

# Ocean Avenue PTO

*Engaging People. Building Community.*

## OAPTO Meeting Minutes

**Date:** October 4, 2016

**Time:** 6:00pm-7:30pm

**Called by:** Ben Grant, OAPTO President

**Number in Attendance:** 21 OAES community members

**Location:** OAES Library

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### I. Welcome (Ben Grant)

- Board member and staff introductions
- Ben referenced the "Be Heard" rules followed at PTO meetings

### II. Approval of the Minutes (Ben for Julie Soule)

- OAES community members voted to approve the September PTO meeting minutes as written

### III. SidexSide presentation

- SidexSide is funded by a government grant, teaching artists come into the classrooms and work alongside teachers to integrate arts into the existing curriculum
- An outline of the programs that SidexSide will be bringing into the classrooms this year was circulated (programs are specific to each grade, and range in art type – visual, filmmaking, theater, sculpture)
- SidexSide is always in need of parent volunteers for extra hands in the classrooms

### IV. Budget presentation (Ben Grant and Aviva Shaw)

- Copies of the 2016-2017 school year PTO budget were circulated and reviewed by members
- Fundraising overview
  - Primary fundraising activity is the auction (\$10,000 budgeted as sponsorship, \$13,500 in income from the auction event), other fundraising includes Close Buy catalog
- Expense overview
  - 34% community building events, 15% for school and classroom supplies, 36% enrichment (during and after school), 8-9% auction costs
  - PTO also pays for Ruth's Reusable subscription
- Members approved the 2016-2017 budget as proposed

### V. Auction Update (Victoria)

- Sponsorship goal this year of \$10,000, currently at \$7500 (there is a small sponsorship committee working on sponsorship)
- Expenses last year were approximately \$2500, this year costs will be around \$1000

- New venue this year - Woodfords club (conveniently located close to the school, plenty of parking), potluck style, goal of having more of our community participate in the event
- Victoria needs parent help with teacher features (coordinating with teachers), and classroom baskets (one parent per grade to collect gift basket items and assemble into a basket)
- Jeanette Wycoff discussed the children's art features and could use parent volunteers to help with these items
- Auction event is on a Saturday night this year

#### **VI. Close Buy Catalogue (Aviva)**

- Close Buy catalogs have gone home in backpacks
- OAPTO took a break from Close Buy for a couple of years and is bringing it back this – there are now lots of new products in the catalogs since we've last done the Close Buy fundraiser
- 30% of orders go to PTO
- Ordering online is the best/easiest way to do it, orders of \$70 and above get shipped to the buyers home
- School pick up day for orders will be end of November/beginning of December
- Sale ends 10/19
- Goal is \$4000 in fundraising
- Original artworks is the other fundraiser that PTO does, it will be happening around March

#### **V. Enrichment Update (Lisa)**

- Goal of enrichment to do an in-school enrichment activity for each grade
- Partnership with MAMM – a grant was received to do songwriting workshops again with every grade this year, MAMM wrote a grant to sponsor a rock choir this year
- A large percentage of PTO enrichment expenses goes to field trips and busses (especially 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grades)
- Lisa is working on after school enrichment for the Fall
- After school enrichment plan is to provide all activities on Wednesdays and provide bus transportation home (will start with a pilot of 4 Wednesdays, and still keep some activities on Tues/Thurs at first)
  - Lisa circulated information on the upcoming activities – including art making K-2 (with artists for social change), science club with Mr. DeCarlo, West African drumming and dance, ukulele, rock choir, acting and improv, ballet and creative movement, homework club, chess (possibly – don't currently have a volunteer)
- Lisa welcomes parent ideas (a suggestion was made for cursive learning)

#### **VI. Community Closet update (Chris)**

- Chris discussed the new clothing closet expansion – PTO has been asked to clear out the room across from the cafeteria and organize/set it up to store clothing donations which will be given away to needy families in the school and new recently immigrated school families
- Nancy, Julie and Chris have been working on the initial setup of the room
- Will need some volunteers to run/spearhead this project once the room is established, maintaining it should be fairly easy/a little work once per week keeping it organized

#### **VII. New Business**

- Tim discussed “shoveling for seniors” with Back Cove Neighborhood Association – if anyone would like to sponsor a senior or knows of a senior in need of sidewalk snow removal they can get in touch with him
- Tim introduced the idea of having a student board – Mr. Williams (Ed tech at OAE) has helped Tim’s son Thomas elaborate on this idea and present it to Dr. Coursey, Tim asked if there were any parents interested in serving in an advisory role
  - First proposed idea the kids had is a “Save the Bees” project
- Ben and Lisa responded to a question about a recent meeting with the Portland Education foundation. PEF is currently reaching out to all of the PTO’s in Portland. PEF is another non-profit funding source for school related projects – teachers can apply for grants to enhance their curricula. They also focus on district-wide projects. Ben hopes to have them come to a future PTO meeting.

## **VII. Adjourn**