



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Printed on 9/17/2015 6:00 PM |

**Join The PTA!** You should have received your PTA welcome packet in a Tuesday folder by now. If you haven't gotten one, please pick one up in the lobby. So far we have 47 members. We have 308 families so we are hoping to get a lot more members.

**Budget.** Adam posted the budget to the listserver if you'd like to take see exactly what the PTA funds. Our two biggest line items are classroom aides and school supplies. DCPS only provides teacher's aides for Preschool-Kindergarten. With our large classes, we feel it is really important for all classes to have teacher's aides. Approximately \$80K of our budget pays for aides. This year, \$20K is going toward school supplies to make up for the DCPS cut our school's budget took this year.

**Newsletter.** Check out the latest Maury Messenger. It is on the listserver and there are some copies in the lobby. Dinkar, our editor, has taken a position on the LSAT so we are looking for a new editor.

**Stay Connected!** On the last page of the PTA welcome packet there is a list of all the ways you can stay connected (School listserve on yahoo, school website, Facebook, Twitter and the calendar). We are using a new calendar this year (no longer using yahoo). It's much better and if you have a smart device, it is really easy to add to your calendar.

**Picture Days.** Fall picture day will be Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> -- No uniforms. The spring picture day will be April 22 - kids will wear uniforms and full class photos will be taken.

**7RiverMart.** Mr. Ko, who owns 7RiverMart at the corner of C and 11<sup>th</sup>, has been supporting Maury with regular donations -- we are so thankful -- let's try to support him too! It's a great store!

**Food Drive.** The 2nd grade is participating in Feeding America: We are doing a Food Drive until Monday, September 28th -- if you have any boxed or canned food, bring it to Maury and drop into the box in the main lobby.

**Chinese Program.** Our goals are to have kids learn basic words, instill interest in Chinese culture, develop listening skills, cultural awareness and linguistic awareness. PK will have class for minutes 20 minutes a week and K-5 will meet for 45 minutes a week. Examples of some of the text books, songs and learning games were shown.

**Upcoming Events:** 9/25 grades 3,4 & 5 will go to UMD for the Chinese language festival. 10/7 grades 1 & 2 will go to UMD for a Chinese performance. The Confucius Institute at George Mason has committed 10K per year to support us.

**School Improvement Committee.** Our two main focuses are general maintenance of the school grounds and working with the school and city on the school addition.

General Maintenance: The team helped set up the Think Tank shed over the summer and recently Ms. Nelson and Mr. Bibo have helped water the plants. We will have a beautification day to clean up the weeds and freshen up the school this fall. If you are interested in helping out, let Max Kieba know. [maxjkieba@gmail.com](mailto:maxjkieba@gmail.com)

Addition: CAG met with DGS last week. The good news is, we are still on track to get a two-story addition. The bad news is that the kitchen and multipurpose room update will not be a part of the reno.

Q: Do we get to keep the trailers? After the addition?

A: No.

**Open Houses.** We are going to need help from people to lead school tours -- we'd love to have a co-chair for his committee. Contact Max at [maxjkieba@gmail.com](mailto:maxjkieba@gmail.com)  
Open houses will be Nov 30, Jan 11 and Feb 8th

**Fundraising.** We depend on each and every one of you to achieve this success. Outside of Maury at the Market, the SOS is our biggest fundraiser -- please donate -- we are suggesting a \$200 per child, but whatever you can give.

The Yard Sale is this Saturday!

Remember to link up your loyalty cards. There is info in the PTA welcome packet, but many stores (such as Safeway, Harris Teeter, Target, Macy's, Nordstrom, Home Depot, Etc) give a percentage back to Maury if your cards are linked to the school.

Dining out For Maury. Tunnickliffs gives Maury 15% of all sales from 5pm-9pm on the first Tuesday of the month. This is always a fun community night. The Argonaut gives \$5 for every \$25 spent any day. Mention that you are supporting Maury and they will give you gems that you bring back to the Treasure Box in the Maury office.

Our goal is to raise \$140,000 this year. If anyone has any new ideas about new fundraisers, we are always excited to try new things? Please contact Franny if you are interested in joining the fundraising committee or sharing new ideas. [fmmarcucci@hotmail.com](mailto:fmmarcucci@hotmail.com)

Q: What is SOS being raised for this year

A: Our first priority is funding the school aides.

Q: Is there a place for new families to see what kind of fundraisers have already begun?

A: Yes, in the welcome packet, there is a section all about fundraising, also feel free to shoot Franny an email.

**Maury at The Market:** Maury at the Market is our most important fundraiser of the year. We are looking to break our previous record of 80K. We can use all the help we can get. (see attached for Leadership spots that still need to be filled and a questionnaire).

**Middle School Community:** Our goals are to get everyone familiar with our feeder school Elliott Hine and learn what it has to offer. The voices from the Maury community last year really helped. EH still hasn't received a budget for its renovations, but at least they did get a new science classroom and new furniture.

**Space Camp.** We have 38 kids in 5th grade that we want to send to space camp and we need to raise about 40-45K. We'll have another babysitting night Nov 9th. This isn't just about sending kids on a class trip, but about teaching kids to make a plan to reach their goals. We are not going to be able to raise this amount of money with lemonade stands and Popsicle stands alone so much of the money will need to come from corporate sponsorships. We are

already working on some, but if you have any ideas, please let Amy Weedon or Vanessa Ford know. [amyweedon@verizon.net](mailto:amyweedon@verizon.net)

**Hospitality:** Our upcoming events will be a Coat drive in the fall, and Thanksgiving baskets in November. We are very interested to hear about how to keep the Maury spirit going. Let Claire know if you'd like to help out: [cdougherty@pedaids.org](mailto:cdougherty@pedaids.org)

**Staff Appreciation Committee:** This is a great committee to join as it gives us an opportunity to honor the staff who do so much for the children. Our big event is staff appreciation week in May. We fund in primarily with the coin war the that the kids have a lot of fun with. More info will be shared as the event gets closer. We also do smaller events throughout the year and would love to hear any ideas you have. Contact Heather Bonome at [hp\\_long@hotmail.com](mailto:hp_long@hotmail.com)

**Parenting Change Makers:** In the PTA Packet there is some background. There is also info on the Maury Website. Maury is an Ashoka Changemaker school. Info and suggested activities are being sent home in the Tuesday folders. If you are interested, we'll have a few round table meetings throughout the year. We will be putting on a special event this year involving grandparents- - we'll give you a lot of heads up as details are finalized. Contact Maureen Shove-Brown if you are interested in joining the committee [mauren@01concept.com](mailto:mauren@01concept.com)

**Grants Committee:** We are a simple committee. There is no heavy-lifting. We just fill out forms asking for money. We'll be writing grants for space camps as well as many other things. Sept 28th is our first deadline. Please contact Donny if you could help out. [donnykirsch@gmail.com](mailto:donnykirsch@gmail.com)

**Ms. Marks is our New Librarian:** The program is actually very structured and aligned with the schools goals and we've designed our curriculum around it (ISTE (technology) Common Core and Information Literacy Standards). We have an upcoming program with the Kindergarten class - The Kindergarten mystery reader program. It should be a lot of fun - stay tuned for more information.

**Funding for Chinese Program.** A parent from Brent helped us write the grant proposal for the Confucius School and they are providing us with \$10K a year to run the program which is very exciting.

**Music.** We are changing the program this year. With 385 students, we've gotten too big for the whole school winter and spring concerts so we are taking a two year break until after the renovation. We will have a day time concert for grades 3, 4 and 5. We may try to bring in Joy of Motion to do something.

**Addition.** Construction will start next summer. It may continue in December/January. The blacktop may be closed during that time. We may have to have split up every other day outdoor/indoor recess during the construction. We did that during the playground renovation and it worked out ok.

**Foodprints.** Foodprints is a program that funds local fresh foods to be delivered to the school 1 day a month, and the kids prepare wonderful fresh meals and then they get to eat it. Our name is on the top of their wait list, but we are hoping to start the program next school year (or potentially this spring for two grade levels).

**Lunch Forms.** DCPS asks that everyone return a lunch form even if you do not qualify for free or reduced lunch. We find that some people don't realize initially that they do qualify and if forms aren't returned, the school loses out on much needed funds.

**Vaccinations.** We have approximately 5% of the student body who is not in compliance with the vaccination schedule. Please make sure your children's immunizations are up to date. The health department will not accept it if your doctor gives the vaccinations early so be careful about that.

Q: Do you have to submit a health form every year even if no vaccinations are due?

A: Good question. I'll check with the nurse and post something on the listserv.

**STEM Conference.** Vanessa Ford and one of our Maury students were on the panel at a recent stem conference. It was a really great experience. There was so much interest in Maury and we are hopeful that it could present some opportunity to get some more funding to the school. There is so much work that goes on behind the scenes to even get invited to something like this so I'd really like to give Vanessa Ford a round of applause.

**The Pope's Visit.** We will be open. We'll all do our best commuting.

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Elsa Huxley, Jessica Gardner, JR Ford, Principal Albert-Garvy, Amy Weedon, Maureen Shove Brown, Max Kieba, Vanessa Ford, Franny Decker, Erica Martin, Cody Rice, Heather Bonome, David Bibo, George Blackmon, Cody Rice, Britt Stuart, Antonio Evans, Granetta Coleman, Linda Whitted, Linda Marks, Becca Scherdel Norris, Carly Fox, Amanda Metzger, Sigurjon Palsson, Staci W. Fijii, Kate Benedict, Clare Dougherty, Aissatou Niang, Adina Wadsworth, Shannon von Felden, Vanessa Carswell, Kim Longfield, Susan Wall, Subrat Biswal, U Reichert, Rebecca Hipps, Sarah Hais, Liza Rao, Kirstin Erfe, Ailena Mayo-Mills, Shauna Steele, Erin Bibo, Chris Pascuzzo, Dena Smith, Shannon Warren, Christina Porche, Louise Ying, Cheryl Stadel-Bevans, James Roberts, Linda Samuel, Becky Trautman, Ben Powell, Kristin Vidal, Emily Martin, Justin Brookman, Julie Aaronson, Brooke Jamison, Jen Walsh, Aryn Quander, Scott Day, Matthew O'Hara, Lee Pellegrino, Adrienne Alcantara, Ricardo Johnson III, Maurice Middleton, Cielo Ordrejckak, Donny Kirsch, Kenyon Weaver

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10/15/2015 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room -



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Date: Nov 10/15/2015 6:00 PM |

**Enrollment Audit.** October 29th is enrollment audit day. Please try your best to make sure your kids are here.

**Book Character Parade.** The parade will be Friday the 30th. For any new families, this is a really cute event. Kids dress up in a costume and carry a book that inspired the costume and then they parade around the block.

**Picture Day.** Picture day is Nov 3rd -- No uniforms.

**Book Fair needs some volunteers** - Please see the listserve for more information. If anyone is not on the listserve, see the last page of the Maury PTA packet for instructions. It is a great (and easy) way to stay informed and connected.

**PTA Membership.** We currently have 85 PTA members, but we are really looking to get more people joined. We have over 300 families. You can't vote during the exec board elections at the end of the year unless you are a member, so turn those forms in.

There is no PTA meeting in December so November will be the last meeting of the year. We'll need help with the thanksgiving baskets so please come out for the next PTA meeting.

**Family Fitness Night.** Family fitness night will be next Wednesday from 6-7:15pm. The Mayor will be here for it. We would love to have as many people come as possible, but we also need volunteers. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the Multipurpose Room. We need at least two Maury volunteers per activity. The food art station was really popular last year. We need a volunteer to pick up the food for that and you will be reimbursed for it. Email Lindsay if you are interested in helping out.

**Fundraising:** HUGE THANK YOU to Brook Jamison and Shannon Von Felden for making this year's Yard Sale a tremendous success and Anne McFadden for running a great Bake Sale

- o We ended up with another record breaking year of \$10,000 in sales
- o Thank you to all of the donors and shoppers in the Couture Corner, this was a new addition to the sale this year and proved very popular. We will be doing this again so hang on to your valuable items for next year's sale.

The Tea Clothing Sale is going on now so go and order some fall items and support Maury! Shop at TeaSchoolDays.com until Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> (you receive 15% off + free shipping and Maury gets 15% of the sale).

The next Maury night at Tunnickliff's is going to be Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> so come and join your Maury friends and support the PTA.

Kenyon will have some more info on Maury at the Market later, we are off to a great start!

The first Fundraising Committee meeting will be on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 at Tunnicliff's. Please join us as we have a lot to discuss including Pajama Day along with Maury at the Market and other committee activities. Even if you are not directly involved with any specific fundraisers, come on out and make your voice heard.

**Box Tops.** There is a folder behind Officer Washington's desk. George turned in tops today and we've already collected \$30. Keep cutting those box tops. This is a really easy fundraiser that really adds up by the end of the year.

**Middle School.** The IB Middle Years authorization committee arrives at Elliot Hine (EH) next week. EH has a program out of India that uses Singapore Math. They are bringing in an additional math teacher to work with small groups (think literacy lab for Math). 'The Brilliant Club'- is in the works at EH. It is a British program where PhD students to teach middle school students the best way to research. EH will be opening science labs in early December. The EH students are fundraising for a trip for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders to go to Puerto Rico. The next event will be a karaoke night at the school. The next PTO meeting is Nov 12th and Charles Allen will be in attendance

**Space Camp.** The fall festival is Oct 24<sup>th</sup>. We will have lunch for sale. There will be a chili cook-off, cakewalk, dunk-tank and carnival games. If you can volunteer to help out with any of it, please let us know.

The next babysitting night will be on Nov 6th. Since it will be a little colder, we will have people from labyrinth games here to coordinate lots of different games. Kids can be dropped off at 6:00pm and will need to be picked up at 9:30pm

**Hospitality.** We are collecting new and gently used coats. Size 3T-XL. If they are used, we ask that they are clean and in good shape. Feel free to drop off in the box in the entrance to the school. We will not accept used hats because we don't want to take a chance spreading lice, but new hats will be accepted as well as new or used gloves (but make sure they are laundered). Keep in mind, Last year we did not receive enough Large or Extra Large sized coats.

**Thanksgiving Baskets.** We will put together a user-friendly database to sign up to donate items and after the November PTA meeting, we will fill Maury bags with the items to put together the baskets.

**Local School Advisory Team (LSAT).** We just shared the link to our annual survey on the Listserver. It is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MaurySurvey15>  
We are looking to get responses from as many Maury community members as possible. This really helps when it is time to make budget decisions for next year. It is really easy to take the survey, you can do it on your phone or on your computer. We will share the results of the survey at a later date.

**School Board.** Upcoming meeting will address school lunches. DCPS is collecting feedback online right now. Next Wednesday, the education committee of the council will hold a students-only meeting. It would be great if some of our kids could testify about their experiences and needs.

Next week, the national Education Assessment numbers will come out. The following week PARC results for High schools come out, and then in mid November PARC scores for grades 3-8 will come out. We should all be prepared for the scores to come back the same way the NATES scores come back. What once was "advanced" is now equal to "proficient."

**State Board...** We are considering Awarding a state diploma for GED. We are exploring the number of hours kids need to be in a seat to get school credit

Elsa Huxley, Jessica Gardner, JR Ford, Erica Martin, Cody Rice, Heather Bonome, Linda Whitted, David Bibo, Dan Mullins, Patrick Koontz, Cody Rice, Shauna Steele, Scott Douglas, Jonnel Herndon, Jean Kohanek, George Blackmon, Clare Dougherty, Kristina Vidal, Contessa Riggs, Sarah Hais, Erin Bibo, Ailena Mayo-Mills, Shannon Warren, Benita May-Douglas, Paul Bevans, Amber Gove, Hannah Donart, Nate Martin, Dinkar Mokadam, Carly Fox, Dena Smith,

11/19/2015 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room - Thanksgiving baskets will be prepared right after the meeting.



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

December 11/19/2015 6:00 PM

We just had the first community meeting for the school addition. The decision made by DCPS (who has taken over from DGS) is to do a feasibility study and move forward with the entire phase two construction (rather than breaking the project into two phases), but this means the construction will not start until 2017, and will not be complete until 2018. We requested a meeting with the team who does budget allocation so that everyone can be on the same page about our needs.

2nd grade will be a big concern next year because the class size is so large. We will be able to continue the kindergarten/first grade class next year. Our 4th grade class is relatively small this year and if we lose the standard number to charters for fifth, we will probably just have one 5th grade class which will free up a class room for a 3rd 2nd grade class. We don't know how we'll handle the following year though as the current 3rd grade class is also very large and it is unlikely we'll be able to have one fifth grade class that year.

Q: For those of us who have out-of-bounds siblings -- will they be able to get into a kindergarten class?

A: We hope so, but we'll have to wait and see what happens with enrollment.

Q: Are there any leads on new 5th grade teacher

A: Yes, we've hired a new teacher. For those who don't know, our 5th grade teacher who was on maternity leave decided to stay home with her infant. We're happy for her, but as you can imagine, this is a difficult time of year to hire new teachers, but we did find an excellent teacher. She will be visiting Dec 7-11 and will start in January.

**Newsletter.** The latest Maury Newsletter is out. <http://mauryelementary.com/2015/11/maury-newsletter-nov/>

**Maury Store.** The Maury Store is available here and online on the Maury website <http://www.cafepress.com/mauryschool> There are some great items with the Maury logo on them that would make excellent gifts.

**Picture day.** Picture day went great this fall. Make up day is Dec 15th. We are looking for another volunteer to help Jonnel in the spring.

There is no PTA meeting in December.

**School Improvement:** We're not happy with the decision about our renovation. There is still some confusion and we've been told a number of different things, but in the middle of January we'll get an architect in. We still need about 10-15 more members (parents, community members and teachers) to join the SIT committee. We did talk about space for Think Tank and



Library, etc. There is an acknowledgement that we'll keep early childhood and possibly improve it.

**Grounds Improvement:** Elizabeth Nelson got a tree to plant in front of the school. We'll be planting on Saturday. We'll also do a little bit of weeding. We'll plan another time to weed before the winter. We lost a few trees over the summer due to the broken sprinklers that we'll need to remove. We'll also be removing the rose bushes and we'll figure what to replace them with.

**Open Houses:** Nov 30 is our first open house-- we need as many parent volunteers to help out as possible - Parents will give tours from 9-9:45 and then CAG takes over.

*If there are any volunteers who could take over one of the above three committees, please let us know as Max is currently running all three.*

**Grants:** We received 3 grants -- \$2,500 for space camp, \$1,000 for mindfulness and \$900 for an after school Lego program.

**Hospitality:** Thank you for the coats that were donated during coat drive. Thanks for all incredible generosity of the community donating all this wonderful food for the thanksgiving baskets.

**Middle School:** There are 2 flyers about middle school posted in lobby - The next open house for EH is Dec 8. There is a morning session and evening. I encourage everyone to attend as it is our feeder school. The second flyer has more info of other ways you can learn about EH.

**Fire Up Your Feet:** Thank you everyone for sending all your information. Michelle was able to input all our activities. We logged 61,000 minutes of activity. Maury came in first place and won \$1,000 to use toward fitness goals -CAG and Lindsey will decide how to use it.

**Fundraising:** Our first PJ Pass day of the year will be next Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup>. Passes will be for sale Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings for \$2 in the lobby. PJ day is the same day as the whole school morning meeting.

- If any students are in need of a pass Ms. McClure will have them in the lobby for free
- This was a great fundraiser for us last year and we raised \$500 at each, we are looking forward to building on that this year!
- If you can help one morning selling the passes please email Franny [fmmarcucci@hotmail.com](mailto:fmmarcucci@hotmail.com) -- we have a few slots available

- The next Maury night at Tunnicliff's is going to be Tuesday, December 1st so come and join your Maury friends and support the PTA and remember to get your gems at Argonaut every time you go.
- Now that the holidays, and holiday baking and cooking season are upon us please remember to keep an eye out for Box Tops. These can be found on all kinds of products. We need to collect 5,000 tops to make our goal which if we divided it per student that would be about 13 per student. Please help us reach our goal!
- The next Fundraising Committee meeting will be on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 at Tunnicliff's. We always welcome new members and ideas, we hope to see you there.

Q: My kid doesn't like wearing PJs to school -- Can he just get a pass for no uniform on that day?

A: Yes -- that is totally fine.

**Maury at the Market:** We've already brought in a few auction items. One of the things we'd like to have more of are experience type items - Special tours, classes, etc. If you have any connections, let us know. Benita May Douglas is taking the lead on Maury Parties. If you'd like to host one, sign up, or if you just want to share an idea, let Kenyon know. Sponsorships: we have 6 sponsors so far. Sara and Ross Kyle are doing a great job - they sent pre-addressed stamped envelopes to all past sponsors. If you have a realtor or contractor, please let us know because they are great sponsors -- we have the letter already written for you, that you could send because it is so much more effective when it comes from someone they've worked with. You can get in touch with Kenyon about any Maury at the Market questions at [mauryatthemarketdc@gmail.com](mailto:mauryatthemarketdc@gmail.com)

**SOS:** Liza Rao has volunteered to help with the SOS campaign. While this is something we have traditionally pushed in the Fall, Liza is going to use her creative design skills to market the campaign year round so keep an eye out. This fund is crucial to support our aides and we depend on your participation. Jessica, from your exec board, has put together some info about exactly why we have the SOS fundraiser and what that money goes towards. Look for that on the listserv in the coming days. We ask families to consider donating \$200 per child. This means that if just 125 families donate, we reach our goal. Based on what we have currently raised, only 75 children are sponsored.

#### **STEM Updates:**

- **Beautification.** We are going to go with garden boxes for planting. Our plan is to build over the winter. The students are already working on their design plans.
- **Hour of Code.** 1 million students participate world-wide in this program. It is for kids age 5 and up. It will be week of Dec 7. The theme is Star Wars. If you are experienced with writing code, please consider volunteer.
- **The stem expo** date changed -- it will now be May 5th. Mark your calendar. It was a great success last year.
- **Telescopes.** Ms. Ford was at White house for Astronomy Night and they presented us with a \$1,200 telescope along with a smaller telescope. She's like to bring them out at the next PTA meeting and give the kids a chance to look at the moon.

Ms. Ford can always use help, they're doing really fun stuff with the kids and you're always welcome to join.

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Elsa Huxley, Jessica Gardner, JR Ford, Heather Bonome, David Bibo, George Blackmon, Clare Dougherty, Kristina Vidal, Contessa Riggs, Sarah Hais, Erin Bibo, Benita May-Douglas, Ailena Mayo-Mills, Sandra George, Chris Pascuzzo, Anne Fletcher, Kenyon Weaver, Adam Hais, Adina Wadsworth, Susie Gorden, Donny Kirsch, Joe Weedon, Michelle Phipps-Evans, Antonio Evans, Scott Douglas, Anne McFadden, Lane McFadden, Susan Wall, Rodecia Mcknight, Vanessa Carswell, Katie Durcan, Louise Yinug, Jen Walsh, Ayeola Brodie, Zoe Pagle, Cheryl Stadel-Bevans, Vanessa Ford, Emily Paterson, Amanda Metzger, Granetta Coleman, Shannon Warren, Daniel Mullins, Christopher Wade, Diana Dillon, Max Kieba.

1/21/2016 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Class 1 Date 1/21/2016 6:00 PM |

Elliott Hine is now officially the 2nd authorized IB (International Baccalaureate) program in DC. The current academic and extracurricular offerings include Algebra I, Band, Broadcast media, Robotics, Media and Film, Spanish (all grade levels), higher achievement programs and student government. They have unique programs such as the broadcast programs and radio show (they've interviewed mayor Bowser as well as the Swedish ambassador for example). They've been able to connect with other IB schools. All students are enrolled in Spanish Language which gives them the option to take advantage of international exchange programs. Other interesting programs at EH include: Robotics, Art, Book Club, Cheerleading, Math club, Athletics/ sports teams - there are lots of activities that appeal to different students.

The next open house is next Friday morning. Drop in tours are available between 9-9:30 on Tuesdays during non-testing weeks.

Q: Can you tell us about the basketball clinics?

A: They are two 1-hour sessions. The first is Monday afternoon 3:30-4:30 (followed by EH basketball game) and the 2nd session is on Tuesday Jan 26 from 4:15-5:15 All ages ok, parents should hang out.

**PARCC Results.** We did not receive any analysis -- just what was available on website. Thanks to Cody Rice for crunching the numbers for us. This info that was distributed tonight will be going home in a Tuesday folder and will go up on the listserve as well.

The DCCAS was aligned to DC Standards. Many states have opted out of taking the PARCC -- there is no talk of DC dropping out. DC is welcoming the rigorous standards.

Last year's testing schedule was pretty terrible from our perspective. They've listened to our feedback and the testing window will now just be a week in April. Last year's scores were sent to parents before winter break (if you are a parents of a child who was in 3-5 last year and haven't received your scores, let us know).

This is our baseline year. We knew our scores would drop compared to the DCCAS. It is really tricky to set our targets when we have a transient population. It took us 4 years too see big gains with the DCCAS, but we could see individual kids making gains every year. We really don't want to spend 4 years making gains again so we need to figure out the best ways to prepare the kids. While our test scores are low, we actually fared much better than other schools. We outperformed DCPS average. Brent is the only ward 6 DCPS that we did not outperform.

However, we have a huge gap especially in math. Our non-economically disadvantaged kids at Maury outperformed the city average, but our economically disadvantaged kids performed below DC average. We have an excellent program (Singapore) and excellent teachers that are working well from many of our students, but not working well with some of our black and economically disadvantaged students. The good thing is, our staff are not afraid to talk about race. So

we are really taking a close look at not just the curriculum but structural teaching strategies. We are going to fix this!

Q: Was there a gap with DCCAS

A: Yes, but not like this. This is alarming.

Q: Do you have data for boy vs girl scores?

A: We don't have that data, it deserves a closer look and we can crunch those numbers, but we did not see a huge difference.

Q: Is all of this available online or does staff have more information?

A: It is available online and the staff doesn't really have much more info.

Q: Can you give us the percentages in upper levels.

A: Economically disadvantaged is about 35% to 65% non-economically disadvantaged, and about 40% white to 60% black.

#### How can we improve?

- **Parents**, we need your participation at home. Encourage your kids to play First in Math and make sure your kids are all doing their homework. If you feel the homework is inappropriate, reach out to the teacher, but in getting ready for PARC... homework is non-negotiable. Don't forget how enriching doing things with your kids is. Your kids learn a lot from extra-curricula's. A trip to the museum for instance, gives them so much useful knowledge. READ with your kids at home. One of the reasons we're doing APTT meetings and setting goals is because kids get really excited about goals. Even if \*you\* are reading \*to\* your kids, talk to them about the story and comprehension. Work with teachers openly. School is the hardest time b/c you have to be good at everything. Everyone is bound to struggle with something, but when parents are in denial or resistant when their kids are struggling, it sets us back.
- **Teachers** are working really hard to come up with strategies to meet different learning needs. We're continuing professional development and training to improve instructions. We've had the literacy lab intervention program in place. We are beginning fluency drills. We have started a program placing kids with their favorite special teachers to work on fluency. If your student is reading a little bit choppy (especially in 2nd and 3rd grade), and you'd like to participate in some of these programs, you can reach out to our reading teacher. Ms. Fox is taking the lead in Math Academy -- the program will be before an hour after school.

CAG will do two more sessions to discuss the test results if you couldn't make the PTA meeting.

Q: Could we have a workshop for parents to learn about the phonics program?

A: I'll talk to Ms. Battle to see if we can set something up. If you have other ideas of skills you'd like to learn, let us know.

Q: How do we know if our kids will be getting intervention?

A: You'll receive a letter at home.

Q: Are all parents free to join discussions about the PARCC?

A: Yes. All grades are welcome.

Q: Will you be releasing all the data broken down by grade?

A: We can try to get that data together for you.

Q: Are there other ways that we can help other than working with our own kids.

A: Get your kids to school on time. Don't let them miss school unless they are sick. We will think of more ways the community can help.

Feel free to email CAG with questions.

PTA has also been thinking about ways to help prepare our kids for the PARCC. One thing we might be able to help out with is technology. Perhaps the PTA could pick up the tab to help to kids get comfortable with technology. A lot of kids are comfortable with tablets, but not on the type of computers the test are taken on. The kids need to be comfortable with using a keyboards and mouse. If you have ideas-- email someone on exec board so we can discuss.

Mr. Ko from 7-River Mart (at 11th and C) has continued to support us sending \$300 checks just about every month. He says that he will stay open this weekend so please try to support him!

Jonnel resigned from exec board as she and her family moved out of the area. Sharon von Felden has stepped up to finish her term.

The next open house is Feb 8th at 9am.

**Maury at the Market:** We will not be doing the neighborhood blitz this weekend -- we'll try to set it up for the following weekend. Now is the time to collect auction items, so we can get them in the catalogue. We are doing great with sponsorships. A great place to start is with realtors and contractors -- please consider reaching out to your realtor or contractor if you haven't already. Friends and family sponsorships. We will have a friends-and-family sponsorship postcards in the lobby. When you sponsor the event, you can get your kids' name on a leaf in the tree. We have stamped post cards that your kids can personalize that will be available to pick up in the lobby to send out to friends and families. If you want to host a Maury party please let us know. Next month we'll start looking for volunteers for the actual event.

**Fundraising:** Our fundraising goal is \$150,000.00. We are doing okay, but we have a few fundraisers that are not happening this year that is leaving us with a 5-10K gap in the budget. We're tossing around the idea of doing a pot-luck night on the same night as the next space-camp babysitting night. If you have other ideas, please let us know.

SOS is still about 5K short. There are 306 families, but only about 85 of them have joined the PTA or contributed to SOS, so please sign up. These are critical funds that pay salaries and provide necessary supplies to our kids.

March 25th is next PJ day.

We are still about 2000 box-tops short so please make sure you cut those tops and drop them off in the lobby.

We are collaborating with Ciao Chow <http://ciaochowdc.com/> to do a Maury night -- stay tuned.

**LSAT Community survey:** We got about 152 responses. According to the survey results, most people are satisfied with the school and community. The two areas that people want to see

improvement are with the facilities (sufficient/class size), and aftercare options. All data has been passed on to CAG. Top ranked priorities are Specials, aides, community and class size. Thanks everyone for taking the time to fill these out.

**Budget:** The survey helps us develop the budget so thank you to everyone who took it. We were told we should expect our budget numbers in February, so unlike the past when we've only had 3 days to form our budget we will now have 3 weeks.

**SIT Team Update:** Max sent out an email with a survey about the school renovation earlier this week. Please take a minute to take the survey and think about how we can arrange things more intelligently. If possible, please send your comments by the end of next week since the budget process is already on its way. Architects will draft up options of what we can and can't do. Construction will not start until June of 2017. They are shooting for a 450 capacity.

**Space Camp Fundraisers:** Talent Show Auditions will take place Tuesday and Wednesday of next week after school. We ask that auditions are under 3 minutes and appropriate. If your kids are in Polite Piggy we'll pick them up from there -- if they are not in PP, we'll ask you to come by after school.

Valentine's Day fundraisers. We are doing Pencilgrams again this year, but we will also be selling little science kits that the 5<sup>th</sup> graders have come up with.

Principal Albert-Garvy, Principal Young, Elsa Huxley, Jessica Gardner, JR Ford, George Blackmon, Kristina Vidal, Max Kieba, Kenyon Weaver, Joyce Hayes, Franny Decker, Shannon Warren, Antonio Evans, Shannon Von Felden, Amanda Mentzer, Art Isacman Assles, Jen Walsh, Susie Gorden, Ayeola Brodie, Sarah Hais, Carly Fox, Cody Rice, Erica Martin, Lane McFadden, Granetta Coleman, Vanessa Carswell, Max Kieba, Brooke Jamison, Kirstin Erfe, Vanessa Ford, Krzysztof Wozniak.

2/18/2016 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room  
Cheerleader performance postponed until February.



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

2/18/2016 6:00 PM

**Budget.** Our projected enrollment for next year is over 390. We've decided to add an extra 10 kids as having over 400 children adds over 200K to our budget. The biggest changes to the budget are:

1. Office Staff. We are funded for a full time business manager, a full time admin and a full time clerk.
2. We are 100% funded for an assistant principal (in previous years we were only given 80% for an assistant principal and we had to pull the rest of the money away from other areas).
3. We will have funding for 15 classrooms (we currently only have 13). Nothing will change with early childhood. We will continue the K/1<sup>st</sup> split. We think 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be small enough for 1 classroom which will allow a third 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class. We could potentially get funding through an Urban Teacher program to get a second 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher.
4. We now have full time funding for all specials (previously we only had partial funding and had to pull the money from other areas).

The LSAT will meet on Tuesday so now is a great time to ask questions or add your input. The LSAT will also be talking about PTA funded staff. We currently employ teacher's aides for upper grades, but now may have some flexibility to also hire staff in other areas or look at other programs.

Q: You mentioned "all kinds of things happening at DCPS." What kind of changes are you talking about?

A: Central Office is taking away Master Evaluators (3<sup>rd</sup> parties brought in to evaluate teachers) who were originally put into place by the teachers' Union, but it did not work well and cost 5 million dollars. Now evaluations will be done by the reading coach and the assistant principal (which means the assistant principal must have a math background). Another change (this one currently does not affect Maury) is that 11 DCPS schools are moving to a longer school year (200 days). Also, next year's school calendar is open for comment.

**SIT Update:** DCPS received the draft feasibility study, but they aren't ready to share it yet. We're trying to push to get another trailer until construction starts. The next meeting will be some time after March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Fundraising:** We've raised 21K so far in the SOS fundraiser. Our goal is 25K. This money goes directly to hiring teachers' aides in upper grades so if you have not made your SOS donation, please do it now. Also, if you haven't joined the PTA, please consider joining. If you want to vote in the exec board elections this spring, you will need to be a member.

**Rock N Roar.** We have a new fundraiser called Rock N Roar. It will be at Red Rocks on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Skip will be there performing. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family.

The next PJ day is March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Tea Collection Fundraiser is running from 2/22-2/29. Shop TeaSchoolDays.com - use code SDSMAURY16 at check out for 15% off your purchase and Maury gets 15% back.

PTA Potluck. We are piggy-backing on the next space camp babysitting night. We are asking people to consider having a potluck and donating the money they would have spent at a restaurant.

**Maury at the Market.** It's right around the corner - Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup>. Sara & Ross Kyle have done a great job with sponsorships. We've already beat last year's number with sponsorships. Anne Fletcher has been doing a great job heading up the auction item collection. Angie Stillwell has been working incredibly hard on event management.

- Doors open at 7pm. You will be given a reusable Maury Cup. On the right side of the room there will be silent auction items. On the left side of the room there will be games (like Plinko). You'll pay a fee to play the games and if you win, you'll get 'maury cash,' and you can use the maury cash to buy prizes (such as wine, gift cards, etc). If you are interested, you can come to maury to test out some of the games on babysitting night March 4.
- The first table will close at 8:30pm.
- The live auction & raffle begins at 9:30pm
- The event closes at 10:30pm
- There will be an after party at Tunnicliffs. There will be a \$5 charge (that goes back to Maury). You'll get a wristband which will give you drink specials and there will be a buffet of food.

We need volunteers for set up, breakdown & we'll need help with various things during the event (such as Maury Store Keepers, Pit Bosses for games, closing tables, etc). We will put up a link with sign up genius on the website.

Make sure you send post cards for the friends and family sponsorships. You can pick them up and drop them off behind Officer Washington's desk. We will post and mail them for you. Every donation gets a leaf on the tree and recognition in the auction guide.

Buy your tickets! You can buy them online now, or we will begin selling tickets before and after school.

**RAFFLE!** If you can help sell raffle tickets, please contact Kate Benedict.

The IN-SCHOOL-AUCTION begins Feb 29<sup>th</sup>.

We need volunteers to help pick up auction items around the neighborhood. Please let us know if you can help out.

**Grant Committee:** We received grants for mindfulness, legos and space camp. We were not awarded the Chancellor's grant for 'empowering males of color.' Every year the Chancellor gives out grants like these, but they do not give much notice so to try to be better prepared in the future, CAG will have teachers put together a wish list.

If anyone has any ideas or thought about grants we should go after, please let us know.

**Change Making Committee:** The focus in the fall (as many of you probably noticed in the Tuesday folders) was about parenting a change maker. This spring we will continue putting flyers in the Tuesday folders, but we will also add a few events. The first will be 4/28



from 6-8pm in the multipurpose room - Operation Grand. This will be an even for kids to invite grandparents or an elder friend or neighbor.

We are gaging interest in a second potential event which would be a session for parental mindfulness. More info will be sent out soon.

**Maury School Wellness Committee:** The purpose of the committee is to encourage a healthy lifestyle not only for our kids, but for their families. At the simplest level, we encourage you to eat more fruits & vegetables, Organics, Omega 3 fatty acids (nuts, coconut oil, fish, green leafy vegetables) and drink more water; And eat less Carbohydrates, refined sugars, artificial sweeteners and color and processed foods.

Small changes can make big differences. Consider making small healthy swaps - there is some info you can check out in the parents section of the website. Some things you can do at home are... lead by example, talk about food and nutrition at the table and consider growing your own produce which brings us to the Tower Gardens...

Tower Gardens create a really easy efficient way to grow your own produce. They require 90% less soil and water than traditional farming and you can grow all year round. We'd like to see Tower Gardens and Maury where the kids can watch the plants go from seedlings to something they can put on their plates. We'd like to eventually add 3 tower gardens. The initial investment in the equipment would cost 3K, but then they require very little money. The systems will be on wheels so they can be moved around to different classrooms. We already have a \$500 gardening grant that can go toward the tower gardens. They would be particularly good for the kids in the gardening club.

**Think Tank Announcements:** The Stem Expo will be May 5<sup>th</sup>.  
The USA Science and Engineering Festival will be here April 15-18.  
We will have an ice-cream social space camp fundraiser. The ice cream will be served in bowls the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders made in art.

Principal Albert-Garvy, Elsa Huxley, Jessica Gardner, Vanessa Ford, JR Ford, Amanda Mentzer, Donny Kirsch, Matthew O'Hara, Patrick Koontz, Shannon von Felden, Sarah Hais, Denise Pesavento, Addie Spahr Kim, Brooke Jamison, Doug and Christine Clapp, Anne Fletcher, Chris Pescuzzo, Tracy Gerstle, Susan Wall, Diane Douglas, Franny Decker, Max Kieba, Ayeola Brodie, Shannon Warren, Amy Weedon, Ailena Mayo-Mills, Joe Weedon, Heather Bonome, George Blackmon, Jim Smith, Maureen Shove-Brown, Kenyon Weaver, Kim Longfield, Dinkar Mokadam, Sheri Johnson, Subrat Biswal, Sandra George, Cody Rice, Lane McFadden, Jill Tennent, Harold Walker, J. Walker, Jennifer Kemp, Erica Martin, Emily Paterson, Sean Dillon, Kirstin Erfe, Vincent Erfe, Kriss Wozniak.

3/17/2016 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room





# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Date | Time 3/17/2016 6:00 PM |

Topic: Adoption and Foster Care Services

Kim Walk is a social worker at DC's child and family services agency. She is here to discuss the need for foster families in the district. We need good quality adoptive and foster parents. The Basic requirements are as follows: year must be 21 years of age or older, in good mental and physical health, good financial standing, you must be employed, and have adequate space in your home. They have an intense 5-week-training to help understand fostering children, and how to work with bio-families (because the goal for fostering is to eventually reunite with the biological families). They are looking for families who can provide structure. If you are interested in learning more, info sessions are offered twice monthly (on the second Saturday and forth Thursday of each month). 202-671-LOVE (5683)

Topic: National Social Worker's Month

It's National Social Worker's Month so Ms. McClure provide information about the role of the Social Worker. The most important thing is that the social worker is an advocate for the kids. Some of her responsibilities are:

- Monitoring attendance
- Assisting with mental illness
- Providing grief counseling
- Assisting with behavior problems
- Providing community referral services
- Assisting students with conflict resolution
- Providing referrals to special education, giving special ed assessments, and consulting with teachers and parents.
- Being a homeless liaison
- Crisis intervention
- Psycho-education
- Being a member of the RTI (Response to Intervention)Team which aides in early identification and support of students with learning problems.

If you have any questions, please email [desiree.mcclure@dc.gov](mailto:desiree.mcclure@dc.gov)

Q: Does RTI happen at all grade levels?

A: Yes, preschool through fifth!

Topic: Girl Scout Troop Update

**Maury Girl Scout Troop Update:** Participation has doubled in the last year. We have Brownies in 2nd and 3rd grades and Daisies in Kindergarten in K & 1. We have 27 Daisies which is really too many (we unfortunately needed to turn away Maury families because we didn't have enough room). We need to split the troop which means we need more parents involved. We need at least one or two parents to lead next year's kindergarten Daisies. If you know of any current pre-k families who are interested in girl scouts, please reach out to Anne McFadden [anne.newton@gmail.com](mailto:anne.newton@gmail.com).

**Hospitality Committee:** We do a lot throughout the year for staff appreciation, (for instance we bring snacks to the staff lounge on the first Monday and we coordinated holiday for admin staff), but the bulk of what we do for staff appreciation happens during Teachers Appreciation Week which is may 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. The Staff luncheon is always is really appreciated -- we are going to hold it early this year, on April 8th which is a half day so we don't have to worry about coverage in the classroom. Last year we used Corner Bakery and it didn't work out so if anyone has suggestions for caterers, please let us know.

Last year we had students bring in flower & notes to staff. We also had a staff raffle and gave out gifts. If you have suggestion for ways to show appreciation, please let us know. In the past we've done a coin war to fund staff appreciation week and the luncheon. While it is a lot of fun and raises a lot of money, it is a lot of work to count so if anyone has new ideas, let us know.

The committee will meet on Sunday at Heather's house to discuss what we want to do for staff appreciation this year.

**Bowls to our Goals Fundraiser:** Space Camp is having a fundraiser. They will be selling hand made ceramic bowl filled with ice-cream. (The bowls are \$10 and come with ice-cream or you can just the ice-cream for \$5). (Tuesday April 5 5:30-7pm)

**Fundraising:** The next fundraising meeting will be Tuesday the 5th at Tunnickliffs (which is maury night).

**Maury at the Market:** It's this Saturday!

If you've checked in advance, just give your name and there will be a package ready for you with a reusable cup, after party bracelet (if you already bought one), etc.

We still need about 6 volunteers. We need people to hand out the take-home bags between 9-9:45pm and 9:45-10:30pm. We also need volunteers for clean-up from 10:30pm+ please email Kenyon if you can help.

Two new features we are going to try this year:

- Mobile Bidding. We are only trying it with 5 item (they are not items that will be on the tables: Green Hat Gin pack, Ford Theater tix, Cakepops, Red wine, \$100 gift card to Matchbox)-- if you've checked in, on Saturday morning you'll get an email that mobile bidding has begun. At 9:30pm, the mobile bidding will automatically close.
- Self Check-out. You'll get an email at the end of the night asking if you want to check out and charge your items to your vaulted credit card. Show your check out confirmation at distribution and they will hand you your items.

Note: Live Auction -- Science with Specials Teachers is on a very specific date (April 15)

**SIT Team Update:** Not a lot of good news. We got to look at the specs for the renovation and we don't think they fits our needs. There were a two other scenarios the architect came up with that DCPS chose not to show us. We told them Spec A & B are not going to work and we want to see spec C&D. Going with spec A or B would just be a waste of money -- would only add 2 classrooms. They are open for comment.

Q: Will we get another trailer short term?

A: We should be ok for next year, but we are not sure what will happen for 2017 when construction is supposed to start. We don't know if trailers would cut it -- it is possible we could need a swing space.

Q: When you mention swing -- do you mean the whole school?

A: Most likely

School improvement. Some trees died that will need to be removed and rose bushes still need to be moved or removed. We'll do a spring clean-up day (Date TBD).

We had an incident last Monday when a gentleman brought his dog onto the playground and got nasty when he was politely asked to take the dog out of the playground. Polite Piggies had to bring children back inside and police needed to be called. There have been other incidents with people bringing dogs in over the weekend so we've installed No Pets Allowed signs so hopefully we won't have these issues anymore.

**Elliott Hine:** Discussed using unused space -- talk to Joe if community has ideas (ie using EH's second gym as a home basketball gym for Maury and other neighborhood schools).

Details about Elliott Hine extreme bathroom makeover -- if volunteers are available, let us know -- info in is lobby on blue pillar.

In mid-May we'll make staffing announcements. Washington Teachers Union gives teachers until May 1<sup>st</sup> to pull their resignation. We are very fortunate in that due to Maury's reputation, we don't have a hard time finding great candidates.

The next PTA meeting will be a little different-- we usually do a volunteer appreciation breakfast in May or June, but teachers felt that it was always too rushed in the morning, so this year we'll do a dinner. So next month we'll have a light agenda, and then we'll have an appreciation dinner. The staff are really excited about it.

PARCC testing is coming up. Please make sure your kids are here on time because once testing has begun, parents can't just walk their kids to the class. If a child in a testing class is late, they will not be allowed to take test and they'll have to do a make-up session which is never good.

In May we'll potentially put together a presentation about our instructional programs.

Q: Will kindergarteners be getting DC One Cards?

A: Ms McClure is the contact for that -- kindergarteners should be getting them by the end of the year.

Q: Will we be adding phones? (We only have 4 phones in the entire school)

A: I put in a request to change to Voice over IP so that we can have phones all over the school, but it has been delayed.

Q: If we lost some of our curriculum autonomy, does that mean that we have to give up Singapore Math

A: We will continue Singapore math. DCPS is supposed to adopt a new math program -- they'll be making an announcement soon. It's actually very very close to Singapore. Our thinking is that for the first year, we will continue to purchase our Singapore curriculum with PTA funds (as we always have), but we will also receive all the materials from DCPS and after a year we can make a decision.

STEM Night will be May 5th 5:30 to 8pm

**Election schedule and plan.** We have three positions up for reelection (President, Treasurer and Parliamentarian), and we two more positions we'll need to fill. Jonnel Herndon stepped down as VP and Shannon Von Felden took over and has agreed to run for President for next year and Elsa will step in as VP to complete the term. Adam has agreed to run again for Treasurer. Even though Jessica in mid-term as Secretary, she has already served two years so we are looking for another volunteer for a 1-year term as secretary. If you are interested in volunteering for any exec board positions, please email your bio to [RonmFord@gmail.com](mailto:RonmFord@gmail.com) -- soon -- elections will be in May. This year we will do something a little different -- all PTA members will be able to vote through survey monkey (proxy voting is not allowed, so if you can't make the PTA meeting, you can vote through survey monkey). If you want to vote, make sure you have paid your PTA dues. Check with Jessica [[jjgardner@washingtonganalysis.com](mailto:jjgardner@washingtonganalysis.com)] if you're not sure if you have paid your dues.

Q: Where can we find a description of all the roles?

A: On the website under PTA

LSAT election will be in June

Available upon request.

4/21/2016 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Date: ~~April~~ 4/21/2016 6:00 PM |

Higher Achievement is looking for motivated 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to join its year-round academic enrichment program. There will be an open house Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am to 2pm at 317 8<sup>th</sup> Street NE. If you have questions, contact Ms. Mary at 202-255-0245. The summer academy begins late June and lasts six weeks. Afterschool academy begins in the fall and runs through May and then high school placement helps students advance to top high school programs.

**Garden Club.** If anyone can do Home Depot run, we have a grant to build out our gardens, we have a material list, but we need someone who can pick everything up.

**Fundraising.** Thanks to everyone who has volunteered in any way this year. We have raised 137k this year.

Anne McFadden is hosting a Stella & Dot show that is giving 20% back to Maury. It has raised about \$400 for Maury so far -- you can still shop until May 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be another PJ day next month. If anyone has any ideas for a theme other than PJs, let us know. Mables Labels will be starting in a few weeks. Keep an eye out for info coming soon and please spread the word even to people who are not at the Maury community.

The next Maury night at Tunnicliffs will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> and don't forget to ask for your gems ANY time you dine at Argonaught.

We have Maury T-shirts for sale. We'll be selling them at PTA meetings, sneak-peak nights and a few other days before/after school.

We need chairs and co-chairs for the following events:

1. The Yard Sale. We need to identify yard sale chair before the end of the school year.
2. SOS. SOS (support our school) is a fundraiser when we ask community members to give a donation to bridge the gap to meet our budget goals. We've been talking about a different way to brand it and we are also giving thought to other things the money should go towards. We've discussed the Foodprints program in the past and we are still interested in that, but there are logistics that need to be worked out. We're also thinking about the need for a larger discretionary fund if we end up having to do a swing year over at EH with the Maury renovation. If you have ideas of programs you'd like to bring to Maury -- please let the executive committee know.
3. Maury at the Market.

**Hospitality.** Staff Appreciation week is May 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. We already hosted a luncheon. We're doing the breakfast the week after so as not to interfere with PARRC testing. In the past we did a coin war, but no one was really married to the idea and no one volunteered to count the coins, so this year we are simply asking for donations. Please drop off donations in the PTA mailbox in the lobby. You can also make a donation through paypal by sending your donation to [maurypta@yahoo.com](mailto:maurypta@yahoo.com) Please make a note that the donation is for staff appreciation. The

last Friday in April we are going to spruce up the staff lounge -- come if you can help from 6-8pm. Please have kids bring a flower for their teachers on the first Monday in May. Also have your kids bring in a letter to teachers. The staff breakfast will be Friday May 13th. Heather has a sign up if you can bake or pick up something. We'll also need help with clean up that morning. We will also need help with an ice cream social on Tuesday May 3rd. Email Heather for more info [hp.long@hotmail.com](mailto:hp.long@hotmail.com)

**LSAT.** LSAT stands for local school advisory team. It is a combination of teachers, staff and parents. They meet monthly to look at student data and work together to form the school budget. They do a community survey annually to make sure that the decisions they make reflect the priorities of the community. You can only serve one year and so we are looking for parents to volunteer to serve next year. If you are interested in running, please let JR Ford know. If you have any questions about serving on the LSAT, please feel free to ask any of the current members (Erica Martin, Cody Rice, Dinkar Mokedam or Sara Hais).

We'll announce candidates at May meeting where they will be giving an opportunity to explain why they would like to serve on the LSAT. We'll need to know if you are interested in running before the May meeting. The Election will be in June.

**Space Camp.** We've met our fundraising goal. Thanks to everyone who participated in any way!

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**The Executive Board** elections will be at next pta meeting in May. Voting will start online later this weekend (we'll send out a survey monkey to all members who have paid dues). You'll have up until the day of the May PTA meeting to vote -- you can also vote by paper ballot in the school. We will announce winners at the end of the meeting.

The open positions are President, Treasurer and Parliamentarian. Shannon von Felden is running for President. Adam Hais is running for Treasurer and Becky McGeehan is running for Parliamentarian.

The **PTA Budget** will be presented at the May meeting and voted on at the June meeting.

Please note, you must be a dues paying member to vote for the exec board and budget. If you are not sure if you joined the PTA, please email Jessica Gardner at [jgardner@washingtontanalysis.com](mailto:jgardner@washingtontanalysis.com) [jgardner (at) washingtonanalysis (dot) com].

We would really like to see more people joining the PTA. We only have between 80-90 families represented in the PTA and we have over 350 families at the school. Ideally, we'd like to have every child represented by at least one family member in the PTA.

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Thank you so much. You guys are a workforce for this school - From raising money to being an advocate for the school.

We've met our 30% enrollment goal for the end of April. Great job! If you haven't turned in your enrollment forms, please do it soon.

Our in-bounds waiting for ps3 is 45. This is the first year we've had more people on the wait list than entire spots available. We already know that we will not be able to meet our needs for projected in-bound kindergartens in 2018 with the current plans so we plan to bring this info to the next SIT meeting.



We had a packed house at the early childhood orientation. There are lots of great, excited families eager to join the Maury community.

Preschool/Prek start week has changed. There will be no staggered start (yay). The first day for ALL PS3 and PS4 will be Thursday.

Sean Dillon, Amy Weedon, Heather Bonome, David Anspacher, Ailena Mayo-Mills, Jen Walsh, Amber Gove, JR Ford, Erica Martin, Jessica Gardner, Kristina Vidal, Cody Rice, D'Angela Williams, Mamie Vick, Shirley Davenport, Mayumi Uejima-Carr, Contessa Riggs, Michelle Phips-Evans, Antonio Evans, Clare Dougherty, Anne McFadden, Brooke Jamison, Sandra George, George Blackmon, Elsa Huxley, Adam Hais, Adina Wadsworth, Angelique Sanders, Sara Hais, JR Ford, Vanessa Ford.

5/19/2016 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Date/Time 5/19/2016 6:00 PM |

**LSAT Update/Election.** The election will be in 3 weeks. There are 4 parent reps for a one year term. They meet once a month. They look at data and figure out where we need to put our resources. If you are interested in running for LSAT, please let JR know and send a bio.

**SIT Update.** More 5th graders are coming back next year than we were expecting, so we will need a 2nd classroom. We can't get another trailer. There are thoughts about using the staff lounge as a classroom and turning the parent resource room as a lounge. Another option is to put think tank on a cart. We should know in the next two weeks.

Long term, we are still working with DCPS on the school renovation. We are letting them know they are not giving us enough classroom space in the proposals renovation. We've already sent letters to Grosso and Charles Allen's office. At the end of the day, we don't want to waste money doing a renovation project that is not right. Keep putting on pressure.

We need a chair to take over the school beautification portion of the SIT committee keeping the grounds looking good) -it's really just two big commitments (fall and spring clean-up).

Next phase with the architect should take place in the fall. We will get a real functioning kitchen, better flow for prek classrooms, multipurpose room will not shrink -- those things are agreed on.

Q: If we need to do a swing space during the renovation, how will that work with the timing of Watkins swing at EH?

A: The way it should work is that our reno should begin after Watkins ends. EH should finalize their reno after Maury.

**Fundraising.** We're looking great to hit our budget goals. The next PJ pass day will be next Friday. Please let us know if you have other suggestions. We are running Mables Lables right now. Keep clipping Box Tops. T-shirts: We have 3T, 4T, YM and most adult sizes. We aren't reordering until we are nearly out of inventory because it is much cheaper if we order in bulk.

Brook has volunteered to run the fall Yard Sale. Keep us in mind if you're doing spring cleaning.

We still need someone to chair Maury at the Market. Many of the volunteers have already agreed to step up again. We just need a leader.

Keep your eyes out for a relaunch for SOS for next school year.

**Hospitality.** We've spread out teacher appreciation so that instead of doing everything all in one week, we do things throughout the year. We provide Treats on the first Monday on the month, we did a luncheon in April, and a breakfast & ice-cream social in May. Kids did a great job bringing in notes and flowers. Great effort by everybody. We used to do the coin war to fund staff appreciation. This year we asked for donations. Next year, it will be a PTA line item. Please let Heather know if you think of anything we should do next year.

Wizard of Oz performance will be May 25th at 6:15pm & May 27th at 5:00pm

PTA Executive Board Election took place. Your new exec board is  
President: Sharon Von Felden  
Vice President: Elsa Huxley  
Treasurer: Adam Hais  
Parliamentarian: Becky McGeehan  
Secretary: Britt Stuart

PTA Budget Presented.

The following are the changes to the proposed budget.

**Changes in Income:**

- . Parent Lead Initiatives is a new line item. (Things like the Stella & Dot Party or Bartending night).
- . T-shirts - increased based on 2015-2016 sales.
- . Dining out for Maury. This has gone down a bit from last year.
- . Loyalty Programs is going down because many stores (like Target and Safeway) are really dialing down on these programs
- . SOS. Amount is staying the same, but it will be reframed.

**Changes in Expenses:**

- . Teacher Appreciation -- adding the expense line rather than trying to run a separate fundraiser for it.
- . Aides. Increase expense from last year due to 2nd 5th grade class and 3rd 2nd grade class, we expect we will need more staff.
- . PTA Materials = Handbook, etc.
- . School Spirit Fund = Events and Assembly
- . Literacy Lab, Food Prints or other all-school programs. Raised to 20K, but have 10K carryover from Food Prints (which hasn't started yet, but hope to start soon) from last year.
- . Minds. Originally this came out of the Principal's Fund.
- . Mini grants = For Teachers who want to do special projects.
- . Audit. We have this line item, but discussed that it is probably only necessary to do an official audit when we have a change in Treasurer, so we may be able to push this to the 2017-2018 budget.
- . Membership and Open Houses. We reduced the amount from last budget as volunteers took care of most of it.
- . Testing support = Testing treats (mints for the kids while testing - treats like popsicles and ice cream after testing). This went up because we have more students.
- . iReady Math is new line item.

Total Funds to spend for 2015-2016 = \$182,000.

Total Expected Expenses = \$174,050.00

A note on the budget and fundraising. Just a few years ago, we can remember when our total budget was \$14,000. We come so far and we've been able to supplement so many things that the DCPS budget does not allow, and this is all thanks to the hard work of this amazing community! Great work!

Q: Can we find a company for school photos that lets you choose your photos before you buy?

A: Yes, We are looking into that for next year.

George Blackmon, Sarah Hais, Darlene Pearson, Jessica Gardner, Angela Gerruann, Scott Tennent, Cody Rice, Jean Kohanek, Amber Gove, Susan Wall, Antonio Evans, Sigurjon Pausson, Sarah Alcorn, Heather Bonome, Janine Levin, Ailena Mayo-Mills, Franny Decker, Britt Stuart, Max Kieba, Shannon von Felden, Brooke Jamison, Shauna Steele, Subrat Bisal, Granetta Coleman, JR Ford, Emily Paterson, Amanda Mentzer, Becky McGeehan, Ailena Mayo-Mills

6/9/2016 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Date / Time 6/9/2016 6:00 PM |

**LSAT Voting:** JR Ford noted that Local School Advisory Team voting would occur (via paper ballot) until 6:30 pm. Running for the four (4) positions were Susan Wall, Amber Gove, Erica Martin and David Anspacher.

**Thank you Elsa:** Shannon von Felden thanked Elsa for her work and leadership over the past two years as PTA President, all of which was handled with grace.

**Bylaw Changes:** A voice vote was held approving the proposed changes to the PTA Bylaws. The changes were previously circulated on the listserve and included 1) clarifying that the PTA President's duties include serving as the PTA representative to the LSAT; 2) clarifying and streamlining the list of standing PTA committees; and, 3) requiring an audit at the end of each Treasurer's time in office.

**Budget for SY2016-2017:** A voice vote was held approving the Budget for next year. Shannon von Felden noted that the Budget had been presented in last month's meeting for review. Adam Hais circulated information earlier this week on the listserve detailing how the discretionary fund had been used during SY2015-2016.

**Space Camp Presentation:** Amy Wheedon discussed the 5th Grade's June 2016 trip to Space Camp in Alabama. The class raised \$35,000 to fund their trip through Babysitting Nights, bake sales and several other endeavors. Maila, Allison, Hazel and Bryce each shared their experiences. The students' favorite activities included the Multi-Axis Chamber, Flight Simulator and the food! The Flight Simulator allowed each student to be assigned a different role in the team and work together to launch a rocket and bring it home while working together to solve a problem which was thrown at them. JR Ford stated that it was wonderful to see the children excel in this experience.

Principle Carolyn Albert-Garvey participated in the trip and will be working on a program to increase the educational value of this already great STEM experience. She will be working Amanda Menzter to create an eight (8) session series for the next 5th grade class (each lasting 30 minutes) which will allow the students to have a broader knowledge base of space travel fundamentals prior to the trip to help further enhance their trip. She noted that the trip is very intense with 12 hours of programmed activities a day. CAG stated that the facility is full of children and chaperones and very secure. Parents of the rising 5th Grade class have expressed interest in continuing Space Camp and a meeting will be held at a later date to continue discussions. Amy Wheedon has offered to share her experiences and lessons learned with the next set of families.

**Grants:** Granetta Coleman presented and is the new Grants Committee Chair. The committee secured two grants in the Spring CHCF round. The committee obtained a \$2,000 grant for Second Step for the Early Childhood Education Program. We also were awarded a \$2,000 grant for the Prime Time Reading Program which will be run by Ms. Marks for ECE.

**Fundraising:** Franny Decker report that we met our goal for this year which was \$140,000. To date we have raised.....\$141,124! Yay! This number does not include the remaining bake sales and T-Shirt sale. We have been very successful because of Maury families. Thank you!

We are still looking for a parent to run Maury at the Market for next year. Several people who led committees this year have already sign on to assist next year. For example, Kenyon Weaver has volunteered to handle Sponsorships. We are also looking for a volunteer to take on gift management and one to be a volunteer coordinator. We are asking for people to please consider taking on this important task. In the past, committee chairs had less help, now you can be secure in knowing there is a large team of people ready to help.

Kenyon Weaver passed on some information about his experience as Maury at the Market Chair last year. Chairing Maury at the Market is really about school spirit. You have a lot of people working with you. The job of the chair is to know what has to be done, what is done, and working with hyper-competent parents. Kenyon encourages you to consider this role.

**Yard Sale.** The Maury Yard Sale is scheduled for September 24, 2016. If you have items, especially high priced items, please hold on to them through the summer.

**SIT:** Max Kieba provided an update on SIT.

Short term issues: We are going to be one classroom short for next year. Therefore, the staff decided to move Think Tank to the current staff lounge. The staff lounge will move to the current Parent Resource Room. The additional 2nd grade class will be located in the current Think Tank space. The items in the current Parent Resource Room will be relocated to an undetermined location or place in storage. Elizabeth Nelson has been brainstorming possible storage solutions for the items in the Parents Resource Room.

Long Term Issues: The SIT Committee is having a very difficult time receiving information regarding the SIT process. The SIT Committee has sent a letter to DCPS and DGS outlining its concerns regarding the process and recommendations made about Maury. At this time the scenarios include only a 1 room gain for Maury post renovation which is wholly inadequate. Max Kieba will forward information via the listserve sent to DGC and DCPS outlining concerns. The SIT Committee is very close to issuing a FOIA request in order to obtain additional information regarding the planning process for Maury's scheduled renovations and notified local DCPS and DC Council of its intent to elevate the issue due to lack of response and information. The SIT Committee has repeatedly sought information through other means unsuccessfully.

**Hospitality/Letter from Angela Caudle:** PTA Aide Angela Caudle sent a thank you card and note to be read to the PTA. The note read: "To the PTA Committee, parents, staff. Thank you for your generosity and your appreciation. Words can't express how thankful I am for all the love and support that you have shown throughout this school year. Love, Angela Caudle"

**School Supplies:** Don't forget to Order your school supplies. Supply lists are also available at the same site if you want to shop on your own.

**Capital Pride Parade:** DCPS has a loosely organized group participating in the Capital Pride Parade on Saturday June 11th; all are welcome to join. Heather Bonome will send out additional details on the listserve. Generally, kickoff is at 4:30 around Dupont Circle. It is easy to access via the D6 Bus. Heather's family has participated for a couple of years and it is a lot of fun. You can walk the parade route in about 30-45 minutes and she brings candy to throw to the crowd. It is an easy trip back from 14th street on the 90 or 92 Buses. This year Heather's husband will be carrying a really large flag, so keep your eyes out for him!

**Help in the front office:** Thanks to everyone who has been able to volunteer and help in the front office. It is hard work and very appreciated in Ms. Bell's absence. Shannon suggested that all parents should volunteer at some point to get a real understanding of all the activity which occurs every day; it is really hard work!

**SIT:** Please support your PTA SIT volunteers and offer them a pat on the back. CAG emphasized that this has been a very frustrating experience because the committee will wait for answer for months only to receive unresponsive answers. Maury has displayed stellar and professional behavior during this process as a community. Unfortunately, it has not worked. After everything the SIT Committee has done, at this point we are now getting unresponsive communications which are insulting to the community. Our parents and committee have responded gracefully to DCPS and DGS. But at this point, we are rejecting all the plans proposed for Maury. The plans do not meet our needs. Under the proposed plans, we will be out of space on day one after the renovation. We are standing firm and rejecting the plan. It does not work.

**Staffing:** We had very good retention this year. As previously provided on the listserve, only 4 people are leaving. Ms. Nellie is not returning from maternity leave, Ms. Hipps' move made her commute unsustainable, Ms. Macek the reading teacher received her dream job of a coaching position for an inclusion model program, and Ms. Ford is leaving classroom teaching after 5 years of leading our STEM program through inquiry based learning.

Think Tank will now be led by Amanda Mentzer who has vast experience as both a civil engineer and classroom teacher. She is back to leading a classroom after taking off some time to be with her children, who are now at Maury. Last year she worked with Ms. Wolfe. Vanessa Ford also intends to collaborate with Ms. Mentzer on lots of work on the new gardens.

Ms. Mitchell will cover for Ms. Sanghvi when she begins maternity leave. Ms. Sanghvi will transition from 2nd grade to be the reading teacher. We will have a new 2nd grade teacher. Additional new staff information was sent out on the listserve.

**Social and Emotional Learning:** Next year we will be focusing on social and emotional learning, growing from the models we currently apply. Maureen Shove-Brown, Laura White and others have been studying 4 main curricula and will be making a final recommendation. CAG is concerned about the impact of social media on our kids. The longer you can postpone cell phones, the better. In school, we can directly see the impact of phones and social media on our students. A cell phone policy will be forthcoming.

**New Math Program:** We will still be using Singapore Math as the primary program for K-2. It will be secondary for 3/4/5. The Eureka Company will be publishing a program based on the Engage NY Math Program. This will be our primary math program for 3/4/5 who will still use Singapore Math as a secondary resource. The new program is 100% aligned with Common Core.

**Enrollment:** Due to staffing in the front office, we do not have enrollment statistics at this time. Various staff have stepped up and are helping accept enrollment paperwork, but it takes time to get the information entered into the system. Also due to staffing issues, it is very likely that no one will be in the office most days in July to accept enrollment paperwork. If you have not enrolled for next year, please do so now or before school ends for the summer.

**Confusious Group Grants:** CAG and Ms. Wang were both awarded grants to attend 2 weeks of training this summer in China. They will be attending different sessions. Other DC schools represented include George Mason and Hardy.

**Wrap Up:** It has been a very interesting year with lots of fantastic things happening. Thank you to all those who served our school and community!

**Assistant Principal:** We have hired a new Assistant Principal. David Frieble will join us on June 27, 2016. He is a master at teacher supervision, math and writing the reports required by DCPS. This will allow CAG time to focus on other needs within the school community and we are all very excited for him to start. Ms. Rabiah will be full time at Maury next year! Patrick Koontz will take the role of Manager of Strategy and Logistics at Maury; an operations role. Think of Patrick as Assistant Principal for Operations and Assistant Principal Frieble as having a focus on content and quality for teachers. CAG looks forward to connecting with the community.

Questions:

Q: Should we be waiting for enrollment confirmation?

A: No, unless we call you, you are ok.

Q: What were the final numbers on the PK3/4 Waitlists?

A: Not sure of numbers right now. But there was no movement on the PK3 list and very little 4 or 5 spots on PK4.

We did a new family orientation for ECE in April.

#### 2013-2014 Election Results

The election results were announced. The new LSAT representatives are Amber Gove, Erica Martin, David Anspacher, and Susan Wall.

The PTA will be asking for additional volunteers to lead committees in the Fall!

#### 2013-2014 Committee

Principal Carolyne Albert-Garvey, Erica Martin, Amber Gove, Kirstin Erge, Ari Bevacqua, Susan Wall, Granetta Coleman, Antonio Evans, Emily Martin, Amanda Mentzer, Emily Paterson, Kaheri Gyenuame for Trameece Jeffries, Britt Stuart, Shannon von Felden, Adam Hais, Max Kieba, JR Ford, Donny Kirsch, Sheri Johnson, Elsa Huxley, Shannon Warren, Kristina Vidal, George Blackmon, Amy Weedon, Angelique Sanders, JR Sanders, Krzysztof Wozniak, Diane Douglas, Heather Bonome, Kenyon Weaver, Sandra George, Franny Decker, Sarah Hais

#### 2013-2014 Calendar

See you in the new school year! 9/15 at 6:00 pm. Multipurpose room.

#### Upcoming Events

##### June

- 14 Grade Promotion 9:30
- 15 Kindergarten Celebration 10:00
- 16 Whole school morning meeting
- 16 Last Day of Polite Piggy's
- 17 End of Term-Last Day of School (students dismissed at 12:15)
- 27 First day of summer school

##### July

- 4 Fourth of July Holiday Capitol Hill Community Independence Day Parade  
9 am, gather at/near the bridge near 8th & I SE
- 29 Last day of summer school