**Athey Creek Middle School PTSA**

**General Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, February 2, 2016**

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:32 am by Dana Callaghan

Quorum established with 9 members in attendance

Meeting held at Athey Creek Staff Lunchroom

Welcome to all

Approval of January Minutes: January’s Meeting Minutes were distributed by email to all in attendance to check for accuracy. Additions/Corrections were done by the deadline of one week. A request to approve the January Minutes was presented. Kate motioned to approve. It was unanimously approved.

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

Professional Development Days for the staff & teachers are on early release days, days before school starts in the fall, in the spring. We are working on Adult Learning Theory with a focus on helping people work together. We are lucky to have a district that provides these learning opportunities. Some of these trainings are principal directed and some are teacher directed. Our main focus is on engagement for a variety of student personalities & learners. We have very well behaved kids, but are they just compliant? We need to find a way to fully engage them. We are looking at alternative ways to engage a variety of students. Most teachers are extroverts who might be teaching introverts—How do we reach them? How do we ask questions to engage more than one student? One way is to ask a question & then have the class talk to their neighbors about the possible answers while the teacher circulates to hear what is being said. Another way to have a set of answers, A & B, and after asking a question, have the students hold up the A or B card, which would then help the teacher know if they are getting it. Chapter tests are not the best way to ensure the knowledge. Interactions around student talk & having the kids do something really helps them learn. How do you create high quality student talk/discussions with peers? Once of the best ways for teachers to learn is to observe a colleague as they work with the students. Peer coaching and support is a profession thing, not just an Athey thing. Studies indicate it takes over 20 times to make a new technique become seamless.

- Caitlin Klenz is on medical leave until after spring break. Mr. Sebastian is looking into what will work the best to help cover all the needs. The district is supportive of Mrs. Klenz & will help however Mr. Sebastian decides will work the best for the school. He might not be going to Korea as he will be needed here at school.

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

- The Executive Board has been working on updating the Standing Rules, so the sections that were updated were read aloud. Dana brought up the fact that the Dance Coordinators are not listed in the committee Section & Jane noted that we do not need to list the time the Executive Board meets. Task was given to the Secretary to add these updates and send out for review, then we will vote on the updated version at the March meeting.

- We will be looking at replacing at least three Executive board positions, so Dana is setting up a Nominating Committee with a minimum of two people to help coordinate the interested people. She plans to use Survey Monkey to send out to all the PTSA members & have them submit a response of interest, and then hold a voting session if there are more than one interested in any position.

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

This month several checks were written to cover expenses that associated with two accounts: Spring Garage Sale & Winter Dance. Several deposits were made this month in the following budget areas: Spring Garage Sale (Craigslist sales of donated items), Student Store, and income from the school dance.

Summary of Winter Dance: $1,842.01 total proceeds from the dance

 $ 753.92 total expenses from the dance

 $1,106.09 was the net proceeds. ($356.09 more than projected)

Tax Return Follow-up: The accounting firm is following up on making minor adjustments on the tax return to correct inconsistency between the state return and the federal return. They will be communicating with the IRS with regards to these adjustments. These adjustments have no financial impact to past returns, it is an attempt to “clean up” the return to avoid problems in the future. We should have the final return by the end of next week.

**Membership: *(Dana for Joanne Masters)***

Two new members puts us at 204, including 9 teachers/staff. Thank you notes/receipts are back from the printer and I will get those filled out and mailed as quickly as possible to help members/donors complete their taxes.

**Committee Reports**:

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

Academy scheduling went well & we had more than enough parents to help. Jazz Café and Athey Idol are not PTSA run events, but we needs a lot of volunteers to run these events! Jazz Café is this Friday at 7pm.

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

Emily said it went well, had record attendance and the kids were having a good time. They saw many new parents volunteering! Always looking for feedback & she is thinking about sending an email to the volunteers at the dance to see if they have any thoughts they’d like to share. They would like feedback on drink/food offerings--they had Gatorade, waters, pops. The Twinkies were gone as soon as they were put out. Friday, May 13 is the next dance.

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

No report, but doing well.

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

Next TASA is Wednesday, February 10, 2016, Al Fresco Vegetarian Brunch theme. Looks like we need more people to sign up.

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

So far we’ve spent $130 on signs to advertise the sale & $38.40 on supplies. I will establish a volunteer spot for set up/sales/clean up one month prior to sale. Help will be needed with event details TBD when we get closer.

We are one month in!!

• Our containers are once again water tight, no smell and filling rapidly. Great donations, seriously good stuff! Very generous families!

• We have several teams of volunteers going, Tuesday’s crew, Saturday crew, and Last Minute Help! Sort crew. Lots of new faces!

• We are selling the items on craigslist, generally items that are large that would be hard for someone to buy at the garage sale and arrange pick up for or valuable items where it might take awhile to find the right buyer for the right price – we have a great lazy boy loveseat and couch, very minimal wear, comfy, for the cheap price it would be GREAT for a play room!! And it’s in the way so please if you know anyone… So far we’ve made $1000 (I have a deposit of more cash for Shelia). Thank you to Jane who is keeping up with posting all of the listings on the website and thank you to Kris Olson for taking on selling the small items on craigslist for me while I meet crazy people in the containers at night.

• We had a our first Saturday drop, new crew of brave volunteers, U-hauls showed up, thank you to Robert and Margaret who brought in buyers for a table, then delivered the table (and a chair for separate crazy craigslist buyer) and then the table buyer donated their old table that they replaced which Margaret delivered to the containers (which we then sold the next day on craigslist!)

• The rain is challenging, some work can get done but a full sort requires some dry weather. We started our Help! Sort! Email list, through Athey notes we asked if anyone was interested in being on a list to help sort that would be last minute. Immediate responses from whole new crew of volunteers and we’ve already taken advantage of their willingness 

• We’ve had quite a few teachers stop by with donations. Mr. Washington even got his neighbors who are downsizing to let him bring in some very nice furniture!

• The best part of the process so far is how excited people are to donate, thrilled their cleaning out of the house not only counts as volunteering but improves their school. People arrive smiling and happy and leave giggling maniacally like they just got away with something 

• Drop dates and times are Every Tuesday 8 – 9:30 AM, One Saturday drop a month, next one is Feb 27th 9 – 11 AM

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

The last three months we had 50 visits a week, this last week we had 70 visits. She is not sure if it’s people looking at the Garage Sale items posted.

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

Teagan & Hunter presented. Athey students completed Drama productions & the Science Fair in the last week. 29 projects from Athey presented with 12 of those receiving awards. Career Day is tomorrow, Wednesday. Each student can attend five sessions by professionals. This Friday is Jazz Café at 7pm and is the Bands fundraiser for the year. The Polar Plunge is coming up on February 27.

**Community Reports:**

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

Next week, they will be promoting the Blazer event which is Saturday, April 9. Courtside kids will be held during half time this year so families don’t have to go to the game so early. Prices are a little higher than last year (due to cost of tickets from the Blazers), they range from $24 - $120.

**Legislative Updates: *(Betty Reynolds*)**

Good Morning! I’m Betty Reynolds, serve on the WLWV School Board and began my term as President Elect of Oregon School Boards Association in January. The big news at the Federal Level is passage of the Every Student succeeds Act to replace the No child Left Behind Act. It addresses concerns about the No Child Left Behind Act, including high stakes testing and linking teacher evaluation to those tests. While testing and accountability provisions remain, ESSA gives much more autonomy to the state and local Boards to come up with their own plans, which addresses what many felt was federal overreach.

Oregon Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici was instrumental in its passage: she served on the conference committee for the bill that passed and added significant amendments. I attended a briefing for education leaders by the Congresswoman, Interim Chief Education Officer Lindsey Capps and Deputy State Supt. Salam Noor. Here’s a summary of the new law. The National School Boards Association’s website is also a great source. simply google NSBA, then search for ESSA.

Implementation is happening very quickly and one of the issues is timing: Oregon’s waiver goes away by Aug. 2016 but the bill doesn’t take effect until 2017-18. Stakeholders have been invited by Salam Noor to help develop Oregon’s Plan.

I was appointed by Oregon’s Attorney General to a public records advisory committee. Transparency/accountability are very important: I participated with her in a meeting for public comment on the laws, am serving on a subcommittee regarding public records exemptions, etc.

With OSBA

- I’m chairing a statewide Committee on Revenue reform – you’ll be hearing more about the need for adequate and stable funding for education.

- I’ve also been busy with OSBA’s Promise of Oregon campaign, which is a very positive message about fully investing in Oregon students and public education, so that ALL students fulfill their promise.

- Board member from across the state worked all weekend on OSBA’s legislative policies and priorities for the next two years building upon current priorities such as funding, and student achievement/equity

- The short session began yesterday: 5th year programs, and open enrollment and transfer policies are some of the bills.

With WLWV, the District is proud of graduation rates in the 90s for Wilsonville High School and West Linn High School.

Last, thank you for being engaged – it’s so important to students

**New Business:**

We will be looking into possible presenters for a Parent Education Seminar of Parenting Teens.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember:**

2/3 Career Day, 8th Grade

2/3 1:45 Early Release

2/3 9:30 – 1:30 6th Grade OMSI Field Trip

2/5 Jazz Café, 7 pm

2/9 8am Garage Sale Drop

2/10 TASA: Al Fresco Vegetarian Lunch

2/15 No School-President’s Day

2/16 Garage Sale Drop

2/23 8am Garage Sale Drop

2/24 7pm Band Recital Night

3/1 Next PTSA Meeting

**Adjourn**: Meeting adjourned at 10:35 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

Attachment C: Copy of the updated Standing Rules

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

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

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