

Howard Elementary PTO Notes
Tuesday, September 19th, 2017
Howard Elementary School Gym - 6:00PM

1. Brande introduced the PTO Board -
 - President - Brande Trumbell
 - Vice President - Elizabeth Bond
 - Treasurer - Jessica Bott
 - Secretary - Allison Kreider
 - Parliamentarian - Christy Boyles Garland

2. The Budget from last year and the proposed budget from this year was shared.

Some of the big highlights -

- The proposed budget for this year will be around \$7,000 to cover all the expenses for PTO and PTO related events.
- We raised \$31,900 last year.
- From last year's budget, \$10,000 will go toward technology fees and \$12,000 will go toward teacher's classrooms. \$5,000 will be saved to do some big school project that will be voted on in January and to be completed this school year.

The budget was approved by a majority of the parents.

3. The PTO would like to donate \$5,000 toward a special project for the school. We are currently in the idea stage now and would like to take suggestions from parents and teachers. We will vote on the final idea in January so the project will be completed this year. Some ideas that were presented were -

- More books for the library
- Mural in the library
- Artist in residence
- Activity for the whole school to participate in - zip line, Camp Harlow, etc.

If you have any ideas, please submit them to the Howard facebook page, email to howardelementarypto@gmail.com, or come to a Howard PTO meeting and share your ideas.

4. Fall Fundraiser - The cookie dough fundraiser ends on September 27th. We need people from 10am-6pm to help hand out products to families. If you can help, please let Brande on PTO know.

5. Popcorn Fridays - Popcorn will begin on September 29th and will end June 1st. Each bag of popcorn will cost .25. If you would like to purchase an entire year of popcorn for your child it will cost \$6.00 and can be given to your child's teacher. If you would like to purchase popcorn for the entire class, it will cost \$6.00 as well. All popcorn money is given to your child's classroom

teacher and will be given to students at the end of the school day. PTO needs one more parent to come and help pop popcorn on Friday mornings from 8-11. If you are interested, please let someone on the PTO know.

6. Wayback Night is scheduled for October 16th at Wayback Burgers in the Santa Clara Square. Come and enjoy dinner, and part of the proceeds will go back to support Howard Elementary.

7. Howard PTO sponsors several Family Nights throughout the year. If you are interested in starting up a committee or being part of a committee to organize and run these family nights, that would be great. Let someone on PTO know that you are interested.

8. The holiday bazaar is scheduled for December 2nd from 9am-3pm. If you would like to be on a committee to run and organize the bazaar, please let someone on PTO know. There is still space for vendors and the tables are \$25 each.

9. Brande made a proposal for a new fundraising idea - reading for education - <http://www.readingforeducation.com>. Students would collect addresses and send postcards to a company. Each valid address would count as .50 for the school and each student could submit up to 11 postcards. This fundraising idea was voted down.

10. There are still a handful of PTO board positions still open. If you are interested in any of the following position, please let someone on PTO know.

- Fundraising coordinator
- Volunteer coordinator
- Media Rep
- Staff Liason

Also coming in March are the nominations for next year as all the board positions will be up for renewal in March.

11. Conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 20th and Tuesday, November 21st. PTO organizes dinner for all staff on that night. During the October meeting, PTO will be voting on ideas for these nights, so come with ideas. Some staff at the meeting suggested - taco bar, baked potato, soups.

12. PTO presented 2 checks to Mr. Chinn for a total of \$22,000!!! These funds will go to support classroom teachers and classroom activities as well as help with the subscriptions for technology.

13. PTO gave out a number of gift cards to teacher and parents who attended the PTO meeting. Thank you everyone for coming!

14. Open discussion -

There are still ongoing concerns around the parking lot and the lack of parking spaces. Parents are also concerned that people are “parking” in the pause parking spaces and leaving their cars. Mr. Chinn suggested sending comments and concerns to the 4J school board members as well as the superintendent and the City of Eugene as they are the ones that limited the amount of spaces that we can have for the size of building we have.

Brande is also asking for volunteers for the vision screening day in October. If anyone can help out from either 8-10 or 10-12, please let Lori know in the office.

If anyone can donate gallon bags to the library that would be excellent! Mrs. Hopkins gives these to younger students so they can put their library books in to protect them when they take them home.

Spirit days - if anyone has suggestions for spirit days for Howard, come to PTO meetings or let PTO know as we would like some new ideas.