

# Abernethy PTA Board Meeting

---

Date:9/13/2016

## Attendees:

<b>Jim Kohler</b>	<b>Cecily Murray</b>	<b>Abby Bokman</b>
<b>Lisa Delaney</b>	<b>Rose Hurner</b>	<b>Kari Brooks Copony</b>
<b>Murielle Adair</b>	<b>Amanda DeMoss</b>	<b>Sarah Warren</b>
<b>Kirsten Isaacson</b>	<b>Stephanie Hart</b>	<b>Rene Hendricks</b>
<b>Jenifer Leider</b>	<b>Beth Cavanaugh</b>	<b>Rachel Haas</b>
<b>Shonda Laborde</b>	<b>Leah Woods</b>	<b>Julia Silverman</b>

## Agenda:

1) **Call to Order – 7:07**

2) *Approval of Minutes (N/A)*

3) **Officers & Committee Reports**

a) **Introductions**

i) Each attendee introduced themselves and stated their PTA role.

b) **Finance Committee**

i) New reports – Amanda & Lisa presented a printed report (attached to these minutes) and asked for questions.

(1) They pointed out the GAP income and expense is different than what was in the approved budget because the program expanded this year to double in size, so both expense and income will be higher than anticipated during the budget approval cycle last spring.

(2) There are still some uncategorized expenses that resulted from QB version switches (we went from the desktop version to the online version this summer. These will be recategorized.

Q: Can we use Peachjar?

A: *We need to follow up on how to send things out via Peachjar (find out process and possible expense).* Another related district provided system, School Pay, is being used by some in district now. We will also look at that for next year as a possible replacement for Shopify.

Q: Can Jenifer get updated account numbers?

A: Yes, Amanda will send.

ii) Budget v. Actual update

(1) We are forecasting net income this year- will need to discuss where that money goes as the year progresses.

**c) Membership**

- i) Sign up progress update – 190 members, entered in the roster as of today.
- ii) PTA info table- was this worth it at the beginning of the year?
  - (1) There were a few sign ups and a few people who came by with questions. We should publicize this better if we do it again.
  - (2) Can we do a table on curriculum night? Possibly, but may not be much traffic. Curriculum night will be classroom teacher presentations – 2 through the night starting at 6 and then TAG presentation.

**d) Communications**

- i) Beth Cavanaugh is now part of the team – a nominated Co-Chair.
- ii) Monday Mailer update - Abby does this each week and it's going well so far this year.
- iii) New communications proposed: (Beth to do both of these)
  - (1) PTA Digest – to PTA members only. Need to figure out content and frequency (needs to be different than Monday Mailer) Perhaps do a digest a week prior to each community meeting? *Lists for PTA mailing will be available through Leah and Rene.*
  - (2) Room Parent Mailing – to all Room Parents. Will act as communication tree when the PTA needs assistance reaching families. *Lists for room parent mailing are available through Angie.*
    - Q: what are the social media outlets – should we combine what's out there now?
    - A: There are several FB's, etc. that we should consolidate. Need to figure out how to consolidate for effective PTA communication and easier usage by parents/families.

**e) Tour de Ladd**

- i) Event will be Oct 5<sup>th</sup>. Doing everything the same as previous year, but no pledges online. Instead this will be done like the fun run was last year with a paper form. Committee has submitted the paperwork for street closures and are now filling volunteer positions. Forecasting same income as last year; but each year we typically grow. Pledge forms to go out next week. Families can register online for kids to participate in the event for signature waiver.

**f) SKG/GAP**

- i) Expanded GAP from 15 to 30, with 3 teachers. A lot of beginning of year movement, but things are smooth. Team is trying to connect garden teacher and afterschool teacher more than happened last year and that seems promising. Forecasting good profit for school ~\$25K this year.
- ii) Great new garden instructor.
- iii) SKG got the big supplies that were requested earlier.
  - Q: Will there be additional investment in the program this year given the profit?
  - A: Probably will hold steady, given previous investments, but this will be determined through the year as budget is reviewed.

**g) Harvest Social**

- i) Harvest Social will be Oct 7<sup>th</sup>. Theme: Passport system thru stations; apple tasting, scavenger hunt, veg prints, preserve swap. Hopefully Barbara (Café Lead) will be involved with Julie (Garden Instructor). Fun casual, kid event to celebrate the garden.

**h) Grounds**

- i) Clean up day was good, great involvement. Cleaned up construction debris, so was good timing. PPS doesn't do much for grounds – adopt-a-plot still going on (where families sign up to take stewardship of an area of the school grounds). *Could GAP take over the cob bench*

*area for native garden and nature trail? Could classes adopt plots instead of families? Perhaps that would be more successful?*

**i) PTA Closet**

- i) Located next to AP's office. Need to clear this out- committees need to take your stuff out or it will be trashed. Spanish is taking over the bookshelves there. There is space in the basement if needed, or please keep materials at volunteer houses.
- ii) Look in this closet if you have any events- there are coffee/food supplies that could supply many events. Don't buy anything before you check the inventory here.

**4) Unfinished Business (N/A)**

**5) New Business**

**a) Standing Rules 2016-2017 review**

- i) Leah reviewed the draft of the revised standing rules that will be presented at the community meeting for membership approval.
- ii) Pointed out major changes: Board member attendance requirement for meetings, board member responsibilities, voting procedures for board members and general members. (Copy of standing rules draft attached to these minutes).

Q: What is the community meeting supposed to be?

A: This periodic meeting is a PTA requirement. It's a forum for membership to interact. These can also serve as service type programs (e.g. birds and bees talk, race talks). We need to know from membership what they want so these meetings can be programmed appropriately. They should always incorporate school info & PTA info and this should be content driven by membership.

**b) First Community Meeting agenda**

- i) Info from Heather for this year.
- ii) Standing Rules.
- iii) Measure 97 wants to speak. We must only present the yes side of this measure since the OR PTA has endorsed it. Should we invite them to speak at the first meeting? The board discussed: Does it present a problem for us to not present both sides of this measure to the community? Would it be enough to just explain why we can't? Would people appreciate being able to ask questions about the measure from a rep (even if it's just a rep for the "Yes" side? Would it be off-putting to have a political issue take up time at our first meeting?

(1) After discussion, Leah Woods made a **MOTION** to invite "Yes on 97" to present at the first community meeting on 9/29. Rene Hendricks seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion failed with 3 yea votes and 5 nay votes, so we'll pass on this topic for the first community meeting.

**6) Announcements**

**a) Board member PTA sign up**

- i) Board members are required to be PTA members, so all board members need to remember to sign up and pay their dues if they have not done so already.

**b) Standing Committee rosters**

- i) All committee chairs need to send Leah their committee member rosters at their earliest convenience: [leahwoods1027@gmail.com](mailto:leahwoods1027@gmail.com)

**7) Program/Speaker (N/A)**

**8) Open Forum**

**a) Julia Silverman, second grade parent. Letter writing campaign regarding 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class size.**

- i) Second grade has written 57 letters to PPS. This is a bubble class: K was 4 classes, in 1<sup>st</sup> it was 3. Last year the grade level got more instructional time from Julie- got pull outs for special needs and TAG. There are currently 28-30 students per class. Parents were requested to write an edited form letter (provided by Julia) to Sascha Parons (Heather's boss), to ask for district payback for the teacher funding that the PTA provided. The campaign hoped that this money will be used for an EA more focused on 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.
- ii) It was noted that this type of campaign has happened before and was how we paid for Julie Miller.
- iii) Currently waiting to hear more information- PPS responded that they are looking closely at the situation. Class size is a huge issue - parents are advocating for 3 classes with extra support. Would love 4 classes, but with space and budget issues, it seems more likely that we could get extra support for the 3 classes.

**9) Adjournment**

- a) Jim Kohler made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Kirsten Isaacson seconded.
- b) **VOTE:** Unanimous. Meeting adjourned 9:02.

**Highlights denote items requiring follow up at the next meeting.**

**Minutes as written APPROVED by PTA Board at 10/11/2016 Meeting.**



Leah Woods  
Abernethy PTA Secretary