

## PTA Meeting 1/13/17 - Library, Wasatch Elementary @ 11:00a

In attendance: Julie Livers (President) Kris Lipson (Vice President/Chair-Elect), Rachel Preslar (Treasurer), Cory Pike (Secretary), Dawn Ann Bullough, Jen Levy, Meghan Looper, Racheel Taussky, Suzanne Attix, Gina Roper, Holly Clark, Deborah Candler, Tracie Sexton, Brook Scott, Rosann Greenway, Cynthia Bestvina, Brian Bevan

Excused: Val Stormont is hosting fund-raising pizza parties; Gus Comey is meeting with the SignUpGenius representative; Julie Lewis

### **1. Welcome by Julie Livers**

Approval of draft minutes with amendments from 12/2/16 meeting; Deborah Candler will post final versions of minutes on school web site once they're approved:  
<http://wasatch.slcschools.org/community/parent-teacher-association-ptsa>

### **2. Announcements:**

- a. 243 kids - second, third and fourth graders - enjoyed pizza lunch as a fund-raising reward, thanks to Little Caesars who donated it all. Dawn Anne Bullough will coordinate a thank you note to them from the kids
- b. *Movie Licensing USA* license purchased for five years, beginning 12/1/16
- c. Opera planning meeting 1/18/17 - *this is a surprise for the kids*
- d. 1/23/17 brown bag music lunch; a 4th grader and her Dad are the musical entertainment

### **3. School Reports:**

#### a. Faculty report/ SIC - Dawn Ann Bullough

- i. Dawn Ann Bullough asked for funding on behalf of 6th graders; Rachel Preslar requested a funding request in writing by the end of the meeting so the group would be able to vote, as per standard PTA funding procedures
- ii. Reminder of [Story Cupboard](#) book fair to take place during parent-teacher conferences in the Library; set-up on Friday 2/17/17; fair dates 2/21-2/24/17.

#### b. Principal's Report - Deborah Candler

- i. Math Parent Education Night scheduled for 1/18/17; an ST Math representative will be present in the computer lab; this evening is a first for our school where our intention is to help adults help their children as opposed to our normal practice, i.e. teaching students directly; After School group leaders hired to provide childcare to school-age children during the event
- ii. Buddy Benches installed
- iii. "Calm boxes" distributed to classrooms and the resource room
- iv. Public relations discussion and feedback

A Wasatch parent and public relations professional, Julia Lyons, provided PR feedback to PTA: *What makes Wasatch unique? How can we communicate this to attract families who may not be aware of our community? Does our larger community understand Wasatch's focus on an arts-integrated curriculum?*

-Deborah Candler indicated enrollment is not a challenge; in fact, we turn away 75 out-of-bounds students each year;

-Is our issue one of connection versus enrollment? Some PTA members did express a desire for more personal connections when they enrolled. Can we provide a parent representative for kindergarten tours and orientation? Rosann Greenway volunteered to be one of those reps. Julie Livers and Tracie Sexton will provide reps for upcoming tours on 1/26 and 1/31

-Ways to promote our tours and registration: GACC newsletter, our SLC School District Board members, Rosemarie Emery and Katherine Kennedy; Deborah Candler rewrote our school's description in the District's School Choice publications;

-Populate the FAQ page on the Wasatch web site; make it easier to access test scores; describe full-day kindergarten program and who is eligible; describe kindergarten enrichment program, After School options; promote that we serve *all* economic backgrounds

#### c. SCC (School Community Council) report - Tracie Sexton

i. 1/19/17 meeting agenda includes [S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods](#) topics; Deborah is on that organization's principals' safety committee

ii. *Prevent Child Abuse Utah* training completed for Council at 12/15/16 meeting

iii. Tracie attended the Land Trust conference for all state leaders; leaders learned about <https://ourschoolsnow.com/>, the proposed ballot initiative to improve school funding

#### d. Treasurer's Report - Rachel Preslar

i. Distributed current balance sheet

ii. Funding proposals and votes:

a. Marie Smith - \$194 for February continuing education program;

**approved**

b. Sixth grade teachers - \$100 for school bus and treats for students to attend Science Fair at SLCSE ; **approved**

c. First grade teachers - \$500 (additional) wiggle supplies; **approved**

#### e. Volunteer Coordinator's Report

i. Deborah will remind our community to sign in when they arrive at school to volunteer; she also reiterated background checks are only for volunteers who will be alone, unsupervised with students;

f. Arts report- Julie Livers for Julie Lewis

a.; Julie Lewis is working on a state grant Architecture of the Avenues for 4th grade in process

b. March 9 is family art/music/science night

c. Big Playground mural to be continued once better weather comes in spring

d. Arts Showcase meeting 1/20/17; positions to fill include Food Manager - Julie Livers volunteered, and Business Sponsorship (partially filling the role of the former Top-100 letter)

d. Indoor marquis in process

g. Directory report - Julie Livers

a. Directories on order!

h. Bulletin Board Update/Schedule- Stephanie Quintero

a. The Board noted what a lovely job Stephanie Quintero has done; Deborah will email Stephanie the PDF file of the coveted school calendar for her planning purposes

**Agenda (discussion) items**

1. See Julia Lyons PR feedback under principal's report

2. Review PTA Bylaws will be addressed at a future meeting

3. Fall Fund-raiser - Val Stormont to discuss at future meeting

4. Apple Store opportunities - Julie Livers

Store offers classes and field trips; Julie Livers will email Deborah to alert teachers in case they're unaware of these opportunities <http://www.apple.com/retail/learn/youth>

Spurred discussion of after-school coding club Cynthia Bestvina is planning; FYI, Sweet Library Code Club occurs Mondays, 4-6p for kids aged 8-18.

5. Recess requirements

SLC School District requires that students get at least one fifteen minute recess/day. Wasatch schedules two/day; some teachers may find it best to eliminate recess for certain students

Meeting technically adjourned 1235. The following were free-form discussion items during remaining time before dismissal:

6. Music education assembly

A parent requested that PTA fund a \$1,600 assembly for the school that featured big band/swing music and its impact on American history. While interesting and valuable, the group determined that since performers normally appear via art grants and not at the school's expense, we would pass on this opportunity.

7. Small Business Friday follow up - Jen Levy

A small number of vendors donated at least 10% of their profits or roughly \$85 to PTA; let's continue this tradition and see it grow next December

8. Finance discussion - Brian Bevan

Is it possible to educate students at the point of sale in the cafeteria about the costs of their food? Feasibly, it probably isn't, given scheduling pressures that Summer, the cafeteria manager faces, though we all discussed way to inform our kids how they're spending money, and ideally eating - not wasting - their food.

9. Labels for Education - Cynthia Bestvina

Cynthia is collecting these for our school until the program phases out by August 1, 2017; if you collect them, give them to her; note only UPCs with the *Labels for Education* logo are accepted as points into registered schools' bank accounts; Cynthia has used the funds to purchase items like PE equipment like balls, and stopwatches; Cynthia will write a short blurb for the newsletter to alert the community.



Next meeting February 3, 2017; Cynthia Bestvina : savory snack; Brooke Scott : sweet snack