



**General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, January 9, 2018**

**Handouts**

- Meeting Agenda
- Treasurer's Report 08/01/2017 - 07/31/2018
- Draft PTO General Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2017

**6:30**

**Agenda**

- Welcome
- Vote to approve last meeting's Minutes
- Mylo Allen — Principal's Update
- Treasurer's Report
- Winter Wishes Recap
- Science Fair Update
- Science on Wheels
- Carnival Update/February Movie Night & Pizza Night
- Brian Pahl — Digital Safety

Welcome everyone! Please sign in (forms on tables) and take a look over last meeting's Minutes. After looking them over, we'll move to approve them.

**6:30**

**Meeting Minutes**

The group spent a couple of minutes looking over last meeting's Minutes. One person motioned to approve the document, and it was seconded. Passed with a unanimous "aye" vote.

**6:33**

**Principal's Update**

Principal Mylo Allen is seeking volunteers for phone banking to support “get out the vote” efforts for the upcoming school capital bond. Ballots will be mailed out January 24. Phone banking will last for one week prior to when ballots are due. There are 2 shifts each evening: 5:00-6:30 and 6:30-8:00. Calling will be done at the Unity Group location downtown by Best Chopsticks. They have lots of cubicles and phones.

Parkview has the opportunity to fill 25 slots, or more, for phone banking on Tuesday, February 6, from 5:00-6:30 pm.

Mylo explained that it’s fun and not difficult. A short 15-20 minute training is provided, along with a script, and volunteers will only be calling people that are likely to be supportive and have voted yes on past bond measures. Volunteers will not be calling people who have already turned in their ballots (elections staff provide daily updates). There will be lots of Parkview volunteers, and food is provided. He encourages interested people to sign up to volunteer.

He also mentioned that since he can only vocalize pro-bond sentiments as a citizen, not as a Principal, follow up emails may come from his personal email, not his school email address.

**6:40**

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Susan noted that the Treasurer's Report on each table has a lot of detail. If anyone has questions, feel free to ask her or send her an email.

### **Votes on Special Funding Requests**

There have been 2 special votes by the PTO Board this year on items that were not already specified in the budget. These are listed near the end of the report as “Request for Funds — Misc. Teacher Requests”. Since that is vague, and has exceeded the original budget for this line item, she wants to explain this to the membership.

There have been 2 special teacher requests for funds this year:

- 1) Ms. Gardiner located grant funds to take 7 EBD kids to a 6-week animal therapy program. She believes that this program could be particularly helpful for this chosen group of kids and while she was able to raise funds to cover most of the costs, she needed an additional \$540 to cover transportation costs.
- 2) Mr Hayden requested \$240 to buy 2 new point-and-shoot digital cameras that will be used for many different purposes, including the photography after school enrichment class.

The Board voted to approve both these requests.

### **Book Fair Recap**

At December's Book Fair, there were 837 books sold for a total of \$4,183.07. One quarter of this total is returned to our school library which equals \$1,045. Thank you to Laurel and Rochelle for all their great work to make this happen! Also, if there are volunteers interested in coordinating future Book Fairs, please get in touch with Laurel, Rochelle, or a Board member.

#### **6:43**

##### **Winter Wishes Recap**

Kendra said our Winter Wishes program was a big success. We served 75 kids (25 more than last year) and 35 families. We provided holiday gifts to kids under 18 living in the same house as a Parkview student. Each kid received a gift and each family received a handmade quilt made by a local group.

Kendra looked over gifts going to families and supplemented where necessary to make sure that gifts were "even" with families with more than one child.

It worked well to let families come in to pick up and wrap gifts. They were able to see what had been donated before the gifts were wrapped.

#### **6:47**

##### **Enrichment**

##### **Science on Wheels**

Lindsay shared that the Pacific Science Center's traveling exhibit is coming to Parkview on Tuesday 1/16. This activity is funded by the PTO and this year's topic is geology: "Rock and Roll". She is seeking parent volunteers to help with set up, take down, and to help lead kids through the exhibit during the day on Tuesday. She has a sign up sheet.

##### **Science Fair**

Parkview's Science Fair will be on January 30, 6:30-7:30. She is looking for parent volunteers to help with set up during the day, provide cookies and refreshments, and be Science Experts (judges) that invite each participant to describe the project and what was learned. She has another sign up sheet.

#### **6:49**

##### **Social**

##### **Carnival Planning**

Next planning meeting is Thursday, 1/18, 7pm at Menace Brewing. All are welcome.

##### **Movie Night**

Next movie night is Thursday, 2/8, the night before a Purple Friday. She is looking for a couple of volunteers to serve popcorn.

### **Pizza Night**

National Pizza Day is the day after our next movie night. Keep the family fun going by dining out at Rudy's Pizza on 2/9. Plus, Rudy's will donate to us a percentage of their proceeds for that night. More information will come out about this. Rudy's has been donating pizzas for the kids in the gym during our meetings, too.

### **6:50**

#### **Kids and Technology, Brian Pahl**

Brian is a Technology Integration Teacher on Special Assignment with the Bellingham School District. He taught 4th grade at Sunnyland and lives in the neighborhood. He is here to start a discussion on digital safety and kids.

His goals are to think about ways to prepare our kids for the digital world and to share some resources that may be helpful.

His presentation can be accessed at <http://bit.ly/2oqENzD>.

Digital technology is powerful. Speech-to-text and text-to-speech aids can help kids that may have writing or reading challenges, and some kids learn better this way than with the traditional model of paper, book and pencil. Photos and cameras can be helpful in the learning process. Cloud computing lets kids collaborate that aren't proximately close. Video conferencing can be a fun tool to connect to other kids or experts. Online simulations and educational tools can be a great teaching and learning aid. Mystery Skyping was an example of connecting kids to learn about geography and each other. Brian has used social media to find math hashtags to demonstrate why kids need to bother to learn math. Apps like SeeSaw (which many Parkview families seem to have used) can help families get a sense of what's happening in the classroom. Digital portfolios can follow kids as they move up through grade levels and keep samples of their work. This is just a sampling of how digital technologies can helpful in the classroom and the learning process.

Digital technologies are becoming more integrated into the world and our schools. Our District is working toward a 1:1 kids to devices policy. We should help prepare our kids to be safe with these technologies and to develop a healthy "digital diet". —> With great power comes great responsibility... It is important to think about what are kids are exposed to and to identify ways to prepare kids to be safe in the digital world.

Brian showed a video prepared by a police department somewhere in the US: "Everyone Knows Sarah." He cautioned that it has a very strong message. The gist of the video was that once something is online, it it outside your control.

Once something has been posted online, it can be sent, copied, and shared in ways that may not have been intended. This extends to impulse posts or accidental posts. Brian feels that his role is to help educate parents to help their children:

- What can you do to help prevent your child from making a similar mistake?
- What can you do to prepare your child to be a “upstander” — to intervene and prevent the spread of inappropriate posts?
- What would you do to support your child if they made a similar mistake?
- (Brian noted that while the video featured a girl who made a poor choice about posting, this is equally applicable to boys.)

As the District moves closer to the 1:1 kids to devices policy, there will eventually be an Ed Tech coach at each school. But even now, we should do what we can to keep kids safe.

- Use all the privacy settings you can.
- Use first name only, or first name and last initial, or a pseudonym online.
- Do not share personal information online.
- Do not post anything that you wouldn't want to exist for eternity.
- Follow the same rules and expectations when offline.
- THINK —
  - T = is it true?
  - H = is it helpful?
  - I = is it inspiring?
  - N = is it necessary?
  - K = is it kind?

How do we help our kids make good choices when navigating the digital world?

- We need to be good models.
- We need to talk to our kids to prepare them for situations they may encounter.
- We need to set limits.
- We need to listen. We need to show our kids we will be there for them when they need us.

### **Important resources**

Common Sense Media

[www.common Sense Media.org](http://www.common Sense Media.org)

A variety of resources, including a family media contract, a “device free dinner” challenge, information about how to set up an iPhone for a kid, and much more.

Safe Smart Social

[www.safesmart social.org](http://www.safesmart social.org)

A variety of articles about useful digital topics.

Brian Pahl

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**7:30**

**Reminders**

- January 16, science on Wheels
- January 30, Science Fair
- February 8, Movie Night at Parkview
- February 9, Pizza Night at Rudy's
- February 13, PTO General Meeting

**Adjourn**