

# Jefferson Parents and Teachers (JPAT)

General Meeting

Tuesday October 10, 2006 – 6:30 p.m.

A copy of these minutes may be obtained from JPAT website at <http://www.CorvallisPTA.org/>

**Call to Order:** President Jeff Brandt called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. Board members present were Jeff Brandt, Susan Hetherington and Peter Gelser. Cat Newsheller was not present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Laurie Chaplen moved to accept the September 12th, 2006 minutes, with typographic corrections noted. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Principal's Report:** Denise Gorthy presented an information sheet (*see attached*) regarding the upcoming ballot measure, Local Option Levy 02-58. Budget cuts have been seen each year since 1990, not due to enrollment, but due to less moneys available for the schools. This levy provides an opportunity for the community to support local schools in Corvallis. She asked the JPAT members to spread the word amongst friends, family and other Jefferson parents to discuss the measure and what it could provide for the schools. Kristin Erickson noted that some voters might be confused about the exact cost to the taxpayer, and suggested referring voters to the 509J website ([www.csd509j.net](http://www.csd509j.net)). The online calculator helps to estimate the cost per taxpayer.

Also presented was an updated version of the 509J District Improvement Plan (*see attached*). Goals specifically noted in the plan include:

- district focus on literacy K-12 as a whole
- building improvements to coincide with educational goals
- a 70% growth target within three years; an individual target vs. a standard target
- school improvement and staff development

**President's Report:** Jeff Brandt presented the 2006-2007 Standing Rules for approval. Kristin Erickson made a motion to approve the Standing Rules, with an amendment to delete the position of co-vice president. The motion was seconded and approved.

Jeff also announced that the JPAT website ([www.corvallisPTA.org/JPAT](http://www.corvallisPTA.org/JPAT)) is being updated slowly. He would be getting together with Martin Main this week to see what areas need further attention.

**Financial Report:** Peter Gelser provided an updated budget report (*see attached*). An oversight from the preliminary budget in June has increased the budget for Support for Teachers from \$10,800 to \$12,300.

It was also noted that there have been no receipts submitted for the Welcome Coffee in September. Whether or not this was intentional, committee chair Karen Faux was to be contacted.

Discussion further ensued about frustrations with the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation. All moneys donated to Jefferson is run first through the Foundation and

then dispersed into individual accounts for use. Members discussed ideas to possibly move independently from the Foundation for next year's Direct Donation Drive.

Box Tops for Education can be given to Joanne in the office. Campbell's Labels are also collected by Joanne, to be given to the middle school of your choice.

Music update: Denise Gorthy would be talking to Carole Nelson next week, as she is still exploring options for the \$8,000 in designated funds for music. She is looking for alternate options for music, such as the 5th grade musical and/or special programs. Denise also noted that if the Local Option Levy 02-58 passes in November, the music program will increase to 2 times per week, so the \$8,000 could be possibly used elsewhere.

**Committee Reports:**

Family Game Night - Laurie Chaplen spoke of behalf of Laurie Lewis, stating that all was in place for the event on Nov. 3rd, however anyone interested in volunteering may contact her directly at [laurie.lewis@oregonstate.edu](mailto:laurie.lewis@oregonstate.edu).

Dine Out: A Dine Out event has been scheduled for Oct. 19th at El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant, with 25% proceeds going to Jefferson. The event is from 11am to 10pm, no flyer is needed.

Direct Donation Drive: Peter Loschl reported that the DDD mailers should be going out next week. He is still looking to fill the chair vacancy for next year.

**General Information:** *Local Option Levy 02-58, Measures 41 & 48:* Peter Gelser reported that there is a canvassing event on Oct. 21 9am at Linus Pauling Middle School, a day after the ballots are mailed. Anyone interested in volunteering their time on that day are welcome, by partnering up and walking the neighborhoods for 2-3 hours helping to provide information about the levy. Measure 41 will decrease state funds by 6% retroactively. Measure 48 would only allow the state budget to increase due to a combination of population growth and national inflation rate. It is also a constitutional amendment, thus very difficult to reverse in the future if unsuccessful.

**New Business:** None

**Unfinished Business:** Manuela Huso, chair of the Jefferson T-Shirt Design Committee, questioned JPAT members on what type of design is wanted for the Jefferson t-shirt. The jaguar illustration by Deian Moore for the DDD seemed to be the overwhelming choice. Manuela also inquired whether to make all the t-shirts the same or to make in various colors. Laurie Chaplen was to provide Manuela with an e-mail list of contacts for the t-shirts, as well Andrea Surfleet's e-mail, who is the T-Shirt Sales chair.

**New Business:** Upcoming JPAT events:

Book Fair Oct. 25-27 - in the Gym; it was requested that Denise try to keep the book fair in the gym, rather than the library, so that it is more visible to buyers during parent conferences. An option is to change the configuration on the gym floor, so as to not interfere with Tom Heath.

Food Drive - November 1st through November 24th

Family Game Night - November 3rd in the Gym. This is a true community building event--an extension of the game night at home, only with lots of Jefferson families!

Denise Gorthy announced that Tom Heath will be the recipient of the Oregon PE Teacher of the Year by Oregon Association of PE Teachers, on Oct. 13. The staff was recently surprised with this announcement and had a celebration. A donation of \$200 has been given by JPAT to make a banner to put in the front of the school.

Peter Loschl suggested the creation of a jaguar window decal as a thank you for being a Jefferson supporter and donor to JPAT. He would be looking into the costs involved for this.

Martin Main noted that committee members must e-mail him with new information to be published on the JPAT website, as he does not actively seek new information. He may be contacted at [Martin.Main@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Martin.Main@oregonstate.edu). Susan Hetherington would be e-mailing committee chairs to this effect.

**Adjournment:** Jeff Brandt adjourned the meeting at 7:38pm.

**Next Meeting Date – Tuesday, November 14th, 6:30pm in the Jefferson Library**