



# MINUTES

Maury Elementary

Date | time 2/15/2018 6:00 PM |

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## Welcome to the Maury Village

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Welcome to the February PTA Meeting by Shannon von Felden.

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## Principal's Update by Principal Albert-Garvey

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### SIT/Renovation

SIT met and focused on the design of 1250. We are looking at the use of space. Specifically tried to address how can we make space we may not have access to useable. We need to use every inch of space.

Talked about the culture within our classrooms and grade levels. Discussed that they need to make sure the space is usable for teachers. For example, making sure there is a meeting space in the room for morning meetings. The purpose of this discussion is to move forward with culture in the design and flow. We do want to have one main entrance point in the design, we are ok with more than 1 exit for dismissal.

There will be follow-up meetings with the community. This was a research type of meeting for the planners.

Q: When is the construction meant to start?

A: End of March the 1960s building will be torn down. It will be started from the inside first then they will collapse the walls.

### School Security

As indicated on the Maury list serve, we conducted a lockdown practice. This is one of many practice events we do at the school. Since the move, we have been implementing new procedures because we have a new space. Every time we do a drill we adjust. CAG looked very carefully at the various recommendations on the information to give to the students regarding the drill. The advice is to use a stranger danger type approach when explaining the drill. We shared the script on the list serve and it was used by all the staff. Blinds have been ordered for each of the classrooms. Other drills we conduct include, Fire, the great shake down (earth quake) shelter in place and a drill where we relocate 500 feet from the building.

Q: Do you ever do unannounced drills?

A: Most of them are unannounced. Because of the new space, the first drill for each type of drill has been announced to the staff.

People have asked about the fences. We have worked very hard to make sure that people have an exit from every space we use. That is why there are push bars that allow immediate exit on all the gates. The C St playground does not have a locked gate with push bar, because that space has been used by the community for many many years. The security gate is between the playground and the school instead. MPD and DCPS Security have done walk through to check for safety issues. We have good safe spaces with good exits. We can always improve, let CAG know if you have any suggestions. For example, we have installed extra panels at the areas above the push bars because we discovered that for very tall people there was a workaround to open

the gate without authorization. That issue has been addressed. Please bring any suggestion that you to us.

CAG also noted that we have excellent security cameras. We have plenty of FOBs for the gates. The FOBs can be disabled by Maury staff.

Q: What is the access to Maury from Eliot-Hine for information about incidents?

A: It depends on the situation. We could be placed on either lockdown or alert status depending on the issue. For example, a bit ago there was an incident on East Cap. Eastern was placed on lockdown, we were placed on alert. When an item (the gun) was found up the block, DCPS determined that there was no need to change the status of the area schools as there was not an ongoing issue.

Q: Are there any issues with the new security guards now?

A: We are aware that some of the past guards have not seemed very vigilant at times. They have a supervisor, who is not at Maury. CAG has been sending emails about security being on cell phone. She has called the head of Security to talk about performance and training for those staff members. If you see anything or have any concerns email CAG ASAP. We have already gone through 2 officers because of CAG addressing issues. Send CAG a note/message describing your concern along with the time and location. Safety is non-negotiable for Maury. While the guards do not work for CAG, she ensures they are held accountable for performance. We now have 3 guards.

Q: When we buzz the Constitution gate, what is the view of the camera?

A: The staff can see you immediately when you touch the button to buzz. They see you before you hear the intercom and the view is very wide. This buzzer has a system of button that need to be pressed to let someone enter, so not everyone in the building can open the gate only those that know the combination of buttons to press.

Q: What is going on with the rock throwing?

A: Kids have figured out that Maury staff is there afterschool, so the after school incidents have calmed. There have been a couple of incidents now in the morning. We had rock throwing, one incident involved a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student, and an incident where one middle school student hit the hood of a car with their hands. Eliot Hine security quickly addressed a couple of students yelling out E-H window at 1:15 pm. So while the dismissal components is under control, morning is harder with security staffing. E-H security has to man their metal detectors during this time period. Cag has asked head of security Bob Thomas to address. MPD and DCPS police have been asked to have a presence. The arrival window is during a change in shifts which is difficult.

Joe Weedon: Commander Cain and team working hard to address. Internally at E-H, they are looking at deeper training for staff over the summer. E-H does not have a depth of resources available for staff. To put things into context, because Maury moved onto the property, E-H also lost football and soccer teams. These things need to be kept in mind when figuring out solutions.

Q: Once security can see you, what is the procedure? What if you do not know who it is?

A: At arrival, security should stop and ask intent for someone they do not know. During school hours, at 8:55 a.m. all gated are locked and the campus is secured. Entrance is only through Constitution buzz-in. The only door open is the door directly into the security office where people must sign-in.

#### Program with Eliot-Hine

To help foster a positive relationship with the E-H student community, the Assistant Principal came over and met with CAG last week. They are selecting 4-5 8<sup>th</sup> graders who will

come down to Maury and be a buddy to Maury students. They are selecting the students once semester assessments are done.

### School Budget

It was supposed to be released last Friday, but was not. Should be released by Saturday. The official request for changes from the schools are due March 5-6. LSAT is the group that ensures community engagement. We have several positions at Maury which are not in the budget: ½ Chinese position, Think Tank and the Reading Teacher position. CAG figures out where to take money with input from the community on priorities. We try to maintain that staffing model. We may lose \$100-120 of flexibility with projected raises under the teacher contract. We have had great autonomy at Maury. Thankfully, CAG has never had a petition rejected. We take the DCPS given number and maximize staffing. We make the choice of using non-personnel funds for staffing.

Q: How does DCPS factor in growth of the school?

A: DCPS gives us a by grade level allocation based on projections for enrollment. Every year we use one grade level teacher for Think Tank. That is why there have been split level classes in the past. In the past the decision has been easy because there was not enough classroom space for another homeroom.

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## Committee Announcements

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### Fundraising

Sarah: The Annual Fund is used to support programming at Maury by filling in the funding gaps. We are shy of our goal for this year and do not want to run short. If every Maury family gave \$41 we would reach our goal. Please consider donating.

Franny: Our overall fundraising goal forth year is \$168k. Every penny counts.

Box Tops: Clip them! The box is between Patrick and CoCo in Cluster A.

Tea Collection: Franny will announce dates online. 15% of your purchase goes to Maury with the shopping code SDS18MAURY at teaschooldays.com

No uniform days: Next one is the Friday before Spring Break.

Tunnicliffs: Eat dinner there the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. It brings us \$200 a month!

Space Camp: Lavagna is supporting space camp this month.

Maury at the Market: Tickets are available now. Go to the website! The auction catalogue is populating, but we would really like more items! If you go to the salon etc. please ask for a donation. Ask if you have friends who have a B&B if they can donate a day or two.

You should throw a Maury Party, which is a great way to contribute. Bidding for the Maury parties is moving online. They will be available from March 1st-15<sup>th</sup>.

We are still gathering donations from builders and construction companies etc. Companies can sign up directly through the website.

Friends and Family sponsorship is coming soon. We are working on the plan for the thank you/donation levels for this year. Last year it was a tree related recognition levels.

SEL (Social and Emotional Learning):

There is another parent encouragement workshop coming up! March 8, 2018, from 6:15-7:15 on Bullying and Friendship. Please RSVP to SEL. There is an email on the Tuesday folder flyers.

School Improvement Committee:

Will be working to transplant buses. If you want to help, let Will Hansfield know.

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### In Attendance

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Shannon von Felden, CAG, Britt Stuart, Lane McFadden, George Blackmon, Becca Schendle Norris, Amy Toner, Franny Decker, Sean Dillon, Diana Dillon, Becky McGeehan, Dena Smith, Jim Smith, Jay Murphy, Anne Fletcher, Granetta Coleman, Loca Nunn, McKenna Osborn, Sarah Hais, Katherine Brewer, Chris Brewer, Steve Stasiowiki, Tanya Meyers, Ailena May-Mills.

Please remember to sign-in next meeting!

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### Next Meeting

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3/15/2016 6:00 PM, Maury Village Multipurpose Room