

**Kent Area PTSA Council 9.7**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
**November 24, 2014**  
**KSD Admin Center, Board Room**  
**12033 SE 256<sup>th</sup> St, Kent WA**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by President Juliet Perry. Proper notice was given, quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Juliet Perry

Minutes from the October 2015 General Membership Meeting were approved as submitted.

**Financial Report** – Report for October attached. Balance today: \$16,372.58 Books are present Taxes were filed and AIM Insurance was renewed this month. Hoping to get a check from Habit Grill from the recent fundraiser; no official number but initial estimates are at least \$2,500.

**Superintendent's Report** – (Dr. Watts)

- Great turnout at Kent Student Leadership Council. Encouragement of student voice; venue for students to express thoughts. 3 things they said: 1) Wanted to communicate student needs to administration. 2) Wanted to help peers navigate challenging environments, & 3) wanted to share & learn more about the district.
- KSD Board and Superintendent attended conference in Bellevue on governance & management. 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive Board of Distinction award was presented last Friday, as well as the "Celebrating Diversity" award.
- 1<sup>st</sup> community advisory meeting last week at KPA; brief presentation and a tour of the Kent Clothing Bank. More than 40 people took the tour and learned about how important a function it serves.

**School Board Report** – (Karen DeBruler)

- WASDA conference – keynote speakers, breakout sessions on a variety of issues. Many suggestions for improvement. Working on removing opportunity gap for all students.
- November is Native American History month. New bill requires mandatory teaching Native American History to all students. Tillicum Village dancers will be performing at Mill Creek at 10 a.m.
- Race to the Top project 4: Expanding use of STEM digital tools and personalize STEM learning for 10 schools (elementary & middle). Professional development in line for those teachers.
- Report – 30 consecutive years, comprehensive annual financial report has been given an award for excellence. Only 3 districts in the state. \$37 million worth of bonds were sold at a lower interest rate to save taxpayers approx.. \$3 million over the next few years.

**President's Report** –

- Thanks to everyone for their assistance with the Habit grill fundraiser.
- Money Matters class in Renton on 11/30
- PTA & the Law – in Tacoma and in Seattle 12/1. Register on State website.
- PTA & the Law offered her in February.

**General Business:**

Parent Resource Night – micro presentations from the local businesses and organizations:

- Diana Biegler with Primerica – Free services for families, financial information, helping to get out of debt. Comprehensive family financial planning & education.

- Kelly Germin with Curves – Workouts, open to anyone. Vendor Wednesdays at two locations to find out about small businesses. Also teaches CPR; classes available.
- Carl Williams – Z Ultimate Defense Studio, located at Kent Station. 30 minute classes in self-defense, can be tailored to individual student. Will work with children or adults. Also group lessons; free self-defense class every quarter for women (please give 24 hour notice). Next one is in February. Hoping to offer anti-bullying classes in KSD.
- Brenda Farwell - Thunderbirds Foundation. Supporter of youth sports; teams can apply for grants. Hoping to grow to one fundraising event to \$60,000 each year. \$430,000 given away since 2009.
- Derek Dykeman, Denali Credit Union. Opened recently. Working on a partnership; PTA members will be eligible to be credit union members, so people looking for auto loans or other ways to be members can join their local PTA. Also offering financial classes.

## **Committee Reports**

**Advocacy & Legislative** – No Report

**Cinderella Project** – No Report

**Clothing Bank** – Core group of 4-5 people who are committed to keeping the Clothing Bank running. Dec 1, 15 – open nights in December. 46 families at last open night even with the “monsoon.” If your unit has not sent in financial donations yet, please do so – less than half have been received so far. In great need of cold-weather items, especially coats.

**Emergency Preparedness** - No report

**Family & Community Engagement** - No report, but planning a conversation w/ district in January.

**Founder’s Day Baskets** –

**Local PTA Grants** – Next deadline is Jan 15; looking for a new chair.

**Membership** – Membership total to date: 2,292 (223 less than last year’s end total) 378 new memberships in the last month. Keep up the hard work. Only 1 PTA still short of 25 members. Invoices will be sent 2<sup>nd</sup> week of month – local PTAs should NOT pay for any members not on the invoice. This month: share membership form online, communicate through website. Can set up online signup (adds \$1 convenience fee), but talk with board first. Holiday membership campaign – give membership as a gift! Promote benefits of PTA; look on WA State PTA website for a list. Pacific NW Ballet is a new partner. Keep up the good work!

**President & Principals Luncheon** – Please RSVP by Nov 30; cost is \$30 per plate.

**Programs** –

- Award applications are now available on the WA State PTA Website. Must be a unit in good standing to apply.
- All awards will have Gold, Silver, Bronze, & Honorable Mention levels.
- “Honor Unit” award has been replaced by new Platinum level in Standards of Excellence
- New awards for Advocacy and Family Engagement; still waiting for applications. Check the State PTA website periodically.
- Also on the state website a list of National programs. Some are health & fitness oriented (Healthy Lifestyles / Fire up your Feet), some encourage family engagement (Family Reading Experience / Take your family to work day)

**Reflections** - Drop-off date changed to 12/6, 2-5 p.m. Address was emailed out.

**Other Business:** Running a Theme & Logo search for state PTA – winning submission will be awarded a free convention registration. Also, booking a hotel room for convention will enter you in a drawing.

Spirit Drawing.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi DuPuis for Bryce Cobb

KAC Secretary