

**Discovery Elementary School PTSA 2.6.9**  
**General Membership Minutes**  
**September 24, 2013**  
**Unapproved**

**In Attendance**

Attendance sheet is on file as an attachment to September 24, 2013 General Membership minutes in the PTSA General Meeting Agenda and Minutes 2013-2014 binder.

**Quorum was present.**

**Location: Discovery Elementary Library**

**Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Meeting was called to order by Lynne Hickman at 7:04pm.

**Guest Speaker: Brian Deagle from ISF & Susanne Weaver from ISF and VIS**

About 20% of District's operating budget comes from levies. Three different levies are up for renewal by voters (they will individually cover costs of classroom maintenance, technology upgrades, and busses). If passed, they will increase the homeowners' taxes slightly to compensate for growth in enrollment and aging tech.

VIS is Volunteers for Issaquah Schools and is the organization asking voters to approve the levies.

VISvote.org is the website that is promoting the yes vote and provides information (along with ISF's website). From VIS's site, people can sign up to volunteer and/or donate to the passage of the levies.

**Review of Minutes**

Reviewed and approved the minutes from May 21, 2013 General Membership meeting.

**Reports**

**President's Report - Lynne Hickman**

- Introduced the PTSA's goals.
- Explained the differences between ISF (Issaquah School Funds) and the PTSA – ISF covers the whole District while our PTSA covers only the needs of Discovery.
  - An example of ISF programs is the Voice Mentor program which provides an unrelated adult mentor to kids struggling in any social, familial, or educational crisis.
  - Examples of PTSA programs include, but are not limited to, Art Docent classes, Movie Matinees, Taste of Discovery, Spelling Bees, Talent Shows, and Parent Ed Nights.

**Vice President's Report - Caarin Hilliker**

- We currently have 410 registered PTSA members to date with a target of 550 for 100% student/parent representation.

**Secretary's Report - Sarah Manningsmith**

- Nothing to Report

**Treasurer's Report - Ruth Chin & Dee Camp**

- A Financial Review (by Ruth and Stephanie) was completed in July with no changes.
- The Board met in May to approve the preliminary budget with no changes.

### **VP of Programs - Mari Stevens**

- Walk-A-Thon is coming up next week along with several smaller events like Movie Matinee & Taste of Discovery. All events are listed on the PTSA's calendar found on the website.

### **VP of Volunteers - Jenn Rankin**

- Chairs are needed for Movie Matinee and the Food & Beverage Committee.
- Popcorn Fridays are coming up the Friday after WAT. They still need volunteers to help run the weekly program.
- Hearing & Vision Screening is coming up on Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – 10 additional people are needed in the afternoon shift.
- More information will be provided closer to the programs that are scheduled for later in the year.

### **VP of Communications – Stephanie Raines**

- Facebook is a great way to stay connected on a more frequent basis since the school is pulling back on the Week at a Glance email blasts.
- Stephanie will be looking into making the Facebook page more secure and private.

### **VP of Fundraising - Erin Sebo**

- The WAT is our major fundraising program.
- Passive fundraising is an easy way for the school to get kickbacks from shopping.
  - Safeway Club Card
  - Target Red Card
  - Office Depot
  - Bartell's
  - Box Tops
  - Coming Soon Amazon!
- A suggestion was made to add Smith Brother's.

### **Walk A Thon – Rowena Lum**

- Things are moving along smoothly, but we are desperately in need of volunteers with a about 50% of positions filled. Not only can parents volunteer, but high school and middle school kids can earn community service hours as well.
- Spirit Week will be the week leading up the event.

### **Parent Ed - Mari Stevens**

- We will try to have workshops and information nights every other month on Tuesday or Thursday nights.
  - One topic Mari is working on is the transition between elementary and middle school.

### **Principal's Report - Tera Coyle**

- We were blessed with new staffing funds that allowed us to hire several new teachers and build very small, intimate classes that will create great learning environments for students.
- The school's website is a great source of information including websites from each teacher.

### **Teacher Representative - Kim Hand**

- This year we received a new writing curriculum for K-5. Teachers will begin rolling out 2-3 units within the curriculum by the end of October. The idea is to raise the level of expertise in writing. This is a very intense program and will take a while to adjust, but it is a great plan and will increase the students' overall skill levels.

## **Current Business**

- PTSA Goals for 2013-2014 are four major bullet points that aim to help bridge any gap between parents, kids, and the school. Motion to approve the goals made by Caarin Hilliker and seconded by Jenn Rankin. Motion passed.
- PTSA Budget for 2013-2014. No changes or amendments were made since the preliminary budget was approved in May. Motion to approve the budget was made by Juliet Dixon and seconded by Erin Sebo. Motion passed.
- PTSA Standing Rules for 2013-2014 are the basic rules by which the PTSA functions. No changes have been made to this year's rules. Motion made to pass the rules by Jenn Rankin and seconded by Juliet Dixon. Motion passed.
- PTSA Calendar for 2013-2014 also approved at the May meeting with the only addition being the Taste of Discovery being November 6<sup>th</sup>. A date for Literacy Night and Talent Show are not set yet, but will be added when finalized. Motion made to pass the calendar made by Meg Sloan and seconded by Caarin Hilliker. Motion passed.
  - A question was raised as to why we are only having 3 meetings this year. Lynne discussed the issue of attendance and feedback coming through surveys.
- Vote made to have the PTSA endorse the upcoming levies called by Lynne Hickman.
  - 26 yes
  - 0 no

## **Upcoming Dates to Remember**

- Walk A Thon Friday, Oct 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:45
- Legislative Assembly October 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> at the SeaTac Marriott
- Taste of Discovery Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm

Meeting adjourned 8:24pm