

PTA President, Debra Olson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on September 21st, 2016.

**President's Update: Debra Olson**

- Welcome and Introductions: President Olson thanked everyone for attending the first PTA Meeting of the year and introduced the 2016-2017 Executive Board and Homeroom Parents.
  - **2016-2017 Executive Board**
    - President: Debra Olson
    - Vice President: Nora Rigby
    - Treasurer: Andrea Green
    - Secretary: Kate Gardner
    - At-Large Member, Lower Grades: Miwa Kamras
    - At-Large Member, Upper Grades: Allison Rabin
  - **2016-2017 Homeroom Parents**
    - PK3: Raphaëlle Martínez Lattanzio
    - PK4: Shanti Sale
    - K/1 Emminger: Christine Spears
    - K/1 Mustian: Alyssa Caroselli & Jason Park
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mark MacEwan
    - 3<sup>rd</sup>: Reuben Jacobson & Michelle Grossman
    - 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>: Maria Salmi
- **PTA Committees**
  - President Olson also introduced this year's Committees and the attending Committee Chairs. A committee sign-up sheet was circulated.
    - **After-School Committee Chair:** Shanti Sale
    - **Social Justice/Community Service Committee Chair:** Miwa Kamras
    - **Walk to School Day Committee Chair:** Debra Olson
    - **Open House Committee Chair:** Dulce Baptista
    - **Spooktacular Committee Chair:** Stacey McGuirk Rodriguez
    - **Holiday Tree Sale Committee Co-Chairs:** John Spears, Dominic Sale, & Andrew Lee
    - **Annual Auction Committee Chair:** Geraldine Gardner
    - **Mother's & Father's Day Book Drive Chair:** Eugenie Agia
    - **Teacher Appreciation Day Committee Chair:** Miwa Kamras
    - **End of Year Picnic Committee Chair:** Allison Rabin
  - Lower Grades Rep. Miwa Kamras, introduced the new Social Justice/Community Service committee, a committee that will help prioritize providing meaningful opportunities for Ross students and families to engage in social justice and community service work that will enable students to more deeply understand inequity and the role that they can play in addressing it. This committee will connect both to the Ross Student Leadership Council, as well as to Ms. Mustian's social justice curriculum that will foster student learning about how to be involved with our neighborhood and greater community.

- Auction Chair, Geraldine Gardner, asked that we save the date for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction scheduled for the evening of May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Human Rights Campaign Building. As this is the biggest fundraiser for our school, with some great items already secured, Geraldine asked for volunteers to participate in this year’s auction planning with a committee kick-off meeting to happen in mid-November.

● **Financial Presentation**

- President Olson and Treasurer Green delivered a presentation on the Ross PTA budget, including a revenue breakdown and expense summary. They shared that the PTA aims to have a balanced budget each year and this year’s proposed budget for school year 2016-2017 is \$123,500.
  - The budget’s major revenue streams are PTA dues ([Pay your dues here](#)), as well as money raised through the Ross Auction, Annual Holiday Tree Sale, the Mother’s and Father’s Day Book Sale, retail loyalty programs (e.g. Amazon), and purchased school supply packages.
  - The Expense breakdown is as follows. Please see attached presentation for more detail.

Enrichment Programs (Kennedy Center, Labryinth Games)
Field Trips (Buses & Performance Tickets)
Library Books
Building Supplies & Repair Maintenance
Auction (e.g. Bidpal)
Holiday Tree Sale
Technology (iPads, Apple TV, Teacher Laptops)
PTA Expenses (Staff Appreciation, Spooktacular, Parent Coffees & Picnics)
Staff Development
Office & Classroom Supplies

**Welcome & Principal’s Update: Holly Searl**

- Welcome and Introductions: Principal Searl welcomed everyone to the PTA meeting and noted that she is starting her 7<sup>th</sup> year at Ross Elementary with a fabulous faculty, whom she introduced. Principal Searl highlighted that we started the year with 171 children, our highest enrollment ever and that we ended the 2015-2016 school year on a successful note, with 90% testing at or above reading level, 95% testing at or above math grade level, and we are in the top 5 highest in the computer-based [PARCC](#) (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career) assessments in the city. Principal Searl noted that we will continue with many partnerships including the Kennedy Center, Arts & Humanity Council, Everybody Wins Reading Program, and the RESET program that provides classroom adventures in hands-on science and math.

**Website Walk Through: Meghan Pazmino**

- Math coach and webmaster, Ms. Pazmino, provided an overview of our new school website, highlighting various online forms, news, calendar, and how to sign up for class e-mail lists.

**Ross Vision/Mission Update: Bethany Bronson (literacy coach) and Katie Mustian**

- K/1 teacher, Ms. Mustian, and literacy coach, Ms. Bronson, shared the process for creating our Ross vision statement: **Embraced for who you are & Empowered to be even more** along with our Ross mission statement: **Every child is known. Every teacher is invested. Every family is valued.**

**Announcements & Upcoming Events at Ross:**

- National Coffee Day on Ross Playground: Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual PTA Movie Night with pizza and popcorn available to purchase: Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- National Walk to School Day: Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- Picture Day: Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- Ross Day at D.C. United: Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.
- Open House: Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Open Forum**

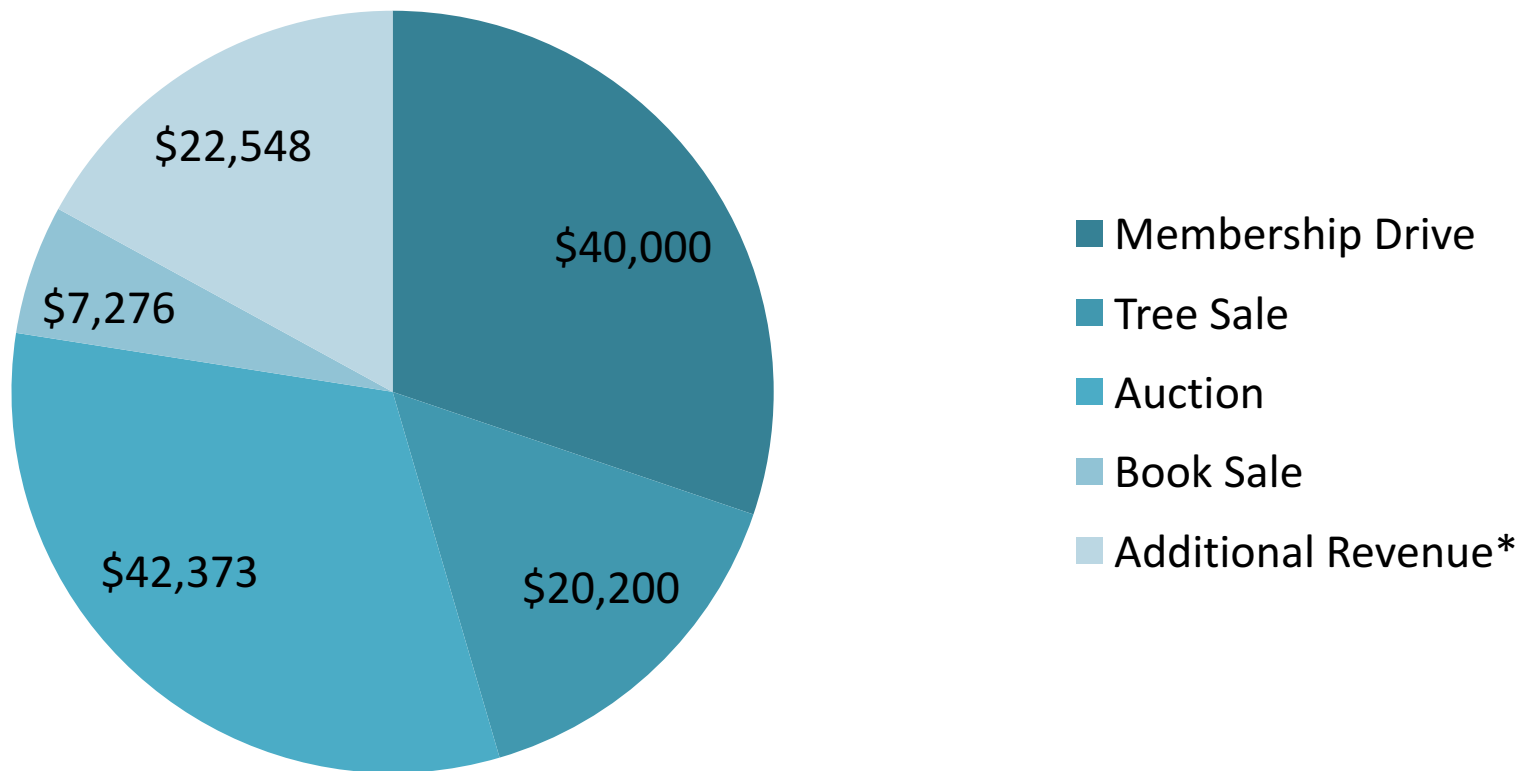
- One parent thanked the PTA board and asked for a Fillmore update. President Olson shared that she continues to work closely with Friends of Fillmore (FoF) president, John Claud, and the PTO/PTA Presidents of the Fillmore schools to continue to advocate to save Fillmore and to come up with strategies to keep Fillmore funded indefinitely. She will continue to provide updates this Fall.
- Another parent asked about our field and President Olson shared that last year DGS was to set aside funds in its new budget this October to replace our Fieldturf synthetic field, but members of the Artificial Task Force Team, including Stephen Kitterman from DGS and Bridget Stesney from DCPS, reported that our field did not make the cut. While we can fundraise (to add to the \$10K Auction fundraiser), we will need to get approval from DCPS to move forward to replace our turf.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.**

**The next PTA General Body Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.**

# SY 2015-16 PTA Revenue Breakdown

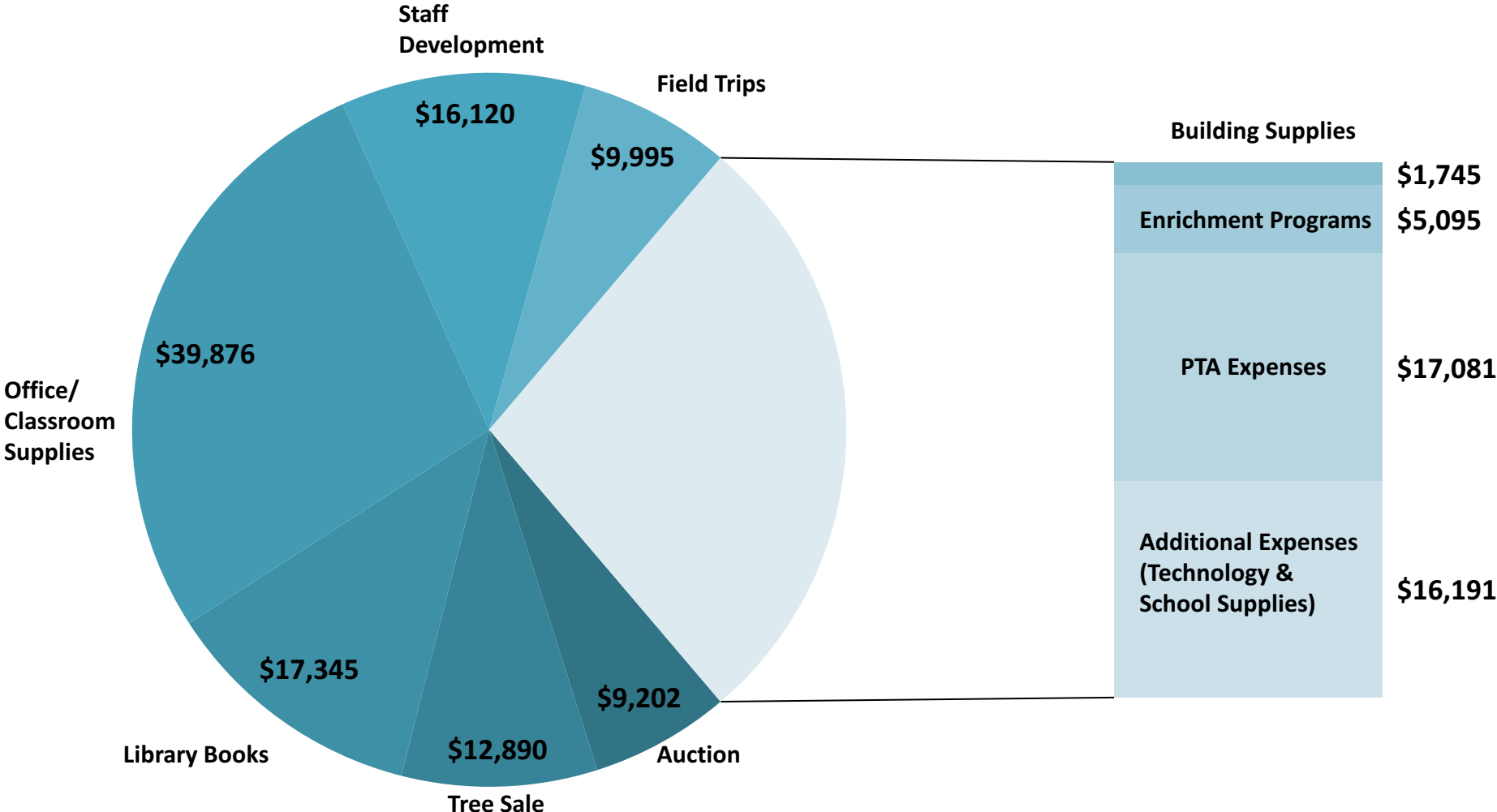
The PTA raised a total of \$132,398 through all of the various fundraisers.



\*Additional Revenue includes items such as Grant, Donations, Retail Loyalty Programs & Purchased School Supply Packages

# SY 2015-16 PTA Expense Breakdown

The PTA incurred expenses totaling **\$145,540** for the SY 2015-16.



# SY 2016 – 17 PTA Budget

<b>SY2016-17 Budget Categories</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Enrichment Programs (Kennedy Center, Labrynth Games, Coding Club, Yoga)	\$5,000.00
Field Trips (Buses & Performance Tickets)	\$5,000.00
Library Books	\$8,000.00
Building Supplies & Repair Maintenance (PE Shed, Lightbulbs, Cleaning Supplies, Bathroom Supplies, Tools)	\$10,000.00
Auction	\$12,000.00
Tree Sale	\$13,000.00
Technology (iPads, Apple TV, Teacher Laptops)	\$15,000.00
PTA Expenses (Staff Appreciation, Spooktaculer, Math Night, Parent Coffees, Picnics, Open Houses, Merchandise, Website)	\$15,500.00
Staff Development	\$20,000.00
Office & Classroom Supplies (School Supplies, Copier Paper, Teaching Unit Supplies, Textbook Printing)	\$20,000.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$123,500.00</b>