

Jefferson Parents and Teachers (JPAT) General Meeting

Tuesday, February 7, 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 6:32pm. All officers were present.

Approval of Minutes

Cat Newsheller moved to accept the January 10, 2006 minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Principal's Report

Denise Gorthy handed out brochures "Raising Tweens" that provide basic information on raising children age 9-12. She announced the two free evening workshops at Linus Pauling on raising children done by Dale Meyers this week. She also noted that tomorrow the school buses would be running 15 minutes late due to a field trip and that the Kindergarten registration would start on March 1st instead of the 13th. The deadline for Kindergarten registration would not change.

Denise handed out a sheet on the proposed district open enrollment policy and the current enrollment school projections. She discussed how funding of schools is based on an equivalent total of students with weighting and that funds for each school are received in mid-September. The district is proposing closing Inavale and the change in the open enrollment policy is to address the growing disparity of number of students at the middle and high school level. The group discussed the open enrollment change, the effect on Jefferson Elementary, school boundaries and various other school district issues. Denise noted the final decision on the closing of Inavale and the open enrollment policy would be made at the February 27th district school board meeting.

Denise discussed the Gazette Times article about the bond funds that are coming to Jefferson to repair heating/AC systems, parking lot expansion and playground surface and equipment upgrades.

President's Report

Jeff passed out the districts information on the open enrollment proposed changes. Jeff discussed that everyone needs to come together to provide input to the district and would like a JPAT committee to become an advocate to highlight the district wide accomplishments. The group discussed the proposed changes and Denise Gorthy discussed the definition of the building caps, based on the number of available classrooms minus 3 rooms for general use and the 28-30 average number of students currently in classrooms. She also discussed the feasibility of enrollment boundary changes. She noted that last year 50% of Kindergarten students were transferred in and now it is at 74% this year. The group discussed the impacts of the open enrollment changes and the effects on Jefferson and students moving into middle school.

Financial Report

Sheryl Stuart reviewed the current financial standing of JPAT. The beginning balance was \$9,659 with higher than expected expenses (auction software, sock hop and high copy machine costs). The ending balance was \$8,722. She also noted there was \$250 in T-Shirt expenditures from an extra production run and that not all the bills had been completed. She also discussed the funds coming from the Foundation no total \$8,400 YTD. Laurie will pursue having the copy machine's JPAT code changed to assist in tracking the JPAT copy account. There was discussion on how the Direct Donation funds have been bucketed in the Foundation's system. Pete Loschl will discuss with the Foundation to have all funds that came in during the direction donation drive that were in the spirit of the drive be reflected as direct donation funds.

Committee Reports

Sock Hop - The group noted the Sock Hop was a very nice well run event this year and all participants were pleased.

Jog-A-Thon – Lisa Tosberg provided an overview of this week’s Jog-a-Thon on Thursday and Friday. She has calls into teachers and room reps in order to get some last minute needed volunteers. Otherwise it was all set to go.

Carnival – Mary Ann Sward discussed the progress and organization of the upcoming Carnival on March 10th. She noted for all the main areas, people are in place and organized. Kate B. is doing the Cake Walk, Gail H. is doing the inflatables etc... She discussed that each class will be hosting an event as every year and that on Friday the classroom reps would be finding out the event and will be in charge of finding class volunteers. The flyer for the carnival would be going out on Friday and to teachers on Thursday. She noted there would be no candy prizes, for which the group was happy about. Mary Ann noted that there would not be a raffle due to IRS regulations; the miniature Golf would be in the Library. She also noted that wristbands would be sold for \$8 and would be good only on the games. The food prices will cost the same amount as last year and the 5th Grade class will be having a fundraiser. Ticket and wristband sales will be the Wednesday – Friday prior to the Carnival.

Auction – Karen M. confirmed the Auction will be on Saturday April 22nd. She thanked JPAT for the additional funds to cover the unexpected cost of the auction software. Her goal is to make the auction a ‘night-out’ for adults. There will be live music, wine tasting along with a silent auction and also a live auction (auctioning children’s art which is being organized by Claudia Hall). The theme will be “Reach for the Stars” with tables named after famous authors, artists ect... She is hoping to complete negotiations with the Unitarian Fellowship Church over the cost of renting the facility and if negotiations fail, then she has backup venues. Gail is working on finding childcare for parents the night of the auction as there will be no kids at the event. An auction mailbox in the mailroom has been setup to organize the auction mail. Karen is planning on getting information to parents regarding donations and Mr. Phillips has already donated taking 4 kids to the Soup Shop.

Nominating Committee – Laurie announced that she was almost done contacting all current volunteers and that the committee would be starting recruitment of open positions.

New Business – None

Unfinished Business - None

Adjournment

Jeff adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm

Next Meeting Date – Tuesday, March 14th, 2006 6:30pm in the Jefferson Library