

PTC Board Special Meeting

April 8, 2018

Board Members Present: Marilee Shafer, Alicia Schenbeck, Amy Harrison, Shawna Grigsby, Courtney Geller, Laura Harding, Kristin Glover, Megan Mumford

A special meeting was called to discuss funding of the 2018-19 Oregon Battle of the Books at Hiteon. The list that was released by OBOB in Fall 2017 for the 2018-19 year contains a controversial book called *George* that focuses on a transgender child. Concerns were expressed that the subject content- including transgender issues, pornography, deleting web browsing history, etc- is not appropriate for 3-5th graders.

A few options are possible:

- 1.) Fully fund OBOB
- 2.) Only fund books that have not been deemed controversial.
- 3.) Deny the funds completely.

A quick vote of all board members present showed 4 in favor of funding and 4 against funding the book *George*.

Discussion of the bylaws-

- ARTICLE X - General Policies- Section 3. This Organization shall not seek to direct the administrative activities of Hiteon Elementary nor seek to control its policies.
 - The board felt that as OBOB is a voluntary program, this policy would not be applicable in this case.
- ARTICLE XI - Financial Policies- Section 4. The addition of a new expense to an approved budget with expenditure of more than \$500.00 requires a previous notice and majority vote at a general membership meeting.
 - If we voted to defund OBOB fully, it would need to be put up for a vote at the general meeting.
 - If we only voted to not fund the controversial book it would be under the \$500 cap and therefore could be voted on by just the board.

After extensive discussion, it was agreed that funding or not by our board takes a political stance either way. Therefore, the board agreed to stand by decision made by the previous 2016-17 board to appropriate funds in the 2017-18 budget to fund the 2018-19 OBOB program in full at Hiteon. The Hiteon administration has decided to use these funds to purchase the book *George*. All questions regarding this decision should be directed to the administration.

As we move forward in our 2018-2019 budgeting process, the PTC Board will discuss funding OBOB only after the release of the list of books. The process would be similar to the way in which curriculum requests are presented and the board votes to approve or reject the proposal.