

Jefferson Parents and Teachers (JPAT)

General Meeting

Tuesday November 14, 2006 – 6:30 p.m.

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

Call to Order: Vice-President Cat Newsheller called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Board members present were Cat Newsheller, Susan Hetherington and Peter Gelser. President Jeff Brandt had an excused absence from the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Kristin Erickson moved to accept the October 10th, 2006 minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded and approved.

Principal's Report: Denise Gorthy announced that the computer lab adjacent to the library is almost complete. The November Parent Coffee is scheduled for November 15th, where she will be presenting a video about parenting. Family Game Night earlier in the month had about 40 people participating. Next event in the Gym is the Multicultural Celebration.

When asked how the Local Option Levy 02-58 will specifically affect Jefferson, Denise reported that both music and physical education will be supported by district funds, 2 times per week. Also, the district will be adding a .5 Reading Assistant per school, although it is still being discussed as to what exactly that is to entail for each school. At the middle school and high school level, the levy will allow for the addition of classroom teachers in core subjects in order to reduce class sizes. Support for athletic programs as well as extended learning opportunities will also be available. Specifically for the 2007-2008 school year, it will still remain to be seen how the budget will look for next year, but the levy can take some pressure off of fundraising by JPAT.

At the heart of the evening's discussion was Denise's scenarios on how to spend the \$8,000 (*see attached*). It was by overwhelming agreement that the funds be used to benefit every student at Jefferson. Lively discussions ensued about ways to combine scenarios in order to get the most out of the funds. While it was agreed that all the scenarios were valid and important to the school, Denise noted that it was the underlying agreement that the funds were originally raised for art and music. After much discussion amongst members present, Marisa Chappell made a motion to add an additional day of music from March thru June (option 4) and the Artist in Residence through June (option 9). The motion was seconded and approved (vote 11 yeas, 4 nays).

President's Report: Since Jeff was not present at the meeting, there was no report.

Financial Report: Peter Gelser presented the JPAT Budget (*see attached*) to date, noting that Scrip sales are down 10% year-to-date in total sales. Cat Newsheller said she would be talking to Scrip chair Ann Blegan about possible ways to increase advertising to Jefferson families.

Committee Reports:

Holiday Food Drive: Cat Newsheller announced that due to a late start with the Fall Food Drive, it had been renamed to Holiday Food Drive and extended through

December 22nd. There is a collection box in the entryway and flyers being distributed to the classrooms.

Direct Donation Drive: Erin Sneller spoke on behalf of Peter Loschl, reporting that the drive is currently at \$12,020 -- 75% of goal of \$16,000. There have been 56 contributors to the drive; 44 more families are needed to achieve the goal of 100 participating families. The anonymous donor matching program of \$30 for every \$75 received ends November 14th.

Multicultural Celebration: Cat Newsheller spoke on behalf of Sheryl Stuart, announcing the Multicultural potluck event on Thursday, December 7th from 6-8pm in the Gym. There will be four activity tables and an after dinner program. Sheryl will be needing volunteers to help with the event, and can be reached at ssuart@earthlink.net.

Jefferson T-Shirts: Andrea Surfleet spoke on behalf of Manuela Huso, announcing that the Jefferson T-shirt design for 2006-2007 will be featuring the jaguar painting by Deian Moore and should be ready for viewing very soon. Order forms will be distributed to each class, and through the JPAT announce list serve as well, and the actual t-shirts will be distributed before the winter break in December. Andrea also noted that since the T-shirts are a community builder event, and is not a fundraiser for the school, it was requested that any profits be directed to the art program fund. A motion was made by Denise Gorthy to have any proceeds arising from the sales of the Jefferson t-shirts be directed to the art program. The motion was seconded and approved.

Unfinished Business: Fall Book Fair sales totalled \$1300.

New Business: None

Upcoming Events: The JPAT Newsletter is being condensed to a December/January edition, rather than two separate ones, on account of the busy holiday season and winter break. All submissions through the end of January need to be submitted to Brenda VanDevelder at davinci@davinci-days.org by November 17th.

Adjournment: Cat Newsheller adjourned the meeting at 7:52pm.

Next Meeting Date – Tuesday, December 12th, 6:30pm in the Jefferson Library