

Cedaroak Park PTA Meeting Agenda

General Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 11, 2024 | 6pm - 7:15pm
Location: Cedaroak Park Primary Cafeteria

- 6:00pm Arrive, Check In and Mingle
- 6:02pm Call Meeting to Order and Welcome
- *6:06 Meeting begins*
- 6:03pm Approval of Minutes (May 2024) and 2024/2025 Bylaws by Consent
- *First order of business is to approve our last PTA meeting minutes and Standard Bylaws.*
 - *Susan Hurley moves to approve the meeting minutes*
 - *Megan Fisher seconds*
 - *~15 approve, no opposition. Motion passes.*
 -
- 6:05pm Executive Board Report and Introductions
- *6:09 - Tasha highlights the excitement of the new year and how excited the PTA, and school at large, is to welcome new Squirrels to the community.*
 - *We accept all types of parent/caregiver time - serving committees, volunteering at events, serving on the board, attending meetings or just giving money. All are welcome!*
 - *Parent Social - October 3rd, Willamette Ale House. A time to connect and build community*
 - *Two Fundraisers this year - Squirrel Dash this month and Auction in the Spring.*
- 6:10pm Treasurer's Report
- 2024/2025 Budget Approval
 - *Budget was created last May by the 2023-2024 Board. Our goal tonight is to approve that as our working budget for the 2024-2025 school year. Our beginning cash balance is approximately \$41k and we are projected to end the year around \$60k. This takes into a conservation amount of Auction donations though we are expecting Matt DeWolf and committee to bring in more!*
 - *No questions asked. Michelle Prentice makes a motion to approve. Megan Fisher seconds the motion. ~20 approves, no opposition. Motion passes.*
- 6:15pm Committee News
- Squirrel Dash (Liz Johnson)
 - *Thursday, September 26th - Schedule to be determined*
 - *There will be some opportunities to volunteer once a schedule is determined by the school admin*
 - *All parents/caregivers are allowed to come and watch and cheer on the student community*
 - *Flyers/pledge sheets will be distributed next week and the fundraising page will also be live at the same time.*
 - *Competition between K-2 and 3-5 grade groups*
 - *Plan is to have reptile man come again unless anyone has strong opinion about what the prize is*
 - Costume Swap (Tasha Phillips)

- *September 23rd is the beginning of the collection period for costumes. We will have them ready to “shop” after school October 4th*
- *Any leftover costumes will be donated*
- *REQUEST - Full length mirror*

Written Committee News

- **Garden Tastings**
 - Planning for the first lunchtime garden tasting, likely early October. We need volunteers for lunchtime tastings. Spread the word, including all foodies and gardeners:)
- **Directory**
 - 40% participation in the school directory in the first week. We will have a live push at curriculum night. Spread the word in your kid’s classes please!
- **Library Giving Tree**
 - Last year’s Giving Tree brought in 104 new books (168 in 2023)! Next month we’d like to discuss potentially shifting the Giving Tree back to December from the currently scheduled February to provide some space from the auction.
- **Hospitality**
 - Stocked the staff room with snacks and coffee pods prior to the start of school
- **Auction**
 - Save the Date! Friday, March 14th at the Oregon Golf Club
 - Secured: auctioneer John Strong will MC again and finalizing software
 - Help needed: procurement for live auction, volunteer to help on the committee (if interested, reach out to Megan Fisher mkfisher04@gmail.com or text 503.250.4570)
- **Lots of open Committee Chair positions available! If you are interested please reach out to Tasha or Susan or fill out the Volunteer Interest Form**
 - Sustainability (more discussion next month!)
 - Membership
 - Spirit Wear
 - Food/Community Drive
 - 5th Grade Graduation
 - STEAM/Science Fair
 - Chipper Chair

6:20pm

Principal’s Report - Meg Leonard

- 6:21
- *Children are doing great and there’s a lot of excitement for the beginning of the year from students and staff*
- *This year there is free school breakfast and lunch. Additional service staff have been on site to help. Two lines have been created to help with flow. Kids still have to key in their code for tracking purposes and to keep this program going.*
- *Garden beds by four/five classrooms - materials were ordered on 9/10. The hope is to have them put in before the Squirrel Dash so we are able to complete our “trail” during the run.*
- *Curriculum night - 9/19 - a great time for connection with the community and staff as well. Feel free to connect with the classroom teacher beforehand and get your questions addressed.*
- *Parent/Teacher goal setting conferences are coming up in October. Teachers will be very focused on helping your child achieve their goals.*
- *HMH programming implementation has started and teachers are really excited about it. You will hear more at curriculum night.*

- *We are a thriving community - full of connection, love, and learners. Cedaroak is very strong right now.*
- *Introduces - Andrew Kilstrom - Director of Communications - Dr. David Pryor - Assistant Superintendent for WLWVSD*

6:30pm

District team to answer questions about Small Schools long range planning

- *David Pryor - 33rd year of service to the district.*
 - *Emphasis - Nothing has been decided regarding closure, consolidation or any other plans for WL primary schools*
 - *How did we get here? - All districts have Long Range Plans (LRP). Last time we had a new plan was in 2019. This LRP is ending because all projects have been finished or are in the process of finishing this school year*
 - *Long Range Plan Committee (LRPC)*
 - *What are they looking at and evaluating? They are looking at what is going well, what each school needs in terms of renovations of improvements. Typically, the district hires a firm to do long range enrollment planning, etc.. Sunset being rebuilt, Trillium being built was all a part of the LRP in the past. The projection states that in the next 5 years we will have lower enrollment. They also look at improvements that will need to happen in the next 5 years.*
 - *Additional information - funding coming in during the pandemic was used to lower student/teacher ratio, hire staff. That funding is no longer coming in, meaning we have lower funding from the state due to lower enrollment and we receive funding per student.*
 - *Increased staff means we now have payroll/salaries as well as benefits to consider for each teacher and admin at each school.*
 - *Cost of people has risen faster than can be provided by state funding*
 - *Everything was cut and trimmed before classroom teachers for the 2024-2025 year, due to this year's budget cuts.*
 - *Three Core Questions are being looked at by SSTF*
 - *Cost of Core operations - Principal, IC, Counselor, lunch services, structural engineer*
 - *Cost of Renovations - buildings that need help.*
 - *Educational Programs and Service Impact*
 - *Small School Task Force was created to address these questions and be an independent task force from the district. It will comprise of 12-15 people so all voices can be heard and schedules can be met.*
 - *3J is an organization that will help with the task force. Dr. Pryor and A. Kilstrom will be present for task force meetings that will happen in October, November, December.*
 - *FIVE community events will happen during these three months (Oct, Nov, Dec) - three will happen at the schools that are proposed for consolidation/closure, one online and one at a neutral location*
 - *These events will be held to share what the SSTF has learned, gather questions and information and the SSTF will then gather all info for further evaluation.*
 - *After these meetings, the information gathered will be presented to the district. The LRPC will then bring a recommendation to the board who will then vote. The task force will have no ability to vote on the decision.*

- Attendance at all FIVE open meetings is encouraged because we know you love your school.
- Ultimately, all of this is do what is best for your children
- Factors like special education, parents desire to have schools close to home will all be considered.
- LRP is a sub-committee appointed by the board. Six are current parents, one is a parent whose child recently graduated from the district. They meet monthly and are WL community members. They report directly to the school board. Member list is under the School Board channel on the district page. You can learn more about these individuals and see meetings that have been held as well as past meeting minutes.
- Why is Cedaroak included in this evaluation at 350 students? Cedaroak is growing year over year but 350 was the cutoff number to make it fair to look at each community
- Pryor and Kilstrom cannot go and advocate to the committee on Cedaroak's behalf but they will answer questions as best as they can.
- Why is the PTA tasked with choosing the SSTF? Using the PTA to figure out the task force is the best place to start to communicate out to the school community.
- The FIVE open meetings will be held to help parents who aren't able to serve on the committee but want to voice their concerns in a different forum.
- Are transfer students taken into consideration to enrollment numbers? WLWVSD only allows 25 transfer students this year. There are exceptions such as hardship and homelessness. There used to be state legislation that allowed for more students to transfer but there was concern that transfers were not paying taxes to the community school districts they attend.
- What is the timing of this decision?
 - Boundary process needs to happen for Frog Pond. If there is a need to do an evaluation of the boundaries for other schools, that will happen if the LRP sees fit.
 - Class sizes will stay relatively the same or lower because staff will stay on board and will move to one school to another to accommodate additional students that might move.
 - No new school is on the docket
 - Task Force - what will they do - looking at specific questions or coming up with solutions?
 - They will be looking at specifically what renovations do the schools need
 - Will academic performance be taken into account? No. There was a comment at the District meeting that made it sound like it would but the question was misrepresented. No testing "scores" will be taken into account in the data
 - How does the school setting provide a good "service" to students? SSTF will be looking at possible infrastructure improvement ideas.
 - 3J is being hired to consult. The funding for this generally comes from previous bonds and is a requirement of any capital bond but Dr. Pryor and A.Kilstrom will be confirming.
 - Use of budgets - how did we get here?
 - Timeline is hard to swallow

- *It does not have to do with free breakfast/lunch, which is provided by federal funding. This does not come from district funds*
- *Budget challenges have been discussed for the last two years. If we maintain our current expenditures, we exceed our funding and we have to look at the school consolidation aspect. We are at the point where the district is really feeling it. There is a unique and delicate balance of saving ahead, but the district also has to spend money for the kids that are here today.*
- *Pre-COVID - 10000 students were enrolled. The district lost 700 students who haven't returned. We are at approx. 9000 students. We received one time COVID funding that was used to hire staff. When COVID funding stopped, we still had more staff to provide benefits to.*
- *4-5M of reductions was the initial knowledge for budget cuts. Substitute teacher question - we switched from in house to a contracted service. The cost is no different. It moved to a different part of the budget and that was not accounted for which is why there was a significant increase in budget cuts.*
- *What about the levy that we voted on and passed? 90 teachers who were funded from the levy will always be funded and even if we close/consolidate schools.*
- *24.5 is the average class size in the district. We are getting into alignment with stable averages and this was the 2017 Pre-COVID levels.*
- *Has there been consideration for other programs to cover this budget shortage?*
 - *All options are being considered and looked at.*
 - *LRP is focused on capital improvement.*
 - *Data - will it be available to everyone to view and access? All data that has been discussed or presented is available online.*
 - *Educational Services and Impact - how is that evaluated? It will be qualitatively measured. We will look at examples and stories. When you are creating classes in a small school and parents are saying they don't learn well in a small community you have the ability to shift them to a new classroom, examples like this will be taken into consideration so please share your stories online via the SSTF "button" when created.*

- *Building infrastructure - Riverside was created because parents were concerned by WLHS being overcrowded and we needed another location for students to attend a less crowded environment. Planning for RSHS started 8 years ago by the former LRPC. They were looking at what high school was today, what it will be in the future. The goal was to be 500 students in capacity. Building can hold 600 students. There is no boundary, it's simply an option for students to attend. IB program and CTE program are highlights of the school. 1900 students currently attend WLHS so they are packed and a new option was needed.*
- *Cedaroak is a larger boundary area and we have capacity for 150 more students.*
- *Come to the community forums! Give examples and share online*
- *FAQ will be available on the district website to submit your questions to*

7:10pm New Business

- TBD

2024-2025 Planning Calendar

- Squirrel Dash- September 26th
- Parent/Caregiver Social - October 3rd, 6-9pm, Willamette Ale & Cider House
- Costume Swap - October 4th
- Auction - Save the Date! March 14th

7:15 Meeting Adjourned - Thank you!
Meeting adjourned 7:35

Committees and Chairs

Garden Chair

To work in collaboration with Helena Kilstrom at CREST.

Ashley Quach

hello.ashleyquach@gmail.com

Garden Tastings

Kate Gales

kateg70@gmail.com

Sustainability Chair

Chair Help Needed for 24-25 school year

Emily Silverstein

esilverstein3@gmail.com

Art Literacy Chair

Emily Carney

copptasecretary@gmail.com

Hospitality Co-Chairs

Michelle Prentice
mlrprentice@gmail.com
Susan Hurley
susan.hurley@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Chair(s) Needed for 24-25 school year

Directory Chair

Zeil Vanden Heuvel
zeilshah@gmail.com

Spirit Wear Chair

To work with Hometown Sports in WL
Chair(s) Needed for 24-25 school year

Yearbook Chair

Neely Daggett

Communications Chair

Allie Coombs
alliecoombs87@gmail.com

Dine Out Chair

Margaret Murphy
Lauren Kimmel

2025 Auction

Matt DeWolf
matthew.dewolf@gmail.com
Megan Fisher
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Squirrel Dash Co-Chairs

Liz Johnson
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Michelle Prentice
mlrprentice@gmail.com

Halloween Costume Swap Chair

Tasha Phillips
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Monster Mash Co-Chairs

Ashley Quach
hello.ashleyquach@gmail.com
Nicole Schulmerich
Nicoleschulmerich@gmail.com

Food/Community Drive Chair

Chair(s) Needed for 24-25 school year

STEAM / Science Fair Chair

Chair(s) Needed for 24-25 school year

5th Grade Graduation Chair

Chair(s) Needed for 24-25 school year

Chipper Chair

5ft, 8in High Limit
Chair(s) Needed for 24-25 school year
Erin Keller

Library Giving Tree Chair

Shaheen Munir-McHill
snmunir@gmail.com

Volunteer Chair

Danielle Cassidy

**BECOME A PTA
MEMBER TODAY**



**VOLUNTEER
INTEREST FORM**

