

Sherman PTSA General Meeting

Meeting Date & Time: September 10, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: In-Person @ the Library; Virtual on Zoom, Link at ShermanPTSA.com

Meeting member notification: Posted on website, weekly email, school bulletin board, social media and around the building.



Call Meeting to Order at 6:30pm

Land Acknowledgement

- Discussed goal of doing more than just the land acknowledgement- creating more intentional learning and action orientated opportunity.

Housekeeping:

- Attendees: In-Person and Zoom
- Approval of June 2025 Minutes
 - Motion to approve by Member
 - Second: Member
 - All approved.

Standing Order & Upcoming Business

WLC- Spanish Class

World Language Connection: Teaches second language in primary schools. This is a gap in our schools. Current focus is Spanish. Program has been in operation for forty years. Learning process uses a lot of games, activates and games- similar to how kids learn their primary language- they will learn language and culture. This years they will study about different counties. Each unit has lessons and each lessons has a story- like the students are traveling through with the story. Will be in the mornings- Friday 7:40am-8:30am. 25 lessons- planned out with the TPS calendar to accommodate holidays and days off. This learning process is different for each kid. There is a behavior policy- is clear and is meant to protect all the children- will do everything to keep kids in class. Open K-5. Open to the possibility of two classes- in this case the kids will separated by grade, if one class will be all grades. The minimum is 8 and the maximum is 16 per class possible up to 32. Registration is Open! Going home with kids tomorrow.

Membership

- 57

Treasurer's Report

- 2025 Financial Review
- Checking: 100,565.35
- Savings: 35,016.52
- See treasures report, it has been reconciled but needs to be reviewed by the Finance Committee

Equity Lens Review

- This is a living document, that was started last year. This is the frame work we will use when we start a new program, event etc.- meant to support intentionality around inclusivity and accessibility of our children and families.

2025-2026 Final Budget Vote

- Review of budget presented and approved at last meeting of the year, following best practice reaffirming the budget. There were some small tweaks- specifically there is carry over \$\$\$ as we use use a cash basis- some of this is from the Raise the Paddle at the Auction.

- Amendments: Will be buying hats and selling them, we lost the instructional coach, and updating for the 4/5 split.
- Treasurer reviewed the budget expenses and income.
- Motion to approve:
 - Motion: Member approved
 - Second: Member approved
 - All approved

2025-2026 Bylaws Update and Vote

- Motion to adopt Standing Rules Amendments
 - Motion: Member approved
 - Second: Member approved
 - All approved
 - Standing Rules Amendment: Bank Singers (See Appendix A)
 - Standing Rules Amendment: Reserves (See Appendix A)
 - Standing Rules Amendment: Secured Credit Cards (See Appendix A)
 - Standing Rules Amendment: Membership Dues (See Appendix A)

2025-2026 Nominating Committee

- Election of Officer(s) - Marquise Dixon
 - Vote: All in favor
- 2026-2027 Nominating Committee request for help
 - The Nominating Committee: would like to be kicked off earlier in the year- to nominate folks for board service. Two current members support this.

Principal Updates

- Been a fabulous whirlwind
- Providing updates:
 - Did PB days before school
 - Had PLC- this morning
 - PBL cycle is moving and will align with open houses.
 - Developing SEL (social emotional learning)- Getting clear on the SEL Playbook- This is open for folks to review.
 - iReady starting soon.
- Have 5th grade camp dilemma: Have partnered with Camp Seymour and there is another camp that is \$9k less we could partner with. \$25k Seymour, \$17k Selath (on Vashon)- will be putting out for survey to 5th grade families feedback soon. 5th grade camp will be happening- This decision needs to occur asap.
- Hungry for our feedback- to make sure folks are getting the information they want from the school.

Counselor's Corner

- Zones of Regulation: Emails are going out about the zones. Each class will be getting lessons on what the ZONEs are. Will also explore:
 - Size of the problem
 - Inner coach
 - Growth mindset
 - Breathing tools
- Updates lessons yearly
- Will be doing responsive SEL work- Survey on belonging are gone out in weekly ROAR will help inform this work.
 - Priorities will include bullying prevention

- New SEL resources
 - Character Strong (already used in middle and high school)
- Student Lead Clubs:
 - Supported by PTSA: have included announcements, newspaper, nature club and chess club.
- Peacemakers program: 5th and 4th are trained to be help younger students during recess navigate conflict.
 - Applications and training coming Soon!

STEAM Updates

- Working on open house and PBL cycle starting.
- Flyers will be going out soon
 - Kids need to BE WITH THEIR ADULT the WHOLE TIME

Inclusion and Belonging

- Meeting: TBD (priority on Wednesday)- at Sherman working on securing childcare
 - Will be reviewing the mission of the Committee
 - Confirming the purposes
 - Acknowledging that everyone is on a journey and will be scaffolding this
 - Focus on supportive
 - Opportunities to create attainable goals: develop resources library- sharing community events
 - Community education nights

Fundraising Coordinator

- On October 8th first Round Table Take-over
 - % of sales all day
- Read-a-thon tbd

Volunteer Coordinator

- New Role! To help streamline volunteer process for folks.
- ON Sherman PTSA website working on links for ALL VOLUNTEER OPS- will take to list for all events on the docket.
- Volunteers needed for:
 - Round Table Takeover (Oct. 8th)
 - Picture day (Sep 23rd)

Room Parent Liaison

- New Role! To help support Room Parents- to support communication
- There will be an info session on Wednesday 9/17 at 9:45am to learn about the role.
 - Will work on zoom options and information on website about the opportunity
 - Sign up online 😊
 - Suggestion: provide new teachers education on what help a Room Parent can do!

Questions! Comments! Feedback!

Open Floor

- Sherman Tiger Choir is performing at the Rainers 9/17 game!!!
 - Tickets are discounted through Givebacks website
 - PTSA- will be sponsoring tickets for families that may need this
- Yearbook link is live
- Sherman Tiger Wear ends on the 15th

Adjournment 7:38pm

Appendix A:

BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

A: BANK ACCOUNT

This recommended rule appears to be missing from our standing rules.

18. Bank Account

PTSA shall establish one or more accounts in financial institutions as determined by the board of directors. The PTSA shall require the approval of at least two elected officers with signing authority to make a withdrawal.

B: BANK ACCOUNT SIGNERS (18)

To align our bylaws with the minimum requirements and recommended language of WA State PTA, the following section has been updated:

Current Language:

Two signatures are required on each PTSA check and on financial matters and binding agreements. The signatures of three elected officers shall be on the bank signature card. The Board of Directors shall determine who the signers on the PTSA bank account shall be.

New Language:

The board of directors shall determine which officers shall have signing authority on the PTSA bank account and binding agreements. *The President, Treasurer, and additional board member(s) will be named each fiscal year and updated with each institution as needed. Two authorized signers must sign all PTA checks.*

If utilized, secured credit cards will only be issued to authorized signers on this PTSA's bank account.

In the event of co-treasurers, only one will be a signer on the accounts; the other will have access to online banking for review. If there is one treasurer, another board member that is not a signer may be assigned to do the online banking review.

**update numeration hereafter to reflect new sections, ie this is now 19.*

C: RESERVES (28)

WA State PTA recommends a “prudent reserve of 6-12 months of operating expenses” be held in savings. Our savings balance as of September 1st, 2025 is \$35,016.52. Historical expenses post-covid average \$100,000 and budgeted expenses are \$110,000. Two-thirds reserve of budget is about \$73,000. Therefore, the board will transfer \$35,000 from checking to savings to hold \$70,000 in reserve.

Current Language:

The PTSA shall set aside a cash reserve amount equal to six (6) months of anticipated expenditures. For the 2020-2021 school year, this amount shall be \$35,000. The cash reserves shall be placed in a separate bank account. Should these cash reserves be needed during the school year to fund budgeted programs prior to incoming fundraising, the board may approve the transfer of funds to prevent an overdraft in the operating bank account.

New Language:

The PTSA shall set aside a cash reserve amount equal to two-thirds anticipated expenditures. As of the 2025-2026 school year, this amount shall be \$70,000. The cash reserves shall be placed in a separate bank account. Should these cash reserves be needed during the school year to fund budgeted programs prior to incoming fundraising, the board may approve the transfer of funds to prevent an overdraft in the operating bank account.

D: SECURED CREDIT CARD

PTAs and Councils are finding that relying solely on checks and a reimbursement system has created a barrier for many that are otherwise interested in leadership of their PTA. To alleviate the burden on our event chairs and board, we are moving \$5000 to a secured credit card that can be used for purchases. Just as a check request is used for reimbursement, a purchase request will be used for the card and it will need the signatures of two signers before the purchase can be made. The card limit is set by the cash advance of \$5000. To permit the board to open a secured credit card, the following recommended language from the WSPTA Standing Rules will be added to standing rules:

Online Banking, Debit Cards, and Secured Credit Cards

PTSA permits the use of secured credit cards to disburse funds. The PTSAs board of directors will use written procedures and internal controls for utilizing secured credit cards to minimize the risk of misappropriation of funds. Procedures for the use of these can be found in current WSPTA policy. Debit cards are not permitted.

PTSA will establish a \$5000 credit limit on their secured credit card.

Cash transactions on the secured card are not permitted (ATM, cash back, etc).

**section above will be added after rule 19 (Bank Account) and numeration will be updated hereafter*

E. MEMBERSHIP DUES

The standing rules have outdated information regarding membership dues.

Current Language:

The annual membership service fee for this PTSA shall not exceed \$15 for one member, \$25 for two household members, and \$10 for each additional family member. All paid members have a voice and a vote at Sherman PTSA general membership meetings.

New Language:

The annual membership fee for this PTSA shall be \$15 per member. All paid members have a voice and a vote at Sherman PTSA general membership meetings.

I move that we adopt the 2025-2026 Standing Rules with the proposed changes as stated.