

Attendance: Danielle Hashman, Jessica Tolsma, Chris Englund, Erica DeMeerleer, Julie Savas, Nelson Tang, Rob Fredericksen, Dione Corsilles, Lillian Welch, Daisy Barragon, Agnes Gomez, Elena Sanchez, Joy Raymond, Emily King, Jen Seminara, Summer Gallagher, Maria Herman, Nikki Beall, Gitane Versakos, Peter Smith.

Meeting start time: 6:35PM

Welcome and Introductions around the room (signup sheet circulated).

Atrium Beautification Project - Julie Savas (Maple Literacy Intervention Staff)

- Regarding the atrium area in the middle of school, next to the library, Julie Savas described need for PTSA involvement to beautify Atrium area.
- Peter Smith to coordinate efforts with Julie Savas and submit plan/volunteer tasks for the Atrium Beautification Project.

Principal Update: Elena Sanchez

- Reported that it has been a good start to the school year. Maple has 532 students.
- Capacity a huge issue at Maple and Elena Sanchez recently met with Kim Witworth, the SPS Executive Director regarding strained capacity issues and possible remedies.
 - SPS has approved boundary change for 2020, illustrated by a map handout, which reduces student enrollment. This year, 128 students reside in the changed area.
 - Next steps: Elena Sanchez will (1) elicit staff input and (2) plan community meeting.
 - Further questions/concerns: email mapleptsa@gmail.com or Elena Sanchez elsanchez@seattleschools.org

PTSA President Update: Joy Raymond

- Powerful Schools YMCA parent feedback:
 - More communication needed regarding actual logistics of how students get from class to the afterschool program. Also, parents confused how their child would participate in a later session and an overall lack of program description.
 - Suggestion for future offering: homework club
 - Suggestion: informational meeting with the Powerful School Director prior to Winter Session
- Joy Raymond will contact Powerful Schools Director with this feedback

Fundraising Update: Joy Raymond

- Fall into Giving 2017 Handout circulated:
 - Annual fundraising campaign for Maple
 - What: a month-long direct ask giving campaign to raise money for PTSA programs.
 - Why: low-cost, high-yield way to pay for Maple programs
 - How: during the month of November we will directly ask families to give to our annual giving campaign. We will send envelopes home in Kid Mail and also set up a PayPal account so parents can give a one-time gift or make a recurring donation. Our goal for 2017 giving is \$7500.
 - When: timeline
 - Oct 19 Multi-Ethnic Dinner– info available and announcement at PTSA booth; small flier to all who purchase Maple Gear; gather email addresses
 - Nov 3 – Campaign Kickoff! Email blast to parents including tax ID for workplace giving; letter and envelope in Kid Mail.
 - Nov 17 – Giving form (one-page flier with ways to give); Email.
 - Nov 30 – Last Day of Fall into Giving campaign! Final email blast.
 - Dec 15 – Thank you letter and email to parents.
- Trivia Night: Wednesday, Nov 8 at The Adventure Hub #115, 2960 4th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98134
 - 21 and over night out
 - \$25 suggested donation
 - Elena Sanchez as MC
 - ASK! All Board members bring appetizer that'll feed 20.

Treasurer Report: Jen Seminarara

- Handout circulated: updated Maple Elementary PTSA Proposed Budget with brief overview of expenses and major income sources.
- Book Fair discussion followed
 - Parent expressed concern about description/information lacking.
 - Lillian Welch to compile questions and forward to Elena Sanchez for the librarian to put together a FAQs document.
 - Clarification: PTSA does not operate or fundraise at the Maple Book Fair. PTSA volunteers are heavily utilized during the Book Fair and all are welcome to volunteer as indicated by the Book Fair flier that went out in Kid Mail this week.
 - Book Fair is open the 45 minutes prior to Multi-Ethnic Dinner (6-7:30pm) on October 19th.

Family Engagement Action Team (FEAT): Daisy Barragon

Description of this year's projects/events:

- Lunar New Year Celebration: February 16; poetry, dance, traditional dress.
- Multicultural Night: change from previous years where Latino and Pilipino nights combined.
- Native Language Read Aloud: once per week in the mornings before school; books read in various languages and all are welcome
- Home Visits: for new Maple families (Kinder not included) where staff welcome and answer questions; ELL staff is leading this effort.
- Literacy event – data driven; 3 nights
 - families with reader at or below grade level are recruited for this program.
 - families and students are given strategies and tools to set goals with their student for real results.
 - ASK! More parents needed for this program; if interested contact Joy Raymond or Daisy Barragon.
 - Agnes Gomez to put this ASK in next newsletter.

Communications - Gitane Versakos

- 2017/18 Communications Goals handout circulated
 - Reach more parents; increase information sharing; improve equitability of communications.
 1. Explain who we are: ½ page info sheet to parents, curriculum night welcome, PTSA Board contact with other parents.
 2. Increase parent directory: membership coordinator support with database development.
 3. Improve translation support; Bilingual parent support on the PTSA.
 4. Increase Info sharing:
 - a. Email – monthly meeting minutes; e-newsletter; volunteer email; event info and other as needed.
 - b. Facebook – currently closed; open for parent to parent info sharing.
 - i. Concerns expressed in meeting regarding rules of engagement with open Facebook format.
 - ii. ASK! Parent moderator of Facebook page.
 - c. Website – continued building of site as resource.
 5. Encourage parent participation and engagement.
 - a. Monthly volunteer emails.
 - b. Facebook and other tools to show appreciation for parent efforts and school events that parents can participate in.
- Newsletter – Agnes Gomez
 - Next newsletter out November 6, last one before New Year.

- Email Agnes 3rd week of October with newsletter content:
agnesagomez@gmail.com
- Volunteer needs – Summer Gallagher
 - Monthly email; see signupgenius (visit <https://www.maplepta.com/volunteer>) to check out Maple opportunities or email Summer summergal828@gmail.com
 - Multi-Ethnic Dinner: pot luck family dinner in gym on October 19, 6-7:30pm.
 - ASK! Volunteers for set-up; clean-up; gear sales; supplying the pods with enough serving utensils; PTSA provides 4-5 trays of Foulee Noddles.
 - Maple Medal Treats – ASK! Volunteers needed every Tuesday to sort 23 treat cups, about 1 hour and supplies are provided; Maple Medal Treats are not allergy-free but allergy-free alternatives are available.
 - D-pod ASK! Tennis balls cut and placed on chair legs in each classroom for noise reduction. Contact Maria Herman msherman@seattleschools.org
 - Literacy Curriculum – ASK! Volunteers for book labelling; ½ 3rd grade to 5th grade boxes still not completed; signupgenius.
 - BoxTop Team – Agnes Gomez; ASK! Team for collection; Joy Raymond and Gitane Versakos volunteered for collection/support team.

Membership Coordinator Update – Erica DeMeerleer

- Presented to the group an online spreadsheet/database with all 154 members.
- Useful to organize member information.
- Next steps: Erica DeMeerleer will
 - contact the 154 members to update/verify contacts
 - work with Summer Gallagher to organize volunteer information
 - coordinate with Gina Englund for website to feature “new member form”

Opportunity: Race and Equity training - Gitane Versakos

- Presented PTSA opportunity planned for early December; several other PTSAs in the area are participating; costs the PTSA between \$350-\$500.
- Jen Seminara to be the Maple contact; more information needed to proceed.

Other: Snacks – Gitane Versakos

- Lunches at Maple begin at 10:45AM.
- Parents are reminded to check with their teachers and students on the snack plan.
 - some pods provide snacks and need donations.
 - other pods have students bring snacks individually.

Next PTSA Meeting: Tuesday, 11/14/17, at 6:30pm in Staff Lounge.

Meeting End time: 8:05PM

Minutes prepared by Nikki Beall, secretary.