

# Abernethy PTA Board Meeting

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Date: 11/15/2016

## Attendees:

<b>Jim Kohler</b>	<b>Bobbi Jo Yarborough</b>	<b>Abby Bokman</b>
<b>Lisa Delaney</b>	<b>Stephanie Hart</b>	<b>Ryan Gibson</b>
<b>Kirstin Isaacson</b>	<b>Sarah Warren</b>	<b>Rene Hendricks</b>
<b>Shonda Laborde</b>	<b>Leah Woods</b>	<b>2 PTA General Members</b>

## Agenda:

- 1) **Call to Order** - 7:07pm by Jim Kohler
  
- 2) **Approval of Minutes** –
  - a) Lisa Delaney made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the October 11<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Abby Bokman seconded.  
**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously.
  
- 3) **Officers & Committee Reports**
  - a) **Finance Committee** –
    - i) Amanda not present, so financials will be updated this week and sent out per Lisa.
    - ii) A lot of cash coming in right now between fundraisers
    - iii) TDL exceeded last year's numbers
    - iv) Basketball turn out ridiculously good
    - v) In general finances are looking good
  - b) **Annual Appeal update** –
    - i) Ryan: 2/3 through the fundraiser, ends next Tuesday
    - ii) 61% of cards back total, seems light, but donations are up. We're at \$68K so far.
    - iii) Will go to classroom parents now to get help with focusing on emailing those families who have not returned their envelope yet.
    - iv) Online donations way up this year, monthly are up too, but not as much as he'd hoped
    - v) Teachers requested there be no class specific competition- it was anxiety producing for kids last year- so instead it is by grade level.
    - vi) Hopefully the end amount will beat last year.
  - c) **Holiday Shoppe update** –
    - i) Tomorrow is craft night at new venue, 201 SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave: World Headquarters across from Portland Wine Storage
    - ii) 22 people have signed up plus 10 verbal, so should be a substantial crowd
    - iii) Holiday Shoppe is December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at school.
    - iv) Need new committee chair(s), so Shonda and Jenifer will put feelers out.
    - v) There was a question about how long this had been a tradition at Abernethy; Shonda did

some research and found this has been going on since at least 1978.

**d) Other Committee/Officer updates**

- i) OBOB: registration is closed. There will be 18 teams, down from last year and the year before. 2015 had 22 teams and 2014 had 37 teams.
- ii) SKG: Hotlips fundraiser tonight. Still having a lot of GAP turn over.
- iii) Auction: Kick off meeting will be last week of Nov. watch for an email invitation. The event is March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**4) Unfinished Business**

- a) Volunteer gaps update; have any positions requested since last month been filled?  
Results: Have not found billing specialist and need this ASAP; need to redescribe to emphasize the ease of the role, and send out requests using alternative methods in addition to the MM.
- b) Follow up on how to send things out via Peachjar (find out process and possible expense). We need a mini-project (special committee) to analyze SchoolPay/Shopify/QuickBooks to figure out how we should best use these tools.  
Results: Putting together a group for this. Julie has reached out to the district regarding SchoolPay, we do know that SchoolPay is done by PPS, no parent access; it does have recurring donation functionality like Shopify, but unsure where other functionality gaps may be.
- c) Need to research possible alternative pledge systems (e.g. firstgiving.com) to streamline donations for events like TDL.  
Results: This item will be rolled into overall finance special project.
- d) Jen is going to ask Heather what to do about the Cob Bench: if she wants to replace/keep.  
Results: None yet- will roll over to next month.
- e) Any updates on new afterschool program options?  
Results: This effort is suspended for now. The parents who initiated this are waiting to see what happens with new 2<sup>nd</sup> grade extra assistance to see if it's necessary.

**5) New Business**

- a) New P/T FTE started this week.
  - i) Everyone is excited about new help.
  - ii) Time assignments have not been confirmed with PTA, so likely it is the same as described previously.
- b) Heather being asked for staffing information by beginning of year earlier than ever.
  - i) We have already moved events up in the year to satisfy earlier asks, but this is much earlier than it seems we can give a reasonable forecast for PTA funds.
- c) Term review – gathering 'time served' for each elected officer so we know what positions will be open in the new year.
  - i) Membership will likely be open, secretary will be open, VIPPS- Angie at least is done; she handles: communications, room parents, volunteer info.
  - ii) Leah will get this list together and reach out to officers and chairs so we have a complete list of open positions available in the new year to prepare for nominations and elections.  
(1) Should there be a Room parent rep in board meetings? Could this be VIPPS?
- d) There was a flag found on the playground this week, so the school is probing into PPS post-election protests, student attitude, etc. there are some conversations happening in school
  - i) The flag was a product of the weekend, random person placed it there.
  - ii) The Janitor and staff will be more aware so events like this are taken care of before people arrive at school.
- e) November Community Meeting agenda

- i) DBRAC update
- ii) Jenny Morgan will give counseling update
- iii) Thinking of advanced programs/speakers for meetings in the new year

## 6) Announcements

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

## 8) Open Forum

### a) Courageous Conversations About Race

- i) Karen Liao, 4<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students. Last year this group was started. This has been taboo topic, now the group is working as parents:
    - (1) To figure out how to talk to children about race,
    - (2) The history of race,
    - (3) Figure out individual internal biases,
    - (4) Support teachers
  - ii) The group has about 25 people so far – 10-12 people per meeting
  - iii) Have found there is no clarity among our students about what is racist – example of a student describing themselves as half white and half asian and another student saying that was racist.
  - iv) Discussing how should white children feel
    - (1) Hosford parent says cliques form based on feeder schools- Abernethy is more white, so those kids have a reputation for sticking together.
  - v) Goal of the group: serve as resource for community, help people talk about race.
  - vi) Key questions:
    - (1) Race the Power of Illusion film – could this be a community event: 3 parts of 1 hour films?
    - (2) Could we partner with another school (Grout?) with a different profile so our students begin to build relationships with those students before middle school age? Our school probably needs to do some more work before we develop an effective partnership.
    - (3) How do we integrate this conversation with the wider school community- those that aren't stepping forward for the meetings. Start parallel events like showing the movie at a community meeting.
- b) Could we provide PTA childcare during conferences next year?**
- i) Leah will follow up to help coordinate this next fall.
- c) Need an auction tagline, or logo, so send ideas to Stephanie; there won't be a theme.**
- i) It could be for a clear objective (e.g. build gym) – 3 years ago it was 'Come Together'

- 9) **Adjournment** - Kirsten Isaacson made a MOTION to adjourn. Rene Hendricks seconded. VOTE: Motion passed unanimously: Adjourned 9:15pm

Highlights denote items requiring follow up at the next meeting.

**NOTE: These minutes are provided for review and distribution but have not yet been approved by the board.**

Leah Woods  
Abernethy PTA Secretary