



Sabin PTA General Meeting Minutes, September 23, 2020, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

- I. Welcome and introduction to PTA for new members (5)**

- II. School updates from Ms. Williams and Ms. Lathan (20)**
 - A. MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) standardized assessments will take place this year. Normally, the MAP assessment is conducted in the classroom setting, but because of distance learning, students will take this assessment at home. Testing will take place between September 28 and October 23. Watch for PPS and Sabin details
 - B. SPED update-- SPED teacher on leave, just now finalizing contract for long term sub. In place shortly and services will resume for students.
 - C. Tutoring program at Sabin is growing. Started with 5 students, now expanding to 10. Partnering with Black Parent Initiative. Ms. Williams thanked PTA and families for financial support for the program to serve Sabin students who need it.
 - D. Ways PTA and families can help school: tech support, check in with teachers, check in with struggling families (phone tree?)
 - E. Hired a social worker, Dowel Williams, shared with King elementary. He started last week. Does a lot with attendance and follow up with families.
 - F. Ms. Lathan updates: leadership teams for 4th and 5th graders have begun. Teams include assembly and events, golden ticket team, student equity team, student support team, recess team, tech and digital citizenship team. Opps for PTA parents to volunteer and help with groups. Speakers? Guidance? Etc. Be in touch with Ms. Lathan: clathan@pps.et

- III. Discussion and Q&A (15)**
 - A. How best to support tech needs? A: Text, phone. Idea emerged that PTA may set up google help line to answer questions
 - B. How best to support teachers? A: Show grace for teachers. Get in place Room and Tech parents to support local room issues.
 - C. How will attendance be counted? Will it impact Sabin FTE funding? A: Ms Williams: No will not impact FTE, but attendance is important to show connection.
 - D. Does Sabin administration want parent input in hybrid/possible return to school planning? A: Yes, please let Ms. Williams know and be in touch.



- E. What needs do we know teachers have right now? A: Mrs. Lathan will survey them tomorrow and get back to us. Possible second screen for zoom calls, room parent support.

IV. Business and announcements (15)

- A. Sabin PTA Standing Rules 2020-21 motion/approval: Changes to Rules presented and opened for questions. Seeing none, motion to approve rules for 2020-21 was made by Sarah Bunton, seconded by Kristen Jessie-Uyanik. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Nomination for PTA Secretary position, notice of elections for October meeting: Amanda Elliston has expressed interest in secretary role, if anyone is interested in co-fundraiser role contact sabinptapresident@gmail.com.
- C. Drama Club through Northwest Children's Theater
1. 12 spots held, Sabin only club, Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm from 10/8-11/5, cost \$75, 2nd-5th graders, via Zoom
 2. Motion: PTA support to offer 3 scholarship spots on a first come, first served basis. Item presented for discussion. Motion for PTA to sponsor 3 spots made by Will Layng. Seconded by Sarah Bunton. Motion passed unanimously. Information about group disseminated by social media, school announcement, and outreach by Sabin administrators.
- D. Sabin-wide parent interest groups
1. Garden on north playground staffing update and parent group: SUN has hired a new Garden Coordinator. Fall work in garden, will work to interact with students after that. If interested in parent garden group email: jenny@duvander.com
 2. Learning pods and creative schooling arrangements, watch for meeting info
 3. Suggestions for guest speakers at future PTA meetings (staff, teachers, community members). Suggestions included:
 - a) Equity Group
 - b) Speaker on COVID 19
 - c) Tips for connecting with families
 - d) Tubman PTA / Tubman sister schools PTA or parent reps
- E. PTA and parent communications - Slack, Instagram, others
1. An invitation to Slack was extended and reminders of current communications via Facebook, Instagram, and emails. Suggestions for other channels/approaches welcome!
- F. Reminder of PTA membership (form or online)



V. Closing notes and meeting adjournment

- A. The Equity Group pie sale will be happening via online orders and distribution on October 30th, 2020, either for pickup or delivery (TBD). A signup for volunteers will be released soon.

Mission of Sabin PTA: *Our mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. The Sabin PTA welcomes anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference in the education, health, and welfare of our children. We serve as a supportive resource for ideas and initiatives that align with our mission and values; we strive to provide Sabin community members with information, funding, volunteer resources, logistical support and communication tools to implement their ideas. We also work to keep our community members informed, involved and invested in school activities and other efforts to advocate for our children.*

Helpful links

[Draft 2020-21 Standing Rules](#)

[2020 School Bond Package Referred to November Ballot](#)

[Join the PTA online](#) or via [this PDF form](#)

[Drama club sign up](#) and [Drama club flier](#)



Chat transcript/notes

Introductions

Kris Travis :

Welcome! We'll get started in a few minutes

Agenda here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_wO0PuXw9rvaGyV0LRBeTv_qs10YGeYhA4Bx6ZXEhMY/edit

Josh Jones :

Josh Jones, new this year on the PTA board as assistant treasurer, I have a 5th grader Simone in the great Ms. Bruce's class

Kris Travis :

I'm Kris, Co-VP of Communication & Events, mom to Elodie grade 2, and Ada Kindergarten

Jon Weatherford :

Hi everyone!

Amanda Elliston :

Amanda Elliston—New family to Sabin—Philip Elliston 5th Grade. I'm leaving at 6:30 for Grant BTSN!

Sabin PTA :

I'm Kristen, mom to 3rd grader Leyla, PTA IT chair

Jon Weatherford :

Jon Weatherford - kids in third and fifth.

Jenny DuVander :

Jenny DuVander, Board member (Co-VP communications), I have twins in Ms. Willis' second grade and a kindergartener in Ms. Anderson's Class :)

Tex Clark :

Hi everyone! Tex and Anna here moms to twins Sylvia and Raymond in Kinder

celeste.dennis :



Celeste Hamilton Dennis, Board member (Room Parent Coordinator), mom to Hattie in 3rd and Marvi in K

Sarah Bunton :

Hi everyone! Welcome to PTA for anyone who is new here!

Meghan Whitaker :

Meghan Whitaker, 3rd grader with Simonsen, K with Foster (and a 6th grader at Tubman)

Benjamin Lostheart :

Hi everyone, my name is Benjamin Lostheart and I am the PTSA President with Harriet Tubman Middle School. I'm here hanging out until 6:30 where Grant High School has their back to school night. I hope to gain a greater connection with the Sabin PTA and other PTA's that are feeders to HTMS, and in general - good time to connect more! :)

Melissa Manolas :

Hi everyone! Melissa and Brent, mom and dad to 3rd grader Leandro , in Ms Harris' class

Jenny DuVander :

Welcome Benjamin glad you're here!

Sarah Bokich :

Hi everyone!

I'm Sarah Bokich, mom of Bellamy, a new K student in Ms. Anderson's class.

Will and Remy :

Remy Arguello, daughter Selma is in second grade-married to Will Layng. Hello!

Youel Family :

Hi. Katie Youel here (1st grader with Ms. Mease and a 4th grader with Ms. Clark) Nice to see you all. Special call out to the staff and teachers here and to Benjamin Lostheart. While I don't have a middle kid, I see what you're doing to help out with Harriet Tubman Middle. Thankyou

Chrysanthius Lathan :

Mrs. Lathan - 2nd year as AP - Sabin alum - happy to be here!

Jenny DuVander :

So glad you're here Ms. Lathan!

Updates from Ms. Williams and Ms. Lathan

Followed by Q&A



Principal Williams provided updates on MAP testing and the tutoring program (currently helping five families with plans to add five more families). She provided an update on the SPED teacher and social worker positions. She also touched on the need for continued grace and patience in this challenging learning environment--the teachers are working very hard to meet student, school and district needs. Ms. Lathan talked about student leadership, which meets Wednesdays.

Jenny DuVander :

Here's the MAP link:

https://www.pps.net/cms/lib/OR01913224/Centricity/Domain/4/Fall_2020_MAP_Parent_Guide-English.pdf

Will and Remy :

SPED = Special Education

Jenny DuVander :

Ms. Lathan how is the leadership team meeting now?

A: [Google Meet, Wednesdays 2:15-3:00](#)

Chrysanthius Lathan :

clathan@pps.net

Josh Jones :

My daughter was so excited for leadership today so thank you so much for making it happen

Eoin Bastable :

ms Williams - do you need parent input - support for hybrid - return planning?

A: [definitely! Let's plan to discuss as we get closer to that bridge](#)

Sabin PTA :

Question for Ms. Williams: is phone support the best way to connect with parents who need help? Are there other ways to support parents (email or app)?

A: [Phone is generally the best/fastest way to get support, though the main tech support line is overwhelmed](#)

[There was discussion about using Google Voice to forward to a number of parent volunteers as frontline tech support to Sabin families.](#)

Josh Jones :

Google voice sounds like a good option, esp if we could show the number as "Sabin help line" or something like that so we know it's not a robocall



Sabin PTA :

Yes, we would set it up so those receiving the call would see it's a parent in need

Sabin PTA :

I'll work on it now

Chrysanthius Lathan :

Some kids are home alone and some are in daycare or with relatives while parents work

Sarah Bokich :

You noted a call to action to check on/support teachers and support families as well - are there tangible steps we can volunteer for?

Jenny DuVander :

What percentage of teachers would you say are teaching from school grounds?

[A: 10-12 teachers on a given day](#)

Josh Jones :

From what I can see, the 5th grade arrangement seems to be going well so the teachers deserve a lot of credit. Trying to be positive

Amanda Elliston :

Are there ways for parent/guardian person for each grade to help with teacher support? A room parent position?

Chrysanthius Lathan :

I think room parents for each classroom would be a great idea.

Kris Travis :

We're working on coordinating room parents, so yes! They will be an essential support.

Amanda Elliston :

I'm sorry I have to leave for a bit to attend GHS BSTN—

Benjamin Lostheart :

Thank you for having me. Ms. Williams and Sabin PTA I would like to be In touch. Benjamin Lostheart HTMS PTSA htmsptsapdx@gmail.com I have to leave too for GHS night.

Kris Travis :

Thanks Benjamin!



Sabin PTA :
Thanks for joining, Benjamin!

Jenny DuVander :
Hi Ms. Foster!

Emily Foster :
Hello!!

Sabin PTA :
Talk to me about Alexa reminders as a timekeeper for your class schedule (this is Kristen)

Youel Family :
Great Thank you!

Youel Family :
Both of our teachers have stressed the importance of being on time. How is it going across sabin with timeliness and absenteeism? (and I ask this with good humor because my 4th grader spent PE with Kinder today because she thought it was Thursday/Blursday). Will we know if/when Sabin would be at risk of losing staff this year?

[A: Ms. Williams was not seeing that attendance approaches so far would impact staffing levels for next year.](#)

Kris Travis :
FTE = Full Time Employee (right?!);)

Sabin PTA :
Yes

Chrysanthius Lathan :
Full time Equivalency

Kris Travis :
Ah, thank you Ms. Lathan

Chrysanthius Lathan :
Basically full time employee :)

Nora & Jeff - Denny's folks :
Is there anything that the teachers might need that PTA could assist with? I've heard that it can make a big difference for some teachers to have multiple screens on zoom, for example.



Youel Family :

holy heck! great question about 2 monitors! would love to help support teachers in any way with this. I cannot imagine!

Jon Weatherford :

Very helpful to just talk through it Ms. Williams.

Sabin PTA :

I think it would be good for us to survey teachers soon and ask what they need

Sabin PTA :

Be it monitors, flowers, chocolate

Chrysanthius Lathan :

Mrs. Lathan always needs coffee

I think it will be beneficial to survey teachers too, to see who has and has not been fully engaged - I will make that happen tomorrow or Tuesday.

Meghan Whitaker :

Is there PBIS (positive behavior interventions & supports) for distance learning? I know we had that in the building, but I wonder if there are agreements among staff in regards to how kids are showing up to meetings (late, unprepared, bouncing around, etc) and meeting them where they are at/offering grace and behavior supports?

Carly Henderson :

Do our teachers need funds to increase their home internet speeds?

Sarah Bunton :

Carly, great question. PTA gave teachers PEX cards (basically debit cards) at the beginning of this year, that they can use for supplies or internet costs. We can continue discussions as teacher needs emerge this year.

Chrysanthius Lathan :

Carly I think so - we had to increase our data at my home because my son, husband, daughter, and myself are all pps folks - so I'm sure teachers are exhausting their bandwidth before the end of the month

Carly Henderson :

Yes - same at our home. I hope we can organize this so that teachers don't need to carry this cost on their own.



Sarah:

I'd be super happy to help with packet delivery

Sabin PTA :

Are there any other parents who want to be on the tech support phone line?

Josh Jones :

Josh Jones can do the tech support if we have the shared line because like you, I often won't be able to pick up, but if I am free, would like to help

Approval of Standing Rules

There was a motion to approve this year's standing rules.

Kris Travis :

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1x8InvlsyXY-K0Hla7OUUg7Ey1gLQ4mM5/view?usp=sharing>

Jon Weatherford :

2nd

Motion was approved.

Nomination for PTA Secretary, other open positions

We have a nomination/interested party for secretary, Amanda Elliston. We also have an open position for co-fundraising chair with Lyndsay C. If anyone is interested be in touch, and then we'll hold official elections and appointments for those roles during the October meeting.

Drama Club at Sabin

Northwest Children's Theater will offer a Sabin-only Drama Club Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm from 10/8-11/5, cost \$75, 2nd-5th graders, via Zoom, 12 open spots. There was a motion that PTA support to offer 3 scholarship spots for interested kids who cannot otherwise afford.

Kris Travis :

<https://nwcts.org/drama-club/>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HxTWctdLUxmxFF59ePWcW9P8B9AQZO0p/view?usp=sharing>

Josh Jones :

2nd the motion



Motion was approved.

Sabin Garden

Jenny gave an update on the garden committee--the Garden Educator position vacated by Elin Berglund has been filled by Abigail Baker, last year's Nursing assistant. There will likely be an informal garden clean-up at some point, requiring volunteers.

Jenny DuVander :

If you are interested in joining the garden committee, feel free to email me at jenny@duvander.com

Learning Pods

There was discussion about the PTA facilitating a Zoom space for other parents who want to take a lead on learning pod discussions. The PTA will not be involved in pod coordination and noted there should be an equity prioritization in these discussions, whoever holds them.

Jenny DuVander :

Agreed Kris.

Suggested Guest Speakers/Topics

There was discussion and a request for suggestions on speakers/topics for upcoming PTA meetings. A few folks are interested in multiple opportunities for equity discussions, whether via facilitated workshops or speakers. Fostering community was also brought up as a suggestion, both within Sabin and with other sister/feeder schools.

Carly Henderson :

Helping to create a virtual class buddy system

Josh Jones :

Later in the year, it would be good to get some info about what's happening at Tubman

Jenny DuVander :

Great idea Carly for a virtual class buddy system. Also penpals and Mr. Diltz had planned a virtual scavenger hunt with QR codes.

Jon Weatherford :

Maybe we can just invite parents from the 4 schools + Tubman to join and share how things are going for a minute or two? Being a guest speaker can be a big ask.



Meghan Whitaker :

Jon I like the idea about a few parents from feeder schools/Tubman joining for a conversation.

Communications

The PTA noted the various channels of communication (IG, FB, email) and also introduced the new Slack channel. Suggestions for communication approaches/ideas were encouraged.

Sabin PTA :

https://join.slack.com/t/sabinschoolcommunity/shared_invite/zt-hnt4wjc2-qQmL9oB_HHffqQ_Uhb3~eQ

JOIN US

Josh Jones :

Stellar, Kris!

Jenny DuVander :

Can PTA pay a guest speaker?

Jon Weatherford :

^yes

There was a discussion about fostering a sense of community this year, and a question about what was happening around Halloween time. Opportunities for a virtual costume contest or party? Other ideas, knowing PPS does not want anybody using school grounds/facilities?

Sabin PTA :

Halloween Dance Party!!

Equity Group Pie Fundraiser

Meghan updated us on the Equity Group Pie Fundraiser, which will be taking orders online and distributing pies Oct. 30. She will need 6-10 masked/gloved volunteers to distribute pies, either via school grounds (unofficially) or deliveries.

Please Join Us

Kris Travis :

Join the PTA online: <https://www.oregonpta.org/membership>



Or via this form:

https://c8ddbea7-32da-4b3c-aebe-ec65a4b97257.filesusr.com/ugd/7e934e_ed4d4394c6ba46c3b531a702a042936f.pdf