December 1: December’s PTSA Meeting

- December 2: TASA-Holiday Appetizers

**Adjourn**: Meeting adjourned at 10:15 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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_