



MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Date | time 1/18/2018 6:00 PM |

Welcome to the Maury Village

Welcome to the January PTA Meeting by Shannon von Felden. Thanks to everyone who helped unpack and helped make this move a success, including CAG, Ms. Griffin, CoCo, Patrick, Kenyon, Stephanie and countless others. There are some snacks to kick off our first meeting!

Committee Announcements

Committee: Fundraising

Maury at the Market: Please go to Maury at the Market's website to check out the beginning phases. Please consider giving us some feedback, as we get things up and running! Sponsorships and gift information will be able to enter directly into the website. We still need some help soliciting gifts.

The theme for this year will be down by the boardwalk. Anne McFadden is working on the Maury Family Parties which she will talk more about. It will be rolled out online this year and in waves.

Consider joining the committee. We meet one time per month. We also would really like a 2nd chair to observe this year, so they can get a good feel for the process and what happening during planning.

Maury Family Parties: This year the Maury Parties will be a bit separate from Maury and the Market. We will start sign-ups before Maury at the Market and they will be staggered. Some parties from last year repeat are: Wine and Girl Scout Cookies, Beer BBQ and Babysitting, Vietnamese cooking, Sit and Knit, Dungeons and Dragons 101, Mother and Daughter Tea and the Mother's Day Wine bus. This year the goal will be 18 parties. It is a nice way to meet people and give back to the school SO keep an eye out for sign-ups and also please let Anne McFadden know if you want to host a party. Email Anne McFadden with questions.

Committee: SIT/Renovation

Many of our community members were able to attend the last SIT meeting on Tuesday 1/16/2018. We are working with the design team to maximize play space. Ideas include roof top play areas and parking variances. This week we were able to voice our concerns. Minutes from the meeting will be posted by DCPS. This week the community can provide feedback on concepts. There is not currently detail down to the minutia in rooms etc. yet, because we still are working on the footprint. After the design package there will be finishes and schematics. This was not the last SIT meeting. We still believe the final job will cost more money that is currently in the budget. Different options could have different effects on timing and costs.

Question: We seem to be coming to a cutoff point around the design issues. How much are they paying attention to our suggestions?

A: DCPS is committed to process that will work. They are looking at safety issues in the plans. DCPS does seem to think that Constitution is the way to go with the entrance. They

are doing a 3rd party safety study on that issue. There are operational considerations being taken into consideration. We will still have multiple entrance and exit points available. DCPS and DGS take cost effectiveness and historical considerations into play; they are working to find the best options.

Charles Allen had spoken with the Chancellor on the parking versus play space issues. CFA has reviewed the plan and they also recommend the Constitution entrance.

With the parking issue, some staff need parking for operational concerns. We are sensitive to the needs of the staff. DCPS and DGS are still considering a number of aspects.

Question: If drop off on 13th street is safest, why wouldn't they keep the entrance closer to the corner. There is 5,800 square feet devoted to an enclave. If the real concern is kids and outdoor play space, how can they not see that the atrium as a vanity move? Decisions are being made very quickly and they seem to need to be done by April. The due diligence and creative work has not been done.

Answer: DCPS understand that the building needs to be the most useful it can be for the next 30-50 years. So we know, Matt earlier pitched design ideas in this regard to DCPS but those ideas did not get much traction. Trade off discussions will need to have. We would love to have a staff consensus on parking.

Question: How many additional discussions need to happen? Do we need to get it in writing that we will be back in the building in the Fall of 2019?

A: At first DCPS wanted 2 years for this project. But they did not want to impact the construction at Eliot-Hine.

Please note that any numbers on the presentation on Tuesday may have been typos. They are looking at these again. It said 38,000 sq feet of play space which it was actually 24,800 sq feet.

This is frustrating, but we have to remember that this is a process.

Principal's Update

Renovation

Thoughts on the renovation: We spent a lot of time planning this space here at the Maury Village. This necessarily took some focus off of 1250, but the focus on the Village was necessary to make this transition a success for your children. If had not, we would have been unhappy for 18 months. There was a lot to consider, but at the end of the day we successfully moved 400 kids and 50 staff in 2 weeks. The kids are having a blast. We could have had a lot of unhappy people, but we don't. Have that same confidence that the same level of attention will go into Maury 1250.

Parking: We want more play space also. Be mindful that in the world of education, every minute counts. There is a different standard for teachers than at most jobs. 10 minutes matters. Imagine what your response would be if we were 10 minutes late opening up the school because someone was looking for a parking space. Literally everything we do is to the minute. We are all on the same page.

Constitution Entrance: In the planning stage part of what they are considering is the disruption of arrival and the flow to other classrooms. An ideal situation might be black top pick-up like we have here at the Village. I have shared that I am not a big fan of the atrium, common open spaces cannot be used easily by the teachers.

Tuesday was conceptual. What they shared is not ready for detailed feedback until they figure out the footprint. Ok, for overall spaces. The architects have been in contact with Ms. Marks about the library. Flow of the building is something we had mentioned in early stages with the architects and the interest in incorporating the historical building.

Future Meetings on Renovation: I am recommending meeting every 2 weeks for the Maury Adm. Team and the SIT members. Then we will be able to keep you more informed.

Lead Testing

We had all the water fountains tested at the Village. With the advocacy of a parent, Hannah, all the water sources were tested. The sink in the ECE breakfast room tested high. The water was turned off and retested and it was still high. The fixture will be replaced and the water retested. It will remain off until the results are back. An email was sent with the information right before this meeting. At breakfast, the teachers are giving the kids purell and they wash their hands when they return to their classrooms at 8:40. We will keep you in the loop.

Budget Timeline

We have received and petitioned the enrollment projections upon which the budgets will be based for next year. Given the enrollment projects for the school, we determined a petition was necessary. We anticipate more 6 students in GR 2 and 3, GR 2 is at 62 which should be an allocation of 3 teachers for next year. GR 3 is projected to be 55 students which could be an allocation of 2 or 3 teachers. We are hoping for 3.

In the past we have used these salaries for a reading teacher and think tank, LSAT will have to think about priorities for next year starting now. We previously did not have the space for extra classrooms. We are expecting 422 students which is 12 more students than our current year. October 5, 2018, will be the official count day. LSAT will bring this forward for input as decisions making progresses.

Questions?

Comment: We are thankful for the hard work. Both our kids are in split classes and we could not be happier because of the teachers. They need to find solutions because of the space issues. In the renovation there is a lot of work that still needs to be done. The architects need to operate at a higher level. There are many ways they can find space such as a variance for the 4th floor, reconfigured library or a glass curtain wall. We tried to spark that level of creativity, but have not. The goal is happy kids.

Response: I'm glad your year has been positive with your teachers. Great. It is good that the architects had a whole team here to hear the concerns. The chancellor will figure it out. Not 100% of people will be happy. DCPS/DGS need to make some decisions. There are community members that were upset about the size of the new building. There are conflicts CAG does not want to waste one single square inch of space.

Question: Do you feel heard by the powers that be?

Answer: I do but because of the urgency around the move recent feedback has been limited. That focus is shifting.

Question: What is the status of the generator?

Answer: They increase maintenance to every 3 weeks instead of monthly.

Question: When E-H gets renovated will we have to vacate this current multipurpose room.

Answer: No, that should not happen.

Question: Pencils down date?

Answer: We still need these answers from DCPS. We are asking. Dates are upcoming.

Question: When do we start advocating so that we do not end up out of the building for 2 years?

Answer: Now, from CAG's perspective. In 3 weeks we will have a better idea on design, but at this point 3 weeks is too late to let your opinions be know, comments on the current design due on Wednesday.

More Committee Announcements

LSAT C0-Chair: Sean Dillon

We are assisting the school with the first steps in the budget process and working towards the school's priorities and goals. We should know the numbers for funding by the end of winter. Our goal is the appropriate staff to meet the needs of school programing. DCPS has a really good 5 minute video on the budget process on their website if you are interested in learning more about the process.

School Improvement Committee:

Thanks so much for all the help on School Clean Up on MLK Jr. Day. If you are interested in moving some bushes from 1250 Maury, please contact Will.

In Attendance

Shannon von Felden, CAG, Adam Hais, Amber Gove, Max Kieba, Stefany Thangavelu, Franny Decker, Sheryl Freedman, George Blackmon, Sandra George, Heather Bonome, Liz Lyons, Steve Stasiowski, Sarah Alcorn, Katherine Brewer, Maryann Stampfli, Sean Dillon, Vince Erfe, Kristen Connell, Carly Fox, Britt Stuart, Jim Smith, Chris Pascuzzo, Matt Arnn, Valerie Montana, Lora Nunn, Varun Kshirsagar

Please remember to sign-in next meeting!

Next Meeting

2/15/2016 6:00 PM, Maury Village Multipurpose Room