

# Fir Grove Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2020

## Opening

The regular meeting of the Fir Grove Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization was called to order at 7:04 p.m. in Beaverton, Oregon on March 5, 2020 by Minta Johnson.

## Present

Minta Johnson, Kristina Hiersche, Lyndsay Roller, Elizabeth Ranweiler, Kari McGatha, Erin Miles, Catherine Rund, Hadeel Aljubouri, Trisha Gross, Erin Fortman, Melissa Carrick, Kate Prakash, Rayna Flye

## Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed. The minutes of the last meeting (February 6, 2020) were unanimously approved as distributed.

## Guest Speaker: Rayna Flye, BSD Research and Evaluation Specialist

State testing is coming up!

Look at <https://osasportal.org> with your student

- Click on “student” icon, then click on “sample tests.” On the sample tests page click “sign in” at the bottom – no need to enter any login info. The sample tests won’t tell you if the answers are right or wrong, but there are sample test scoring guides at <https://osasportal.org/resources/sample-test-scoring-guides/>
- If student has accessibility supports they need, you can try them out on osasportal

Tests are untimed but there are approximate expected times.

Testing at Fir Grove starts on April 27 this year. Usually scores show up in ParentVue within 7 days.

Students practice in class using sample tests with teacher as a guide.

The tests are adaptive – if you answer questions correctly, then the questions get harder; if you answer incorrectly, the questions get easier.

Writing – in past years there’s been the issue of students writing a lot but receiving a score of zero. In those cases the students were retyping the question in the answer box or writing about things that were tangentially related. Students have to answer the question in order to receive points.

Classroom teachers have submitted testing calendars. They will test during math time. About 1 hour total of testing per day, including getting chromebooks and logging in. It typically takes around 3 hours for a student to complete one section of the test. Around 14 hours of testing per student is typical, spread over weeks. Third and fourth graders have English Language Arts (ELA) and Math tests. Fifth graders have science as well.

The overall estimated test lengths are:

- ELA: 4hrs, 50min
- Math: 2hrs, 50min
- Science: 1hr, 30min
- ELPA: between 1hr to 1hr, 45min, depending on grade.

## Opting out from state testing

- There are 2 types of opting out
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade science or ELPA – exemption based on disability or religion – form is available from school secretaries.
  - ELA & math – can opt out for any reason. English form is at [https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Documents/Opt-Out\\_Form\\_2019-20.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Documents/Opt-Out_Form_2019-20.pdf) and Spanish form is at [https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Documents/Spanish\\_Opt-Out\\_Form\\_2019-20.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Documents/Spanish_Opt-Out_Form_2019-20.pdf)
  - Last year BSD (all grades) had 934 opt-outs for ELA, and 1032 for Math.
  - Fir Grove usually has a couple of kids who opt out. They are in a different part of the school reading or working on other academic stuff.
  - There is not much opting out in elementary or middle school but lots of opting out in high school
  - There are no personal ramifications to students for opting out. If a lot of students at a particular school opt out, there is a lot of data missing. The state school report card shows test participation rate.

Lori Cody (tech teacher) is Fir Grove's test administrator.

Oregon Dept of Education and the American Institutes of Research put together the test. There are built in field test questions.

## **Vote on PTO taking over book fair**

Discussed at the February general meeting - this will mean a change to budget line items but doesn't cost the PTO any money. All in favor, none opposed, one abstention.

## **Principal Update: Erin Miles**

Tomorrow – Journey Brazil assembly!

Timber Joey (Portland Timbers mascot) will be at FG on Monday to read at an assembly and give out books!

OBOB winners – 5<sup>th</sup> grade team – will go to regionals March 13

Chess club T/Th 7am includes FG and Highland kids. The middle schoolers made it to state! Mr. Lee will take them.

Spring break March 23-27

Coronavirus – BSD sending out daily updates – custodians cleaning all touchpoint surfaces multiple times daily

Professional Development day Feb 19 – FG staff looked at every student, how well do we know them, etc. Plan is to get to know ALL the kids.

Hiring 2 new paraeducators in 5<sup>th</sup> grade (currently have 35 students in each classroom) using \$\$ from next year's budget. Interviewing this coming Monday, projected start before spring break. Possibly will shift some of the paraeducators who are already at FG and know the kids up to 5<sup>th</sup> grade so the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers don't have to train new staff in addition to having 35 students each.

Student Investment Account (SSA)- BSD proposed budget will be revealed in March school board meeting

Family multicultural night – March 19 5:30-7:30pm

- About 20 families will present about their culture
- Free giveaways, food trucks with food for purchase, activities, performances
- Mrs Beltran, Mrs DeBusk, and Mrs Szuch are running it

### **Budget Update: Kristina Hiersche**

This is our second month in a row with income > expenses!

- February net profit of \$1406
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade sendoff brought in \$776 from val o grams, friendship dance, chess club concessions
- Employer match of \$1100
- Amazon Smile \$77
- We will receive Fred Meyer check in March for about \$140
- We will receive Box Tops check in March for about \$120
- Bottle drop – we pulled the money out for Shadow Project and there's already around \$700 in there!  
Keep it up!
- Haven't received check from Crumbl yet

Expenses - \$195 movie license (for 1 year), school supplies, geo club prizes

### **Volunteer Update: Lyndsay Roller**

Lots coming up!

- March 19 multicultural night – set up after school and clean up after. If you help set up you get free Panda Express!
- Book fair committee – have a couple people so far, need more!
- Science expo – an email will go out about it tomorrow

### **Fundraising Update**

Penny drive is next week

- Benefits next year's library budget – anything over \$1000 goes to tech
- Winning grade gets a prize!
- Pennies and folding money count toward your grade, everything else counts against
- Capping off penny drive at movie night on Friday

Restaurant nights

- Joe's Burgers March 11
- Veggie Grill March 18 – goes to 5<sup>th</sup> grade sendoff

220 people attended the friendship dance last week! 5<sup>th</sup> grade concessions were hopping!

### **Update on Boy Scouts Units 685: Kari McGatha**

Troop

- New assistant troopmaster is coming from somewhere else. They know the current scoutmaster.
- One new scout is s later this month and his parents as adult leaders
- Scott Coulter (did Eagle Scout Project in FG courtyard) has passed court.
- Court of Honor April 4

## Pack

- 12 scouts crossed over to go to 3 different troops
- 3 chose not to cross over – completed scout life with arrow of light badge
- Working on finding a date for service project at Fir Grove

## Activities coming up

- Pinewood derby, which includes opportunity for adults to race. March 14 at Cedar Hills Crossing.
- Selling chocolate and meat sticks right now – scouts who sell 1 box of chocolates and 1 bag of beef sticks get \$25 toward camp

## Committee Updates

### Art Literacy – Minta Johnson

Doing India project right now – foil embossed elephants

Next month start Henry Rousseau project

### Geography Club

14 students have gotten 100% on all 4 levels so far! That's the most in the last 5 years. Wow! And over half are doing at least 3 levels! Next test is March 18 – need volunteers.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sendoff – Catherine Rund

Fundraising goal = \$2000

Joe's Burgers March 18.

### New business

Library mural theme is Destination Imagination. Currently asking for ideas – submit your sketches! Judy Tidrick will paint it. It will be completed sometime next year – have to go through the district for approval.

Gaga ball pit fundraiser was a HUGE success! Met the extended goal. BEF matched first \$500 and the company gave Minta a \$150 discount. Now waiting for approval and location from BSD facilities.

### Agenda for Next Meeting:

- Welcome
- Approve today's agenda and minutes from previous meeting
- Principal Update: Erin Miles
- Budget Update: Kristina Hiersche
- Volunteer Update: Lyndsay Roller
- Fundraising update: Jenn Hundt and Sarah Hinton
- Scouts update: Kari McGatha
- Committee Updates: Art Lit, Geography Club, 5<sup>th</sup> grade sendoff
- Guest Speaker: Rayna Flye Fairman, state testing
- New Business
- Questions
- Meeting Adjourned

### Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. by Minta Johnson.