

# OceanAvenuePTO

*Engaging People. Building Community.*

## OAPTO Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Dec. 18, 2014

**Time:** 7:30am-8:15pm

**Called by:** Nanette Dyer Blake, OAPTO President

**Number in Attendance:** 20 OAES community members

**Location:** OAES Library

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### I. Welcome/Overview (Nanette Dyer Blake, President)

- The next PTO meeting will be on Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> at 6pm – this will be a social gathering where you can get to know the board and learn about what we do; bring a friend or someone you know from the community
- Nanette reviewed the “Mission and Principles of our Meetings” which are designed to allow for good, orderly discussions around topics
- Thank you to Panera Bread for donating baked goods and refreshments for our meeting

### II. Staff of the Month Recognition (Julie Lannon, Nominating Director)

- The PTO honored the entire 5<sup>th</sup> grade faculty – Mr. Copeland, Mrs. Gurney and Ms. Lapin – for their excellent teamwork and commitment to their students
- In addition to their classroom duties, Mr. Copeland is leading the Civil Rights Club, Mrs. Gurney is leading the Math Team and Ms. Lapin comes in early to eat breakfast with students!
- The nominating process for the Staff of the Month Award is open to the community – please send nominations to Julie Lannon, Nominating Director, at [nominating@oapto.org](mailto:nominating@oapto.org)

### III. Report from Principal (Dr. Coursey)

- Dr. Coursey attended a Side x Side meeting to discuss what teacher leadership will look like once the Side x Side arts enrichment grant is in place; teachers will have professional development in the summer so that artists can come in and show teachers how to integrate art into the classroom
- Students from Cheverus High School will volunteer once a week, using their lunchtime or study periods to come over
- Staff met with the Portland Police Dept. regarding safety planning (i.e., safe place to evacuate, lockdown procedures, etc.); OAES uses a safety model from the district
- The OAES school budget is now unfrozen – there is a new staff person in the PPS Finance Dept. whose aim is not to control the budget, but to manage it
- 4<sup>th</sup> graders will visit with a celebrity chef from Portland Food Services
- A Beach Ed Tech resigned – need to hire another new Ed Tech
- Currently seeking candidates for a half-time ELL position

#### **IV. Approval of the Minutes** (Erica Sabatino, Recording Secretary)

- OAES community members voted to approve the October and November 2014 PTO meeting minutes

#### **V. Budget Update** (Chip Gavin, Treasurer)

- Thank you to everyone who attended the Designing Women Craft Fair – the PTO raised approximately \$1,700
- Our operating account stood at \$24,200 at the end of Nov. and \$4,800 at the end of October as a result of the \$20,000 raised by the Auction
- Look for the Annual Appeal in January asking community members to make a donation to the PTO; the Appeal will be posted on our website and a paper version will follow, probably in the form of a backpack mailer

#### **VI. Shout Out for Stand Outs** (Tobin Scipione, Volunteer Director)

- Thank you to all of the wonderful parents, staff and friends of OAES who volunteered their time over the past month to support our community, help with afterschool activities and make our fundraising efforts a tremendous success!
- **Kiersten Ellis and Margaret Carignan** for coordinating the Original Artworks fundraiser
- **Aviva Shaw, Kiersten Ellis, Rachel Pargeter, Molly Collin, Erin Foley, Alison Gorman, Molly Anderson, Erin Devlin, Allison Frothingham, Cate Gaynor, Jennifer Tuttle, Nicole Gordon, Scott Patterson, David Farmer, Erin Macey, Margaret Carignan, Julianna Myers, Katie Chastain and PTO Board Members Lisa Hicks, Erica Sabatino, Katharine O'Neill, Julie Lannon, Allison Ayan, Nanette Dyer Blake and John Gordon** for cooking and/or volunteering at the Designing Women Craft Fair and helping us raise approximately \$1,700
- **Hannaford** for donating paper goods to the Designing Women Craft Fair
- **Lisa Hicks** for securing bus transportation for the kindergarteners and first graders to attend the Nutcracker performance
- **Ed Tech Lorretta Smith** for distributing Designing Women postcards to the faculty
- **Emily Bruce** for helping Dr. Coursey coordinate a monthly Coffee Talk with parents
- **Roger, the Crossing Guard on Ocean Avenue**, for going above and beyond to keep our families safe

#### **VII. Enrichment Update** (Lisa Hicks, Enrichment Director)

- A 7-week session of afterschool offerings just wrapped up
- Biggest obstacle to offering afterschool programs is not having a bus that can take kids home
- Ukulele Club, soccer, etc. will start after MLK Celebration
- MLK Celebration will be at OAES on Monday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm and will include:
  - A performance by the OAES choir, original poetry from the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and a presentation from the Student Civil Rights Group
  - Workshops: Art with Artists for Social Change, West African Drumming with Annegret Baier and West African dance with Marita Kennedy Castro

- We would love to have the community participate in this celebration

#### **VIII. Community Building Update** (Jeannette Wycoff, Community Building Director)

- Next Walk and Roll is scheduled for Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> and hot cocoa will be provided
- Jeannette would love feedback from teachers on how the PTO can work with you – Math Night, STEM activities, Craft Fair, supporting teacher-led activities, etc.
- Green Club:
  - This is a new free activity for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders that meets every other Monday – next meeting is on Jan. 12th
  - There are indoor and outdoor activities planned so that students can help take care of the school year-round; students are working on making birdfeeders for the garden
- David Kutcha, Grounds Committee Chair and head of the Green Club, is happy to visit classrooms and talk about gardening
- Please share your ideas with Jeannette on how we can do a better job on building community at [community@oapto.org](mailto:community@oapto.org)

#### **IV. Communication**

- We would love staff support with promoting the online family directory which is a great resource for finding and accessing families; parents, make sure you update your child's info. every year
- There are 480 people on the PTO distribution list – teachers, please let Katharine know if you would like to include any information on the website or in the weekly email blast which comes out every Wed.

#### **X. Raffle**

- Two gift certificates to Buoy Local were raffled off at the end of the meeting

#### **XI. Adjourn**