



# Edison Parent Council

## AGENDA

Wednesday, September 10, 2019  
Edison Library, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

*Ceara Wilson (President); Sara Starlin and Nicole Lillegard (Co-Vice Presidents);  
Grant Schoonover (Secretary); Kelly Josephsen and Tiffany Barflied (Volunteer Coordinators);  
Kelly Colvin-Smith (Communications); Dylan West (Treasurer)*

Topic	Point Person	Time	Notes
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Point Person</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Welcome to Parent Council	Ceara/Grant	6:00	Introductions and Snack Sign Ups
Introduction to Parent Council and Site Council – How things work	Ceara & Amanda	6:05	New event guidelines
<p>Ceara Wilson, the Parent Council President, provided an overview of the purpose of the Edison Parent Council. Parent Council has three primary objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Fundraise – all funds go to support Edison support staff as district funding is <u>not</u> sufficient to meet needs</li> <li>2) Community building – create opportunities for Edison families to connect</li> <li>3) Volunteer classroom and Edison support</li> </ol> <p>Site Council Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amanda Terhes shared an overview of Edison’s Site Council.</li> <li>- Site Council is the governing body of our school. Our Principal, four teachers, and two support staff are members, as well as two elected parent representatives. Parent members serve two-year terms. The council meets once a month to discuss decision points throughout the year involving budget, the school calendar, and many other topics pertaining to the business of the school. Parent representatives give a monthly report at each Parent Council meeting. For more information, you may review Oregon Site Council at a Glance here: <a href="https://edison2018.4j.lane.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/sitecouncil.pdf">https://edison2018.4j.lane.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/sitecouncil.pdf</a></li> <li>- Edison is in need of a parent representative for Site Council this academic year. If you’re interested please contact: Amanda Terhes (<a href="mailto:jaterhes@msn.com">jaterhes@msn.com</a>)</li> </ul>			

- This is a BIG year for Site Council with the ongoing school improvement plan and the Edison rebuild process

Activities Calendar/Call for volunteers	Kelly J. & Tiffany	6:15	Event coordinators still needed; room parents
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Volunteer Coordinators – Kelly Josephsen ([kjosephsen@gmail.com](mailto:kjosephsen@gmail.com)) and Tiffany Barfield ([tbarfield@nine29photography.com](mailto:tbarfield@nine29photography.com)) - help coordinate and facilitate Edison volunteer needs, including event/activity coordinators, room parents, and classroom support

There are a lot of Volunteer needs for this academic year! If you're interested but need to know more or know you'd like to through your hat in the ring, contact Kelly or Tiffany ([kjosephsen@gmail.com](mailto:kjosephsen@gmail.com), [tbarfield@nine29photography.com](mailto:tbarfield@nine29photography.com))

#### Room Parents for each classroom

- Room Parents –Support teachers and help secure volunteers for classroom activities. Room parents check in with their classroom teacher periodically to determine if there are any upcoming needs for parent volunteers to support classroom activities (Meet the Masters, tech support, facilitation of reading or math groups, science experiments, etc.).
- If you're interested in serving as your teacher's Room Parent, please contact Kelly or Tiffany ([kjosephsen@gmail.com](mailto:kjosephsen@gmail.com), [tbarfield@nine29photography.com](mailto:tbarfield@nine29photography.com))

#### Event Volunteer Coordinators

- We need parents to serve as dedicated volunteer coordinators to help pull off several Edison events/activities, including fundraising – direct drive, escript, show the love campaign and Edison merch.
- A high priority is identifying parents to shadow current volunteer coordinators this year with the goal of taking over their responsibilities next year. Of greatest importance, we need parents to shadow the following annual events:
  - Ocean Week
  - Jogathon
  - Teacher Appreciation Week

#### Site Council Parent Representative

- Edison is in need of a parent representative for Site Council this academic year. If you're interested please contact: Amanda Terhes ([jaterhes@msn.com](mailto:jaterhes@msn.com))
- For more information about Site Council see Oregon Site Council at a Glance here: <https://edison2018.4j.lane.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/sitecouncil.pdf>

Communications/eNews	Kelly C.	6:20	
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Kelly Colvin works with the Edison Parent Council to help improve overall Edison communications with parents. Overall, she's been working to improve communication to parents and between parents and Edison teachers/staff with the assistance of Principal Scott, Edison teachers and Parent Council. Parent Council helps coordinate several communication tools for that purpose:

eNews

- Coordinated by Parent Council
- MailChimp eNews is the principal mode of communication. If you are not receiving, contact Kelly C (kelly\_colvin@hotmail.com)
- Anyone can add content to the newsletter for Edison and community events via a [google doc](#)
- Principal Scott suggested PC provide updates about the Edison building process and establishing a section.

Facebook and Instagram

- Edison's account is administered by Sara Starlin (sara.starlin@gmail.com)
- Events and information can also be promoted

Edison Website

- Still a work in progress with lots of updated information BUT outdated content still remains (i.e., Parent Council date and time was incorrect this evening resulting in parents showing up at the wrong time)
- Dylan West (dpwest@gmail.com and Kelly C (kelly\_colvin@hotmail.com) will work with Principal Scott to set up meeting to set up several parent reps to help maintain content and create procedures for adding and maintaining content
- Immediate needs – update navigation, remove outdated content and add/update content related to important dates and deadlines for parents

Block Party	Amanda	6:25	Debrief of our first annual event
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Amanda extended a big thankyou to all of the volunteers and sponsors who made the event and shared a few updates about the success of the event

- Goals of the event were to raise funds, establish a back to school community building event and further develop connections to greater Edison community – feels like we did just that!
- In total, the event will net about \$8000 in raised funds for Edison

- Site Council will discuss whether/how to hold event next year given Edison's move

Amanda shared that she will not be able to coordinate event next year but needs replacement

- The parent support was considerable and would continue to next year
- Same can be said for sponsors
- If interested in coordinating next year, please reach out and connect with Amanda ([jaterhes@msn.com](mailto:jaterhes@msn.com))

Teachers perspective

- Principal Scott and Teachers shared that the event was a good shift from picnic the night before first day of classes to this event on Friday
- Focus should be on the community building first and fundraising second
- There was a buzz throughout the school the day of the event

Quick feedback shared during Parent Council

- Lots of Edison families and community members attended. Fun, great event!
- Promotion was great but could have emphasized the fundraising aspects of the event a little better. Though this was not supported by everyone as fundraising might take away from community building.
- Promotion was good – the word got out through signage and kids helped promote with post-its
- Were free and reduced lunch families included given financial costs? – Amanda shared that this was a line item in budget which allowed. Next year provide way for families to donate tickets via the ticket order form.
- Ran out of some food items, including Falling Sky, hot dogs, cotton candy, cups – it was hard to know how many people to anticipate – people were excited to hear that things were running out as it meant the event was successful
- University Park might be a good location for next year – might present security issues
- Timing of the event was challenging for set up and clean up – BUT great to ensure that all students and families could attend
- Challenge to get volunteers given the time of the year, especially HS students
- Next year it might be nice to promote to families of preschool-aged kids
- Food by the garbage – not the greatest place. Tabling should have been in the shade.

Library Committee	Amanda	6:40	Edison has limited Library staffing it is mostly volunteer-run
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Tasha Proudfoot is taking over as chair of library committee

- Edison's Library Committee works with Sonja Barnes to help support the functioning of the library

- Committee members are typically in charge of specific responsibilities, including book mending, information board, check-in and check-out procedures, and coordinating classroom volunteers during library time
- If interested in participating talk with Tasha Proudfoot ([tasha.proudfoot@gmail.com](mailto:tasha.proudfoot@gmail.com))

Reading Olympics

Nicole

6:45

Nicole shared information about Edison’s annual Reading Olympics

- As a kick off to the Reading Olympics, the Library Committee will host a Book Exchange starting the week of Sept. 16. Information will be shared soon with more details.
- Reading Olympics packets will be sent home for students to track their reading minutes from Sept. 25 - Oct. 4. Reading to self, reading aloud to parents, and having parents read to their students all count, so every student can participate! This is a great fundraiser for Edison because it not only encourages kids to read but it also helps support the Edison Library and Edison as a whole.
- Prizes – raffles for participants, individual prize by grade-level for student who reads the most, classroom who reads the most
- Watch for more information in future e-newsletters and in your student's backpack! If you have any questions about this event, please contact [Nicole Kuhl](#)

Scholastic Book Faire

- Held last year but not slated for this year
- Though lots of parents have approached about holding event again this year
- Success dependent on holding event to coincide with another event

OBOB

Katie

6:50

Oregon Battle of the Books

- Team competition for 3-5 graders. Teachers make teams of four students. Kids have 16 books to read. Overall goal is to get students motivated and excited about reading.
- In January, Edison practice sessions launch during the lunch hour. Edison “battles” begin in February and winners then go on to regional competitions.
- Permission slips will go out this month for students to sign up.
- More information about OBOB generally can be accessed here: <https://www.oregonbattleofthebooks.org/>
- If you’d like to learn more or help out this year please contact Katie (insert contact)
- Book titles for this year:

**3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Division**

The Ark Plan by Laura Martin

Aru Shah and the End of Time by Roshani Chokshi

Clayton Byrd Goes Underground by Rita Williams-Garcia

Fablehaven by Brandon Mull  
 Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt  
 Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by Jack Gantos  
 Just Dance by Patricia MacLachlan  
 Malala: My Story of Standing Up for Girls' Rights by Malala Yousafzai  
 Number the Stars by Lois Lowry  
 Out of Left Field by Ellen Klages  
 Paper Wishes by Lois Sepahban  
 Ramona the Pest by Beverly Cleary  
 Riding Freedom by Pam Muñoz Ryan  
 Stef Soto, Taco Queen by Jennifer Torres  
 Wishtree by Katherine Applegate  
 The Wizards of Once by Cressida Cowell

Curriculum Night	Jenny Vondracek and Sarah Lacey	6:55	<i>Edison Teachers</i>
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Curriculum night will be held for all grade levels on Wednesday, September 25

- 6-6:30 1-2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms
- 6:30-7 Edison overview by Principal Scott for all grade levels
- 7-7:45 3-5 grade classrooms
- Kindergarten classrooms already covered information at orientation and will not present during curriculum night
- Curriculum night is an opportunity for teachers to share with parents information about a variety things related to each grade levels

Principal Scott's Report	Scott	7:00	
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Title I Coordinator

- Sarah Lacey is Edison's Title I Coordinator ([lacey\\_s@4j.lane.edu](mailto:lacey_s@4j.lane.edu))
- This is the first year that Edison has Title I status. Edison is receiving Title I funds because of the high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families. These funds are allocated to provide staff and programming aimed at helping ensure that all children are successful and to provide additional support to underrepresented families
- At the start of the year, Edison staff is in the process of identifying students who qualify for Title I services and may need individualized intervention/support
- Edison has established standard intervention time each week, 30 minutes each day
- 11-13 Edison staff will be providing pinpoint support and enrichment opportunities for qualifying students. Evening programming and events will also be held for Title I qualifying students and their families. Often these events will coincide with regularly scheduled Edison events with targeted promotion and programming for Title I families.

New Behavioral Specialist/Educational Assistant (Gerry Morgan)

- Gerry Morgan is back at Edison this year! Scott shared that Edison was lucky to have Gerry back given his substantial experience and expertise in this area and his strong understanding of Edison and the Edison community.
- Every elementary school has a behavior teach leader. At Edison this is Laura Harris – Gerry will work with Laura and in partnership together
- In this work, staff provides direct behavior instruction, coordinates social groups, and develops behavior support plans among other ways they support Edison students.

#### Student Success Act

- Oregon’s Student Success Act is a new law that provides a historic opportunity to reinvest in our students and our schools. Starting next year, it is expected to provide an additional \$12–13 million dollars per year (about 5% of the district’s general fund budget) to Eugene School District 4J to improve educational services.
- Eugene School District 4J’s plan will be developed with the input of our students, families, staff and community, starting in September with feedback about what is working well and what we could improve to support our students' success.  
As Principal Scott learns more about this funding and how it will be allocated, he will provide updates via Parent Council and school-wide communication

There are several immediate ways to provide input.

- 4J’s Survey - Please, take 15 minutes to share your thoughts online:  
<https://www.4j.lane.edu/2019/08/student-success-act-survey-forums/>
- Attend a 4J Community Conversation:  
Childcare, light refreshments, and Spanish interpretation will be provided.
  - Wednesday, September 25, 7–8 p.m., at Arts & Technology Academy
  - Thursday, September 26, 5:30–6:30 p.m., at North Eugene High School
  - Spanish/Español: Thursday, September 26, 7–8 p.m., at North Eugene High School
- Attend STAND for Children’s upcoming community event with featured speaker 4J Superintendent Dr. Gustavo Balderas on Saturday, Sept 28, 9-11am, 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, 1050 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Eugene

#### Edison ReBuild Update

- On September 24 Principal Scott will attend his first Edison rebuild project meeting. These will be weekly through the year. Scott will provide ongoing updates as he learns more through Parent Council and Edison school-wide communications.
- This summer, the school district spent time surveying the Edison building site (e.g., arbors to assess trees and seismic to assess soil composition) and also held a series of planning session to get feedback on the architectural design – it looks like they’re leaning toward the Pacific NorthWest or modern w/historical elements
- Ceara will add rebuild as regular agenda item at Parent Council meetings and weekly eNews to help Edison parents stay informed
- Edison students will attend school next academic year at 4J’s swing site - Willard school (behind Market of Choice on 29<sup>th</sup>). The plan is to demolition most of the existing school, retaining only the gym and cafeteria, and building prefab classrooms that will be used by Edison and Camas students in the short term

New Drop off

- Edison staff really appreciate how student drop off is going this year
- Adjustment to playground drop off from the entrance of the school has decreased the chaos of previous years. The mornings have been much calmer and students have been in an enclosed safe area.
- Several parents shared close calls with kids darting in traffic and suggested that Edison staff send out another reminder (maybe include information about school bus traffic rules – see Springfield schools for a good example) about safety best practices

Other Items

Parent Communication could improve

- Sending out dates of events and field trips way ahead of time would result in more attendance and volunteer participation from any working parents

***Next Parent Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 1, 2019***

K-2 Grades STEAM Night coinciding with our next event

Childcare provided for other age groups!!!