

**Washington School PTO
November 27, 2018
Meeting Minutes****Board Members in Attendance**

Michael Paskin
Kim Kotnik
Tara King
Cari Menchaca
Kimberley Yaeger
Elizabeth Wagner
Erin Muslera
Dustin Todd
Lilia Hine
Kristie Chapman
Anna Stump
Jessica Gin

Staff in Attendance

Christina Giguere
Michael Acton
Mary Lou Furrer

Parents in Attendance

Tara Haaland-Ford
Holly Parker
Brady Charrette
Mary O'Flynn
Kelly Milazzo

1. Michael Paskin, PTO President

Michael welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. Michael wants to review the MAT committee notes (emailed to board members) and set some critical dates for that important fundraiser. We will also discuss the budget and the need to either have another fundraising event or move some of the reserves over to our working account. Christina will need to give the SBUSD a promissory note to keep the Curriculum Specialist through May.

2. Christina Giguere, Principal

Christina – There are lots of exciting experiences happening at Washington. Several grade level field trips, Family Math Night for K-2, these community events and Party Books. Student Council is up



and running, Christina is fostering those students taking on some responsibilities at school. Parent-Teachers Conferences went well before the break, Christina was able to sit in on some of those meetings. Thank you parents and PTO - for all those amazing lunches for the staff. GATE Testing is about to begin.

The salaries (cost) for the 6 CS and Coach V is \$282,066.63. Christina will need to give a promissory note to the school district to keep these positions through the end of the year. (The PTO raises this money ongoing/throughout the year.) The BRICK Legacy fundraising project is a GO. The Flagpole repair is scheduled for summer of 2019. Fastest approval from the district yet. Sadly, there was some vandalism on campus over the thanksgiving break. On two separate occasions the Ball Wall was 'tagged' (spray painted). Washington parents had it cleaned before school resumed. Probably skateboarders, but it is a safety issue.

Lastly, Christina has a proposal. She would like to begin a regularly scheduled 'All School Meeting'. Staff, students, parents dropping off would all meet on the blacktop for 15 minutes. Announcements would be made, recognitions, appreciations. It would be a 15 minute meeting, led mostly by Christina, but the student council would also get involved. Monday or Friday mornings, first thing. Christina proposed this idea first to the PTO, but will also to the staff at their next meeting this week.

3. Tara King, Treasurer

Tara emailed board members The WSF Budget V. Actuals. Salaries have come in about where we had expected. We have 1 less CS this year, but salaries have increased. We are looking at a shortfall of \$27K. Tara (who is also Chairing Enrichment) – is wondering if it would be helpful to run a short winter session of Enrichment? Spring Enrichment will begin in February, but there are some families who rely on childcare after school – especially on Wednesdays.

4. Shannon Schroeder, Communications Chair

All emails and communications through ParentSquare are done by Shannon. (She also wanted an account for communications@washingtonschoolpto.org) Agenda for the PTO Meeting should go out a week before the meeting. Deadline for the weekly newsletter is Tuesday afternoons.

5. Dustin Todd, IT Chair

Dustin has been working on the Teacher Lunch donations for the Hospitality committee and Party Book event tickets. He is moving forward with teacher contact information on the website. (All the needed information can be found on the PTO google drive) Will also begin updating/syncing the calendars (Christina shared with Dustin where she is keeping her calendar and everything he needs to enter). Dustin has been posting the PTO Minutes to the site. www.WashingtonSchoolPTO.org

6. Elizabeth Wagner, Volunteer Chair

Walk & Roll Chairs, Meagan Bright and Cameron Cottrell are doing a great job. Checking in with Ms. Zumpski to see if it would be okay to sell swag (Wildcat wear) at the Book Fair this week. We are currently still looking for someone to help with the Marquee Board. Things are moving along with the Jingle Jog, scheduled for Saturday Dec 15th at Ellings Park. Details: 9am. Free Event. 1 mile-ish jog



along the trail above the softball fields. Water station at the top, Bagels & bananas at the end. SB Running is providing the bib numbers. There are 50 free parking spots. Potentially collecting goods for the fire victims...

7. Party Book Chair, Kristie Chapman

Football in the Funkzone was a bit of a disappointment (21 in attendance). It should be mentioned that Shalhoob has an amazing space and really did a nice job. One problem was that there weren't any dads who were willing to 'step up' and organize/Host. Up next is the Ugly Sweater Holiday Party at the Cliff Room on Saturday Dec 8th from 5:30-9 pm.

Discussion ensued about the direction of "Party Book" activities. Several highly involved parents with longstanding contributions to the school including Tara Haaland-Ford (past PTO President), Holly Parker (past PRIDE co-chairperson among many other leadership roles), Brady Charrette (past Board member and leader of numerous fundraising activities) and Mary O'Flynn (past leader of numerous fundraising events and CIMI) expressed concerns about poor communication and a lack of continuity between the new board and an important group of parent leaders/volunteers who feel disconnected from current decision-making and may be participating less as a result. Current board members including the president, vice president and recording secretary expressed strong commitment to working together with all members of our community to strengthen relationships and improve communication. Several meeting attendees expressed their desire to harness the strengths of past, present and future volunteers for the benefit of Washington and our children. Michael Paskin thanked the parents for coming to the meeting and sharing their concerns.

8. Open Discussion and Problem Solving:

Do we move over money from our Reserves or do we organize another fundraiser? Should we move forward with the Legacy Brick Fundraiser?

Brady C. offers to chair a spring fundraising event, similar to the End of the Year Party – at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. This event would have a ticket price, a silent auction, possibly a 'raise your paddle' donation opportunity. Similar to past years (nearly) free PTO event, this would have an earlier date to acquire the funds necessary to keep our budget (Curriculum Specialists). Kim K. makes a motion to move forward with the 'Come Sail Away' Gala-ish Spring Fundraising Event. The motion is PASSED. Brady will get back to the board, once she has confirmed a date with the SBYC.

Michael Acton, who is retiring from his teaching career at Washington this year, is in full support of the BRICK fundraiser. Consensus among the board, we will move forward with the BRICKS and they can also be sold at the Come Sail Away event. (Bricks will go around the Flagpole area with a family nameplate. There will be tiers of price levels, for example \$100, \$250, \$500)

On to the MAT (Move A Thon) fundraiser. The date has been set: Friday March 15th, which is a minimum day. Theme is: Keep Calm and Move A Thon. Design for t-shirts and Logo are being done by Taryn Z. We do not have a Chair yet, but many committee members willing to help out. Tara HF shares that she is willing to offer support and help. She may have somebody in mind, but you really do



need 1 person in the leadership role. Tara HF and Kim K. will meet about the planning, sub groups, timeline and logistics. Committee members include: Kim, Elizabeth, Kristie, and Anna.

9. Appreciations:

Hospitality lunches, Rory Diaz. CIMI Chairs for Movie Days, Anne-Marie Matthews, Kelly Ransdell & Laura Seawards.

Next meeting: Tues Jan 22nd. Happy Holidays. Meeting adjourns at 8:36pm