

PTA Agenda March 17th, 2025

Welcome and Introductions: Vice President Tanya Bishop

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY TANYA BISHOP AT 6:31 PM.

Light up the Night: Let's GLOW Crazy Dance : Alana Hedrick and Allyce Stevens

- Saturday, March 7th
- 317 people attended not including volunteers (usually cap it at 325)
- Final Profit Numbers at next meeting

Update: Wonderfully attended. Many congrats to the coordinators. Theme was very well-liked. Were battling with basketball playoffs and cheer competitions, but attendance was high! Raffles alone were substantial. The dance is a lot of work. The glow-up bar was a big hit. Tattoos were the biggest pull at the table. Thoughts about moving the table to the other side of the gym to reduce congestion and perhaps not having stickers to get stuck on the gym floor.

Nomination Committee: Chair: Bethany Keefe

- Need 2 more members of the committee
 - Minimal work - just an unbiased 3rd party committee available to take nominations
- Election Season - nominations are open- if interested in a leadership position reach out to: Bethany Keefe: bethany.rae.keefe@gmail.com

Update: We try to get a few others to be on the committee. If any interest in Board membership, please reach out to Bethany! We **ARE** looking for Board positions – vice president, membership, etc. Members asked for a brief description of the roles, which are available in the bylaws. Membership is not in the bylaws, as it is more variable. Also looking for someone to run AVS PTA swag next year to work with the distributor. Also need a chair for ice cream social! We welcome all interest and any help!

The bylaws link will be shared with Bethany. Likely social media posts about positions to follow.

One member asked why parents are not attending PTA meetings. Membership is strong, and many parents avail themselves of the option to donate money for the PTA, as opposed to hands-on volunteerism. Idea of recruitment was raised by one member in attendance. Volunteering across all events has been low. Unclear as to why.

Summer Camps: Coordinator: Sara Nusbaum

- Early bird discount closed 2/28 - community saved **\$4658.50** (2025 Savings: **\$3268**)
- As of Monday, March 16th - 763 individual camps have been registered
- There will be no WILD CAMP after Summer Academy this year
- Registration closes April 15th

Update: The response to summer camp is overwhelmingly positive. Registration is still open until 4/15. After 4/15, instructors will decide if their camp has enough registrants to move forward.

Teacher Grant: Tanya Bishop

- 7th Grade Rocket Project
 - 3rd Year Requested

- Incredible Feedback from prior year projects from both students, teachers & parents
- Kindergarten will join them this year and then show the 7th graders their stomp rockets

Update: This project is a favorite! The 7th grade class will invite kindergarteners. Request attached to meeting agenda printout

*****MOTION by Tanya Bishop to approve \$437.81 for the 7th Grade Capstone Project (rockets), seconded by Bailey Trahan. All in favor. MOTION PASSED.*****

Missoula Theater: Coordinators Ami D'Amelic and Heidi Mader

- Secret Garden- Grades 2, 4, 6, 8
- Shows Friday, March 20th and Saturday, March 21st
 - \$5.00 a ticket
- We had to rent a rooms on AirBNB for directors as we did not have host volunteers

Update: Inquired as to possible videography volunteer for Fall 2026 show, as understanding is that current provider may be retiring. Any inquiries, please contact Heidi. Encouraged show attendance.

Teacher Appreciation: Tanya Bishop

- May 11th - 15th
- This year's theme is Harry Potter/Hogwarts
- More details to follow in April

Update: Hooray for Harry Potter theming! The event week does not land on the national teacher appreciation week. This is the last true big event before the year winds down, aside from Student Appreciation. More postings to come and more info at the April 2026 meeting.

Financial Report: Treasurer: Andrea Sankovich

Update: Financial report for February 2026 attached. Notable highlights - transferred \$50K from CheddarUp into our account from Summer Camp. Also the Mother/Son event was within budget, although no profit from same. All expense reports are posted on our website.

Admin Report: Dr. Lori Collins

Update: Dr. Collins did the update. Jump rope club Tu/Th in May. After April vacation, it will be two days per week after school. The cheer team won the TriCounty competition! Coaches did a wonderful job with the team! Very proud. Tryouts for softball, baseball, lacrosse upcoming. Looking for someone to line the lacrosse field. Athletic director just resigned, so will be posting for this position. She still intends to coach softball moving forward. The stipend is close to \$6K. It is not an easy job, but very fulfilling.

We don't have a huge incoming Kindergarten class this year (only 53 students). We will only have three sections of Kindergarten. A teacher will likely move from K to another grade level. Seventh grade to have three sections. Mr. Rankin to move to 8th grade social studies. Options still being played out staff wise, with no known definitives until May 2026.

Earth Day upcoming 5/14. Kevin Skarupa coming on Monday. Band students going to state house 3/25. Scholastic Book Fair coming. Biggest event is Night of the Arts 3/26. On 4/2, first and second grade music showcase. 4/8 is parent/teacher conferences. 4/9 is Family Literacy Night (preschool to 4th grade). The

state wants kids reading by the end of Kindergarten, so strategies will be shared. 4/14 is the Band/chorus performance at Pinkerton at the Stockbridge Theatre. Geography bee on 4/21. April vacation at the end of the month. On 5/14, third and fourth grade music showcase. 5/15 middle school dance. Last early release day is 5/19. New event this year is Wellness Day for middle school on 5/19. The school is going to sideline academics in favor of wellness activities, e.g. pickle ball, breakout stations, playdough challenge, cooperative games, reading rooms (tasks to decompress/manage stress). 5/24 is the fourth grade wax museum trip.

All 8th grade events have been posted on Bloomz – lots of opportunities to volunteer for dinner dance, graduation, etc. Canobie Lake field trip. Graduation is 6/11, a Thursday. 6/10 is the semi-formal at Derryfield Country Club.

Monday (3/23), AVS is in the running for School of Excellence. Five-person committee coming to AVS, students will show exhibits (robotics/invention convention/second grade book project). Panel discussions to follow with teachers, parents, School Board members.

Children's UA library time looking for volunteers to assist them with shopping during the Scholastic book fair. Also open during the Night of the Arts. Be sure to get there early because the line is long! Library schedules are posted on individual teacher websites. Dr. Collins to put list of library times in email.

AVS gets grant money from the federal government, e.g. special ed, Title I/II. There is a lot of accountability to parents. Now the government says we need a stakeholder group to make a collaborative decision on how to spend that money. Need a parent, researcher, and community member(s) in order to follow the guidelines. Looking for people to donate their time to stakeholder group. Dr. Collins to send email about this upcoming.

AVS job openings – school nurse, 6th grade LA, athletic director, paraprofessional. All on website.

School Board Update: Anthony Piascik (could not be here tonight)

Update: School calendar posted for 2026/2027 year. Labor Day is late this year. We start school on a Thursday in Fall. Finally got the day before Thanksgiving off. No Friday off for the Deerfield Fair, however!

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 7:10 PM.

Upcoming Events

MARCH

16-20 Missoula Children's Theatre- The Secret Garden (Grades 2, 4, 6, 8)

17 6:30pm PTA Meeting (CONFIRM NOMINATION COMMITTEE)

APRIL

21 6:30pm PTA Meeting (CONFIRM BOARD POSITIONS AND ANY NOMINATIONS)

27-2 April Break

MAY

11-15 Teacher Appreciation Week

19 6:30pm PTA Meeting (VOTE FOR 26-27 BOARD POSITIONS)

JUNE

5 Student Appreciation Day ***open to ideas that do not take a ton of time/interrupt the day (have done refreshers, popsicles, ice cream at lunch time). What about a decaf version of the dirty sodas per teacher member? Drinks were very popular.

ATTENDANCE

Heidi Mader
Tanya Bishop
Andrea Sankovich
Bailey Trahan
Alyssa Stanton
Jennifer Strabone
Bethany Keefe
Lori Collins
Kate Phengsysovanh
Emily Seidell
Brittany Carlson
Jeff Barrientos
Alana Hedrick
Allyce Stevens