



**General Membership Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 13, 2018**

Handouts

- Meeting Agenda
- Treasurer's Report 08/01/2017 - 07/31/2018
- Draft PTO General Meeting Minutes, February 13, 2018

Agenda

- Welcome
- Vote to Approve Last Meeting's Minutes
- Carnival Recap
- Animals as Natural Therapy Recap — Aileen
- PTO Activities/Events Input and Feedback
- School Bond Update and Next Steps — Mylo

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

Announcements

Children's Film Festival is coming up at the Pickford from 3/23 - 4/1. The films are carefully curated, and some are appropriate for kids as young as 2. The Pickford has put a lot of effort into this, and it should be a great event. If you're interested, find more information their web site.

Parkview Gives Back is an opportunity for our school to help a local group in need. This year we will support the School District's Family Resource Center that helps homeless families. The details are still being worked out, but it will likely be some sort of drive (toiletries, socks/underwear, etc). A representative will join us at our April meeting to tell us more.

Vision Screening Volunteer needed for 3/28, 8am -1pm. Alternatively, 2 volunteers could split the shift. Cindy will post this request on Facebook if there are no volunteers tonight.

6:33

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.

6:35

Carnival Recap

Amanda reported that the Carnival was a success. Lots of volunteers helped to keep everything running smoothly, even with little hiccups, like a music problem with the Cupcake Walk. There was a big turnout and she has had a lot of good feedback. She's also interested in any suggestions for changes for next year's event, so please let her know if you would like her to include anything in the notes for next year.

The kids had fun and the pizza from Rudy's was very well received. Rudy's kept us well supplied with hot pizzas during the evening and did a great job of anticipating how much we needed.

We made around \$2800 in ticket sales and we made just under \$1300 in profit.

There was some discussion of the complexity of the box maze. Some kids found it possibly too challenging (due to all the dead ends), while some kids were overheard saying this was the best one yet. Amanda will add this to the notes.

It was great to have so many alumni (middle school) helpers. They are a big part of making this event a success and it's fun to see that the Parkview kids recognize the big kids coming back to help with the event. A team effort!

6:40

Animals as Natural Therapy

Last fall, Aileen received some grant and special education funding to take a group of students to an Animals as Natural Therapy program. She was slightly short of the funding she needed, but the PTO was able to make up the shortfall. She is here tonight to update us on how that money was used.

For full disclosure, she mentioned that she is on the board of Animals for Natural Therapy. She has never taken a group of students to the Farm, so this was her first direct experience with

that.

The Farm has large animals as well as small animals (bunnies, chickens and small horses). In October and November, she took seven students, both primary and intermediate BRIDGES program kids, to a 6-week program at the Farm where they learned skills including feeding chickens, picking up poop, brushing horses, dealing with goats and leading horses. This program is particularly well-suited to these kids because it requires them to be attuned to the animals and pay attention to their needs.

When Aileen later directed classroom lessons on self-esteem, she found that these kids were proud of the work they had done at the Farm and it helped build their self-esteem. The kids used social cues to work with animals, and were able to build up their skills to keep large horses at ease and eventually ride them safely. The lessons fostered empowerment and confidence building.

She feels that this experience was very successful. She thanked the PTO for helping to make this happen.

She is working with the District to locate grant funding to do this more often. Ideally, she would like for this to be a part of the BRIDGES curriculum with sustainable funding.

6:50

PTO Prioritization Exercise

Cindy said that the board is starting to think about next year and would like input from the members about their priorities. She posted five large sheets listing all of the current PTO activities.

FUNDRAISING

Boundary Bay Social
Hammerhead Coffee
Jog-a-Thon
Scrip
Panda Wear
Book Fair
Box Tops

SUPPORT/OUTREACH

Winter Wishes Program
Parkview Cares Food Box Delivery
Parkview Gives Back (supply drive)

ENRICHMENT

After School Enrichment
Garden
Art Walk
Science Fair
Science on Wheels
Mt Baker Theater Shows

COMMUNICATION

Student Directory
Web Site
Newsletter
Yearbook

SOCIAL

Family Fun Nights
End of Year BBQ
Carnival
Staff Appreciation

Each person got 5 stickers to place next to their PTO priorities.

The Board is hoping to get input from a wider cross section of families as well, perhaps by soliciting input after school.

Thanks for helping with this exercise. It's not exactly clear how this will be used, but it may inform our work for next year to ensure we focus our efforts on activities the membership feels are meaningful.

She also reminded us that Board elections are coming up.

7:00

School Bond Update and Next Steps

Mylo reported that the last school bond passed overwhelmingly with 70% of the vote. The bulk of the funding will go to rebuilding three elementary schools: Parkview, Alderwood and Sunnyland.

In the short-term, the Principals of each elementary school plus District representatives have formed an Executive Team to determine the order in which the schools will be rebuilt. This is happening now, and a decision is probably only weeks away. The bond also includes security and safety improvements for all schools, and athletic field improvements for high schools.

In the longer-term, all three new elementary schools will be open by the fall of 2022. It is a 14 to 16 month process from the beginning of construction until the new school opens. Once the first school to be rebuilt is selected, an Education Specification (Ed Spec) team will be formed. An Ed Spec team consists of multiple stakeholders: parents, community members, teachers, District representatives, etc. The Ed Spec team helps design the new school, including placement, aspect, layout, and materials. The team also holds public meetings to get feedback. This was the process for the building of Parkview's cafeteria addition, and the community helped steer the design from a corrugated steel exterior to a dark brick facade more in keeping with the neighborhood. If you are interested in being part of the Ed Spec team, there will be an application process. Look for information from Mylo and the District.

Once Parkview's rebuild is underway, it will look a lot like the cafeteria project. We will temporarily lose the use of our green field, but we will keep access to our garden and playground. Construction will begin at the beginning of summer break, and continue through the summer and the entire next school year. During the next school year summer break, the existing school will be torn down, and new parking and open space will be added using the footprint of the old school buildings. Construction will last just over 12 months.

Question: *would it be possible that the District rebuild 2 schools simultaneously?*

It's possible, but would use a lot of resources, and probably isn't necessary. Most likely the schools will be rebuilt in 3 consecutive years and open in the fall of 2020, 2021, and 2022. Each school will have an Ed Spec team that forms in the spring.

Question: *how might the complexities of the Sunnyland site affect the process?*

Each building site is unique and presents different challenges. The Sunnyland lot is quite small, and already has 5 portables. It is possible there might need to be some "student shift" temporarily moving some Sunnyland students to another space. If that were to be the case, Sunnyland would not be the first rebuild.

Sunnyland and Parkview Both are both likely to be 2-story construction. They also are both located adjacent to City of Bellingham Parks. The City is supportive of schools, and there may be the possibility of a land swap or purchase. The back triangle of the Parkview field actually belongs to Parks, and this will be examined as the process moves forward.

Question: *what is the future Parkview capacity or what is enrollment likely to be?*

Within the next 3-5 years, it is possible that Parkview will grow from its current 330 kids to around 350. The standard for an elementary school rebuild is a "3 section school" — 3 classrooms at each grade level. This would be a capacity of about 400 kids.

Question: *is it likely that school boundaries will be redrawn?*

There is a committee that meets every year to study this. It is possible, but more likely in terms of middle school boundaries. Right now there are lots of kids at Whatcom, but some other

middle schools have smaller numbers.

Question: *is parking and drop-off likely to be different after Parkview's rebuild?*

How the site's space is used, including traffic flow, is part of the Ed Spec process. The team will bring recommendations to the school community and public, including parking and drop-off, and will be vetted with the larger community before being adopted as part of the final design.

If the school is reoriented with the front on Cornwall, rather than Coolidge, there will be significant changes to traffic flow. There likely will be impacts to signage such as new school crossing indicators. Right now, parking and drop-off/pick-up congestion are issues for our school, but this will give us a chance to start over and design a system that better meets our needs.

Question: *is there a set design principle in place, such as LEED standards, for new school construction?*

There are specification for building size and functionality. All elementary schools are built with full-size gyms so that they can host middle- and high-school games. However, the LEED, or environmental standards, part is led by the architect, and will likely be an important part of the discussion.

Question: *is the architect already determined?*

No, this goes through a bid process. There is a design proposal, a contract is negotiated, and there is a bid for a general contractor. Since our cafeteria addition was considered Phase 1, it is possible that the entities with whom we have already worked will have a stronger proposal, but this is yet to be determined.

Question: *will we dig up the time capsule before demolition?*

Yes, although we don't know its precise location, it is somewhere under the front flower bed.

Mylo encouraged anyone with questions to ask him. We should learn more about rebuilding order soon, probably directly from the District. The application process for the Ed Spec team will be sent out to parents, and posted on the school web site. It is a digital form. For the cafeteria project, nearly all applicants wound up on the team, so if you are interested, it is definitely worth applying to be part of the Team.

7:30

Reminders

- April 10, PTO General Meeting
- April 20, Bingo Night
- Parkview Gives Back supply drive, stay tuned!

Adjourn

