



Minutes Sabin PTA Meeting, November 18, 2020

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82703855597?pwd=UkJyQzY5LzNYSWpKR1d1NGNFMDZ2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 827 0385 5597

Passcode: 464660

One tap mobile: +1-669-900-9128

3:30 pm

I. Welcome and introduction to PTA for new members

II. School updates from Mrs. Lathan

-A crochet club was formed and now Ms. Lathan would like more boys and kids of color to join, so more outreach will begin to encourage greater participation.

-The Alvin Alley Dance Company is offering online performances, and Sabin admin is looking into creating a school event to view it. This ties nicely to Tubman and Jefferson High School's robust dance programs.

There was a complaint issued at the District level regarding posters on the Sabin building door on the south side. There has been a work order to remove it. This offers a teachable moment for the entire community. Equity group will sponsor a discussion--let's make it a teachable moment. (Photo of posters:

A teacher response recommended that we put something on "reader board" as an official school statement that reflects our values.

III. No questions.

IV. Teachers in attendance of meeting answered questions about how they are feeling and any needs they might have.

Ms. Anderson--Kindergarten teacher--feels like "I'm putting on a one person show without audience response, still struggling with technology, it's a challenge to make meaningful relationships with kids, and it's not at all the same."

Ms. Foster--Kindergarten--"doing okay, I feel like a first-year teacher, I am grieving not being with kids, but I know this is how it has to be."

Ms. Moeller--counselor--"It's challenging to connect with kids, how to make meaningful connections on screen. I try to have counseling classes and lessons and offer them, but they are voluntary. Still need adult volunteers to help with student leadership groups. To help guide the group--seven groups. 1:30-3pm. 1:30-2:15 is the whole group setting agenda. 2:15-3:00 is when the groups meet and plan their activities."



Ms. Hopson--"Technology still a challenge for some of my students, and it's so hard to build relationships and to leverage that connection to keep students engaged. I am just trying to stay positive."

Ms. Bruce--"Overall the year is tough and complex. 5th grade gets to touch/reach every kid in the grade with new format. However, the disparities among households really stands out. There is a wide range of what is happening at home, some kids are watching and sharing technology with younger siblings around, there are some kids at Peninsula, and there are others in pods. Also, the range of independence is wildly disparate. The education gap is growing. How can we help establish a way for all families to create separate school time and family time. How can we get kids to connect who are not connected--inner circles vs. outer circles?"

PTA asked what can we relay to parents in terms of how to help support learning at home?

Ms. Anderson: " Parents should feel free to offer a child to take a break if a child is experiencing negativity or is feeling many emotions that are in the way of learning. And, on the other hand, try to develop a routine of consistency for the child to engage (at whatever level feels appropriate for a student). Emotional support is a priority."

Ms. Foster added, " I can't imagine what families are going through. But I know that families are doing what they can. Do what you can, and take a break if necessary."

A discussion ensued about whether the PTA can support families to connect either to existing pods or help with setting up more conducive learning environments.

Another idea PTA board member and a teacher asked is how to help kindergarten families and others coordinate safe playdates? This might be a discussion for another meeting.

V. Garden update from Gail Baker (5)

Gail Baker is the school health assistant, and now the new garden coordinator. She presented her role to the PTA . She is managing the transition, and preparing the garden for the spring. She's been planting winter crops, making new signs, constructing and repairing beds, and generally tidying up the space. She's looking to find creative ways for families to volunteer. There is a Google doc with a list of garden activities that are self-directed for families. Also, there are more difficult activities for families. Any questions? Reach out to her: abigail.p.baker@gmail.com

VI. Business and announcements

- A. Mt. Readmore kicks off 1/12/21 (3 week program this year)/ Whooo's Reading. This is PTA's primary fundraiser this year, and in need of volunteers to help out. Online Book fair is live, through 12/2



This is a fundraiser for the Sabin library. Books will be shipped to school before winter holidays.

C. The library is on hold until latest Covid health restrictions are lifted.

D. Oregon Battle of the Books, info out this week

This program's information went out today, 11/18/20. This program supports and promotes reading. Registration is open for teams. This year books have been funded by PTA and will be donated after use back to Sabin library.

E. Yearbook --The PTA will continue looking into how to get a yearbook with student leadership help and parent volunteer expertise. More discussion needed.

F. [Audit](#) of Sabin PTA finished--went through peer audit and that went fine, taxes have been filed. Unit in Good Standing was loaded on state's PTA website..

G. PTA and parent communications- Slack (channel- Sabin School Community), Instagram, others

Reminder of PTA membership (form or online)

Next Meeting, Wednesday December 16th at 5:30pm

VII. Presentation for Caregivers about Communities for Safe Kids that will begin after Thanksgiving.

VIII. **Meeting adjourned 5:15pm.**

Helpful links:

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

[Communities for Safe Kids Brochure](#)

Chat text from the PTA Zoom meeting:

Kris Travis : Agenda:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1z6S9pek2doWkJGKECyuWVMg5_prkDLzCT0MD3vq9lxg/edit?usp=sharing

From Sabin PTA : Jenny DuVander (Evan & Alana, Willis/Buckle and Isabel/Anderson)

From Marja Selmann : My family is new to Sabin this year. My son Finn is a fifth grader. But we've got a 5 year old who will be starting kindergarten next year, so we're looking forward to being around for a while. We're really happy so far with the administration, teachers and parent volunteers!

Kristen Jessie-Uyanik : Kristen Jessie-Uyanik (Leyla, Simonsen grade 3)

Amanda Elliston : Hi, I'm Amanda Elliston. New to Sabin and Portland, Philip is in 5th grade. PTA Secretary.

Kris Travis : Kris Travis, PTA board member (Elodie, 2nd grader & Ada, Kinder)

Will Layng : Hi, Will Layng, one of the co-VP's with Jenny and Kris this year. My kid is Selma in second grade



Josh Jones : Josh Jones, (Simone, 5th grade; Hazel 1st grade), PTA co-treasurer

Lydia Fisher (she/her) : Lydia Fisher (Sylas in fifth and Phineas in second)

Erin Wallace : Erin Wallace , Sabin Equity Group member and parent of 3rd grader here (and a former Sabin student now at Grant)!

Debbie Blastic : Debbie Blastic (Orion, 5th grade & Alex, 3rd grade), PTA Co-Treasurer

John Weatherford : Hi everyone! Jon Weatherford - I have Colin in 5th grade and Theo in 3rd at Sabin

Sarah Bunton : Hi everyone and welcome to new families! I'm Sarah... have a 4th grader this year.

khadija : They made a STATEMENT!

Kris Travis : that's a photo of the door

Kris Travis : (and my dog)

Debbie Blastic : Ms. Bruce was on earlier.

Chrysanthius Lathan : I have a planning meeting that I must get ready for. Thanks for having me, and thanks for all you do, and thanks for your support. #thecommunityhasspoken

Will Layng : Thanks Mrs. Lathan!

1Lydia Fisher (she/her) : I have to leave for a work meeting, but thanks to all of you for being here. Hang in there, everyone!

Kate A. : Yay, Emily Foster!!!

Will Layng : Glad you could make it Lydia

Uyaniks : it's almost as if we should ask families how some PTA money could help them provide a better learning environment for their kids? Not sure how to do this in an equitable way, but that's what's on my mind...

Kate A. : VERY true for kindergarten families as well! How do families new to Sabin make connections?

Kate A. : yes. dice manipulatives math based game library?

Amanda Elliston : Pod discussion is so tricky because of new Covid cases rising, and the new restrictions.

1Will Layng : I also want to check in with Peninsula (Neighborhood House) on those options and how they are doing, I haven't heard from them in a while

Uyaniks : I stayed home and eavesdropped on 3rd grade today and it was so awe-inspiring

Sarah : I feel beyond blessed to have Ms. Anderson as Bellamy's teacher! Her care and energy radiate through the screen even in these challenging times.

Uyaniks : We love our Sabin teachers, thank you for coming today and sharing with us!

khadija : Thank you for listening!

Will Layng : Thanks all our teachers, I was struck by how much the experience you shared was about the kids. We appreciate you and want to support

Erin Wallace : I have a work call I need to join. Thanks to everyone for looking out for each other and THANK YOU TEACHERS!!! WE LOVE YOU!

Gail She/Her : Thanks so much for your time and commitment to the Sabin community! It was great to virtually meet you all. Please feel free to email me at abigail.p.baker@gmail.com with any questions, concerns or information about the sabin garden! Thanks so much for your time, Gail!

Will Layng : I'd like to help.

Sabin PTA : <https://efairs.follettbookfairs.com/guest/home?classCode=Z72LW>

Will Layng : Mt. REadmore kickoff 1/12 or 1/21?

Sarah : 1/21

Will Layng : thx

Sarah Bunton : and 3 week program runs jan 22 - feb 12

Kate A. : Thanks for your work on this. I am going to head off! Sarah Bokich, I left you a phone message.



Uyaniks : I love the idea of a yearbook, but only if we're able to be inclusive, which is hard in normal years...

Sabin PTA : <https://www.oregonpta.org/membership>

Kris Travis : Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/sabin_school_community/

Kris Travis : FB: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/241004198933/>

Kris Travis : Slack:

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

Will Layng : Thanks Jenny for facilitating tonight

Amanda Elliston : Thank you, Jenny!

Eoin Bastable : thanks all, need to go.

Uyaniks : Thank you, this looks like an amazing program!

Sarah : What a wonderful program, thanks so much for giving this overview.

Amber Geiger Morgan : Thank you!!!

Uyaniks : thank you Kenya, Gina, and Dalia and Ms. Moller!!

Uyaniks : I added this to our weekly class parent newsletter! (3rd grade)

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.*