

Audubon PTSA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 13th 2017

- **Call to Order**

Yumna Green, President, called the meeting to order at 9:40 am.

A quorum was present. Sign in sheets are attached to hard copy file. Proper meeting notice was provided. The following documents were handed out to all parents:

- Past minutes of last General Membership Meeting (September 14, 2017),
- Proposed Amendment of Standing rules (section 5H)
- LWSD February 2018 Bond and Levy Measures

- **Election of the Nominating Committee**

The following PTSA members are proposed to be elected to the Nominating Committee

- Michela Casazza,
- Efrat Hurvitz,
- Ann Dang

Chitra Ramaswamy motioned to approve, Trina Ring seconded. **Motion Approved so Michela, Efrat and Anne are the elected members of the Audubon PTSA Nominating Committee.**

- **Presentation of the September 2017 General Membership Meeting Minutes**

Meeting minutes from the September 14th, 2017 General Membership meeting were reviewed by Yumna. There were no questions.

Anna Pauker moved to approve, Trina Ring seconded. **Motion Approved.**

- **Presentation of the standing rules**

Amendment of Standing rules section 5H had been handed out at the beginning of the meeting.

PTSA members were asked to approve the following suggested amendment. Section 5 H currently states:

“The board of Directors of Audubon PTSA shall elect a Standing Committee Chairperson for Ways and Means. This committee shall consist of the Chair, Audubon PTSA Treasurer(s), Audubon Principal, and two members of the Audubon PTSA appointed by the Executive Committee”

Suggested amendment is to remove the words “Audubon Principal”. This is in response to guidance from LW PTSA Council and their new Grant Handbook that was implemented this year.

Becky Stansell motioned to approve the amendment of the Standing rules as presented, Vicky Gee seconded. **Motion Approved.**

- **Announcements (SOA, Insurance and taxes completed, invitation to November board meeting, anyone not getting enews, ...)**

Yumna confirmed that Audubon PTSA has completed their annual Standards of Affiliation (SOA) checklist, paid their annual insurance and filed their annual tax return. So, our organization is meeting its legal obligations and is being well run. She encouraged members to check the PTSA web site for a copy of the SOA.

Kimo gave some information about the new buddy bench. The buddy bench will be placed on the playground. It will help to identify kids that are looking for other kids to play with. The purpose of the bench is to help kids to play together, to help adults identify kids that need help socially, and to help kids more easily make connections with each other.

- **Endorsing and/or supporting the 1 bond and 2 levy measures on the February 13th, 2018 ballot.**
Dr. Traci Pierce, Superintendent joined the meeting to provide information on why the bond and levies are needed and what they fund.
- **2018 Bond Measure**
- Thanks to our supportive community, the April 2016 bond measure passed and LW is building more schools and classrooms needed to support our growing enrollment.
- Student enrollment in LWSD continues to grow and we want to provide students with the best learning environments possible and provide classrooms for our ever-growing student population.
- The 2018 bond maintains the current rate with no tax rate increase.
- **2018 Capital Projects Levy**
- They want to ensure the students have safe school facilities and access to technology for learning
- The capital projects levy funds critical facility and technology needs not funded by the state
- The levy is on a four-year replacement cycle
- The 2018 levy replaces the expiring levy with no tax increase.
- **2018 Educational Programs & Operations Levy**
- They want to ensure our students have access to staff, programs, and course offerings to be successful and graduate future ready.
- The Educational Programs & Operations Levy funds program and operations needs not funded by the state
- The levy expires every four years
- The 2018 levy replaces the expiring levy and decreases the tax rate.

After the presentation, the Audubon PTSA membership voted to endorse and support the 2/13/2018 bond and levy measures.

Michela Casazza motioned to support and endorse the 1 bond and 2 levy measures, Trina Ring seconded. **Motion Approved**

Parents were reminded that even though some of them cannot vote, it doesn't mean they cannot help and advertise the need to vote for these measures. Indeed, they can raise awareness among their neighbors and friends, in particular those who don't have children in school anymore and don't know what's at stake.

Then Martha DeAmicis from the LW Citizens Levy Committee, joined the meeting and told parents about the work that the Citizens Levy Committee is doing to help build awareness around the need to vote YES (Facebook campaign, yard signs, buttons, doorbelling, sign-waving, phone banking, etc.) She also reminded parents that our school district has brought in expert help to help the district choose more efficient building designs, thereby allowing the district to spend their money more efficiently.

- **Adjournment**
Meeting adjourned at 10:17 am.