

Attendance by PTA Members: Kathy Johnson, Diana Deen, Kimberlee Ely, Neil Gerrans, Sarah Terry, Ramona Hattendorf, Lisa Blau, Amy Tucci Webert, Kelly Esterberg, Julie Hansucker, Cheryl Parks, Connie Olson, Tracy Pozil

Meeting called to order at 6:38pm

1) General Business

- a. General Membership must approve slate of members and alternates. Committee is led by Cheryl Parks: Elaine Cooper, Kimberlee Ely, Connie Olson (Alternates: Kathy Dial, Elaine Cooper)
  - i. Motion to nominate committee slate made by Lisa Blau (Kelly Esterberg seconded, approved by all)

2) Upcoming Levy presentation by Ramona Hattendorf

- a. General Information
  - i. State provides approximately 54% of school, if levy fails the school loses 30% of the budget funds
  - ii. Levy campaign – (#1) Capital Improvement (BEX IV) Renovation of schools, all renovations have to be funded by local community, Operations Levy (#2) supports salaries and benefits, lights, and maintenance
  - iii. Neither levy is a new tax
- b. Presentation of reasons to vote for the “No” position
  - i. Individuals may believe state should fully fund education, and voters are enabling the state to not fully fund education by renewing the levy
  - ii. Families that send his/her child(ren) to private school may not want to fund public school
  - iii. Do not want to support the BEX IV levy as public may not like appearance of school buildings
- c. Presentation of reasons to vote for the “Yes” position
  - i. Services to children would suffer
  - ii. Operations levy must be renewed by a vote, usually supported by Seattle voters
  - iii. BEX IV (Major Levy) – Big Capital, major reconstruction, new building, state can have matching grants
    1. Aging infrastructure, local responsibility to support these buildings
- d. Promote a position as the PTA
  - i. Motion that we take a pro levy stance for BEX IV and Operations Levy by Diana Deen (Kelly Esterberg seconded, approved by all)
  - ii. Inform school parents that the levies support a science lab at McClure Middle School and technology at Lawton Elementary School

- iii. Schools First donation will be addressed at PTA Board Meeting in February
  - iv. Talk to communication committee about sending information via email (cannot send via kid mail)
  - v. Diana Deen and Ramona Hattendorf responsible for drafting key messages
  - vi. Link to King 5 Videos regarding the levies
    - 1. <http://www.king5.com/news/cities/seattle/Largest-levy-in-Seattle-history-on-next-weeks-ballot-189938851.html>
    - 2. <http://www.king5.com/news/education/Seattle-Public-Schools--188255341.html>
- 3) Update on new academic programs: Small Group Block. Principal shared example of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade (71 students). Students are identified by color coding: green = standard, blue = excelling, yellow = at risk/strategic, red = gap (grade level behind possibly). At this grade a number of data measures are being gathered and tracked to make sure students are progressing and that we are adjusting instruction/groupings appropriately.
- a. Fountas & Pinnell Reading Level – Comprehension
  - b. Oral Reading Fluency – Reading Out loud
  - c. High Frequency Words – Small Groups
  - d. Non-Sense word – sounding out words (decode) sub
  - e. End of this year, can use this data for class balancing for third grade
- 4) Initial Staffing report for Fall 2013
- a. Current projections if enrollment increases would allow for a ½ time counselor, and ½ time assistant principal
- 5) Update on Curriculum
- a. State Standards are transitioning to Common Core Standards. Teachers continue to use Everyday math as a resource, but supplement to ensure they are teaching to standards.
  - b. Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades are transitioning to the Math Common Core standards this year .
    - i. Complete transition to the Common Core Standards for all grades in two years. This likely has implications for Everyday Math as our school and the district seek a resource that is aligned with the new standards.
  - c. Common Core includes more problem solving
  - d. Common Core adopted by 46 states
  - e. Language Arts & Math Common Core have been adopted by Washington

- 
- f. Writing Curriculum is worked backwards from getting high school students ready for career/college writing and applying that goal to each elementary/middle school grade. Focus on persuasive writing, expository, and reading non-fiction
  - g. Cursive writing is not a Washington State standard
    - i. At Lawton Elementary, we are introducing keyboarding in 3rd grade and cursive in 5<sup>th</sup> grade