**Athey Creek Middle School PTSA**

**Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, September 8, 2015**

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

Quorum established with 27 members in attendance.

Welcome/Introductions

Principals Report: *(Joel Sebastian)*

He is so thankful for our very large active PTSA group. The past presidents have made this PTSA a very positive experience for all. Gave a big Thank You to all who came today and wanted us all to know how much volunteers make a difference for our students & the school. We have new staff, and welcomed our new Vice-Principal, Caitlin Klenz who came from the Hillsboro School District.

The first day of school went well, all staff worked hard in August to make the schedule run so smoothly. Academy Classes are starting next Monday. Choices are coming out today to your students. Sign-ups will be on Thursday afternoon, 2:30 – 3:45 pm. Sixth grade signs up by themselves, 7th & 8th graders combine for sign-ups. We operate on a different schedule every day to enable us to have less transitions, longer core classes, and have the Academy classes to further enrich the core classes. Feels we have some good options for the students to choose from.

Back to School Breakfast will be accommodating about 70 new students, in total we have about 100-120 transfer students in the school. This will be on Tuesday, September 15 at 8:30 am. A list of food items on VolunteerSpot will be coming out today for parents to help bring donated food items. Our student count is at 660 students, we were forecasted for 590 students. We have already added teachers so we should be good as far as student/teacher ratios. We will be adding an accelerated math teacher for 6th grade.

Smarter Balance test results are being released on Sept. 17 and will be mailed out to the students & their families. There will be focus groups set up to help explain the results. Results were better than anticipated.

Presidents Report: *(Dana Callaghan)*

Standing Rules were presented and approved. Secretary will submit a signed copy to the Oregon PTA. PTSA set up the coffee table on the first day of school for 6th graders. Curriculum night is Sept. 17 at 6:30 pm.

Treasurer Report*: (Sheila Adams)*

She has opened a new bank account with Pacific Continental after some issues with Chase. Checks are on rush order so she should be able to have the teacher grant checks out by Curriculum night.

Membership: *(Joanne Masters)*

The envelopes with the forms are coming in. We had over 200 members last year, we will probably have more due to the increase in students this year. She will be looking into training requirements for the officers.

**Committee Reports**:

Volunteer Coordinator: *(Kate Hoots)*

There is a new volunteer opportunity this Thursday afternoon from 2:30 – 3:45 to help the students sign up for their academy classes. A Volunteer Spot list will be emailed out to all to sign up. She will send out notices during the school year as opportunities come up.

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

September 18 is the first school dance. Glow in the dark theme, soda’s, candy for sale. It will be $5 at the door. Money that is raised supports the next two dances & the 8th grade celebration at the end of the year. Question about location of concessions, in dance area or out in lobby? General consensus was out in the lobby was the best. Also question if both the library and Gym should be open? Joel okay with gym open, but worries about food spills on the new library furniture. Maybe have some of the furniture moved over the lobby area so we don’t have to have the whole school open?

School Store: *(Shari Winters)*

Starting on the 9th. She has a list of volunteers that are ready to work the lunch shifts.

Turning Point: *(Dana for Becky Luther)*

Sign-ups are great, Becky has a lot of parent volunteers. Dates are Sept. 22 & Sept. 24. She is working on securing speakers & presentations.

TASA: *(Margaret Koch)*

First TASA is on Wednesday, October 7th in the afternoon and is the same afternoon as the evening conferences. The list will go out about two weeks before the day, but it is currently on our PTSA Website, so people can sign up.

Garage Sale: *(Saleen Chenevert)*

The t\Tuesday before Christmas break is the first drop at the school. We will have two 40’ shipping containers delivered in January on gym side of the school. In January, every Tuesday morning we will be there for donations and there are some Saturdays too. Dates of the garage sale is April 16/17. We will box everything up, price the items that go in the commons area, and stack it up in the containers until April. This is a low cost fundraiser, just pay for delivery & pick-up of the containers. This is our biggest fundraiser and we make between $15,000-19,000.

Webpage: *(Jane Bernasconi)*

Please send any information to her at AtheyCreek [webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:webmaster@gmail.com). She will keep it updated. Saleen will continue to keep our Athey Facebook page updated.

**Community Reports:**

Education Foundation: *(Elaine Cozart)*

Our main goal is to raise money to help fund more teachers. Last year we raised $123,000. During the year, we are going to set up a donor recognition, and show the different levels of giving. The first event coming up is the HOT Campaign, which starts before Christmas. Stands for Honor our Teachers, and donors name a teacher in honor of their donation. The teachers are given a certificate. The Count Campaign starts after Christmas & is where we raise the bulk of our funds. We have several community events we offer, the Night at the Blazers & the Tonkin Fun Run. We are looking for members to represent every school and we are in needs of a few more-check with Elaine. The Foundation meets every 3rd Wednesday at 6pm in the District office board room.

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

Betty is leaving her position as VP of Oregon PTA and going to be VP of Oregon School Boards Association. She encouraged continued collaboration of all groups and is positive that this helped make the increase in State funding for school possible. The Oregon PTA is currently conducting Fall leadership trainings, there is one on Sept. 12 in McMinnville, and on the 26th at Robert Gray. She attended a National School Board Leadership training in Chicago.

With the change in the Oregon Governor, she is encouraged by Governor Brown’s commitment to education. There is now a Chief Education Officer to replace the current board. She encourages parent participation as there is definitely a link to student success and thanked everyone for being at the meeting.

Smarter Balance results will be released on Sept. 17. Our school district had better than anticipated results. Confirmed with Joel that there would be some kind of groups meeting to help explain the results.

**New Business:**

- We had an Eagle Scout who has been working on the trail around the school, evened it out, widened it, new bark. He will be working with the school/district on providing doggie bag dispensers.

- Robotics is in the works, we have two 3-D printers.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember:**

- Sept. 15: Picture Day

- Sept. 17: Curriculum Night, 6:30 pm

- Sept. 18: School Dance, 6:30 pm

- Sept 22 & Sept 24: Turning Point

- Sept. 23, Early Release at 1:45 pm

- October 6, Tuesday: Next PTSA meeting

- October 7, Wednesday, First TASA 3:30-8pm

**Adjourn**: Meeting adjourned at 9:34 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](mailto:dana.callaghan@gmail.com) Joanne Masters – joanne.gmasters@comcast.net

Saleen Chenevert – saleenc@gmail.com Shari Winters – shari@broadwaybody.com

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

Sheila Adams – [sheilathepeetnik@gmail.com](mailto:sheilathepeetnik@gmail.com) Emily Schmidt – mle@yrbantwist.com

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

Betty Reynolds – [bettyreynolds1@comcast.net](mailto:bettyreynolds1@comcast.net) Jane Bernasconi - nanineko@yahoo.com

Attachment A: Sign-In Sheet

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

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

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