

Garfield Elementary PTA Board Meeting

October 5, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Meeting started at 6:29

Attendees:

- Karen Deckard - President
- Marianne McIntosh - Vice President
- Megan Christopher - Bookkeeper
- Brendon Chertok - Principal
- Terra Sullivan - Secretary
- Gina McCune - Treasurer
- *Parent member & community attendees*

Welcome

- Minutes approved from Prior meeting (September board meeting)

Review/Approval of Financials

- Financials shared by Megan, Bookkeeper. Available for review. Moved and seconded to approve financials, voice vote in favor with no abstentions or nays.

School Updates

- **Family night** - December 12. Partner with PTA, offer a scavenger hunt, open up all pods and have different booths and opportunities to explore and meet staff. Perhaps combine that with a dinner. Interest in student store that night?
- **Playground equipment** - Staff fairly unanimously decided to use some donated funds along with district and PTA funds - approx \$108/\$110K. Next step - reach back out to some companies to narrow down to 3-4 options. Very interested in having inclusive and accessible equipment. Will share in the school and kids may have an opportunity to vote. Questions - may get equipment to fill a lot of the space (structure that was removed last year as well as the climbing structure that was removed several years ago) but this depends on cost. Not thinking we will replace the bark at this time due to the cost of changing surface. Timing - not sure, will take some time to get quotes, votes, and then install may be dependent on order lead time and weather for install.

Upcoming Programs & Events

- **Looking for parents to volunteer/participate in events they are able and interested to help with**
- **Track Stars** - Gina getting this started for 22/23 school year. Looking for parent volunteers 10:20 - 10:35, 1:20 - 1:35 on Tuesdays and Fridays. Or if another day works (rather than Tues/ Fri) let Gina know.
- **Popcorn Friday** - Volunteers needed on Fridays to pop popcorn each week, sometime in the morning. This takes 2.5-3 hours, try to rotate each volunteer through about once per month
- **Fall Fundraiser** - In the past, did Cougar Mountain Cookie dough but this is not available from the company this year. Would like input from group. Could do a sales option (options: Sees Candy, Otis Spunkmeyer), or read-a-thon. Will have a pure fund drive in spring. Other ideas: plants/flowers. Has worked well in other orgs. How about a Gala type option - probably take more planning/participation to pull off. Maybe a spaghetti feed or pancake feed? Could invite the whole community, pay what you can/donation. Combine with spring event - touch a truck and pancake feed? "Pancakes and Earplugs". Will also have a pledge-a-thon, will keep that event. Sales event in the fall, pancake feed and touch a truck as well as pledge-a-thon. Any local companies? Olympia Roaster in Lacey will do a fundraiser bagged coffee. Need to decide and launch by November - Karen will look into options and share information via email.
- **Book Fair** - All set for timing combined with Fall Fling. Will need some more volunteer time to help with coverage during the day (due to librarian schedule this year). A few hours after school, plus one day later into the evening (maybe Wednesday). Megan is in contact with Mrs. Beatty / communicating with Scholastic rep about this.
- **Staff Appreciation, during conference week** - one lunch, one dinner, also stock the fridge. Can be homemade as well as purchased, PTA has a budget but looking for folks to help coordinate, pick up and drop off items at the school. Olive Garden donated dinner last year. Will send out an electronic sign up sheet. No restrictions for staff room, but provide info on ingredients. Will be inclusive of all staff, not just teachers - about 70 people total.
- **Fall Fling/Trunk-or-Treat, October 22** - first time in a long time last year, carnival style. Used some leftover boosterthon prizes and we have some of those items left. How should we do this event this year - maybe a Trunk or Treat? Popcorn, hot chocolate, cider. Should we have this in the front of the school for parking? Maybe Police or City could send a vehicle? Would like to have games as well as the candy. Karen - working on flyers to send home for parents to sign up. Will need some volunteers for games, popcorn, etc. Another fun thing to add to Trunk or Treat - kids could not for favorite
- **Apparel** - need ideas about logos, ordering apparel. Chaz can help with this (graphic designer). Hoodies were very popular, need more of these. Costco hoodies - keep eyes out for a good deal. We can iron on the logos. Seconds store (Gildens) - good deals here on slightly irregular/seconds.

- **Winter Giving** - Garfield students and younger siblings only this year, older students/older siblings can be served by their school (middle school or high school). Mr. Mo can help connect families with resources. Past years - approx 150 children from newborn to age 18, but expect our number will be closer to 100 with only Garfield and younger students. Marianne working on setting up application and connecting with sponsor businesses. Applications will go out in Oct for return in Nov, then work on sponsors and distribution by the week of December 12. Would like to have another volunteer to work with on this - Lauren will work with Marianne on this.
- **Student Store** - opportunity for students to shop for families for holiday gifts. PTA is taking this over starting this year, working on an opportunity for all students to make a craft/gift for a family member. Combine with an event - Dec 12 Family Night. Need an idea for a craft/project for kids, with about 20-30 minute timeframe. Sarah has some ideas - ornaments, small decoration type item. Photo printer? Have done a snow globe (flat / 2D). Magnet? With photo or drawing. Colored sharpie on tile? Maybe we could offer a couple of different options and kids could choose and/or do more than one item. Will discuss more at future meetings. Share with staff - teachers might be able to do some of this in their classrooms during the last few days prior to winter break. Other ideas: ribbon/ornament, candles.
- **Science on Wheels** - Pacific Science Center program - scheduled for Friday, December 8. All day event, assembly, exhibit in the gym, and 40 minute classroom presentations - 10 groups, so some classes will be combined (these are for K-5_ . "Blood and Guts". Volunteer support - Megan reviewing materials, will have some shifts to sign up for. Not too many volunteers needed, mostly for unloading/loading, and supervision in gym.

Questions/Additional Topics

- Volunteer opportunity - Olympia Elementary Community Collaboration, looking for two representatives who can trade off attending and report back to PTA Board
Monthly Zoom meeting. Collaborative group across all Olympia elementary schools to support one another.
- PTA meetings open to all - monthly via Zoom, link is on PTA web site
- Will post draft minutes on PTA web site, marked clearly as draft, for folks who can't attend meetings to read. Would also welcome any help with the web site, logo, colors and design.
- To sign up for any actives - sign up on sign in sheet or follow up via email. We will send out a mass email for each opportunity. Background checks - need to complete and renew each year.
- Marimba band that would like to perform for the school. Should this be an event or coordinate with Mr. Chertok for an assembly. Would be a great assembly activity-25 minute all school assembly.
- Movie night - working on this for November.

Meeting adjourned 7:46 PM