
Misc. Presentations or Introductions

Shannon von Felden, PTA President, presided over the meeting and distributed the meeting agenda.

Pictures: Shannon mentioned that, this year, everyone will be able to see pictures before they purchase them. There is no need to fill out a form in advance of the picture day.

Listserv: Yahoo is shutting down its Yahoo Groups function. A question was asked about whether there are plans to transition to a new service at Maury. Shannon noted that the PTA had been considering moving the list serve to Google Groups and that a plan will be announced soon. Principal Payne Chauvenet uses Blackboard for her weekly communication. If families are not receiving those weekly emails, they should let the front office know.

5 Stances Parent Book Club – Stefany Thangevalu

The LSAT will be rolling out a schoolwide book club that will focus on the 5 stances (empathy, resilience, persistence, optimism, and flexibility). The first book will be the *Deepest Well* by Dr. Nadine Burke Harris. The focus for this first book club discussion will be on resilience. There is also a Ted Talk by Dr. Harris, in case you don't have time to read the book. There will also be tiered reading recommendations so you can read about the 5 stances with your children. The first reading and sharing will be from 5pm to 6pm on Thursday, November 21st, immediately preceding the next PTA meeting. There will be extra copies of the book available in the front office. Principal Payne-Chauvenet mentioned that she will be aligning the Principal's book selections with the LSAT's book club selections so that themes of the books selected for kids will be similar to the book selected for the parents.

Committee and Teacher Announcements

Fundraising Committee-Rebecca Watson: Congratulations and thank you to Lisa Page and Liza Rao, and others who assisted, for their incredible work to make the yard sale a success. We raised over \$11,000. Stephanie Gregorian is hosting a Stella and Dot fundraiser at her house this Sunday, October 20th. Stephanie mentioned kids are welcome to come; there will be a movie on in the basement.

Annual Fund Update: Those who contribute at least \$250 for the year will receive a decal, and those decals have arrived. Rebecca will be distributing the decals. Please let her know if you don't hear from her but believe you should be receiving one.

Pajama Pass day: We raised almost \$4,000 selling the buttons that serve as the pajama pass for the year. The Committee had hoped to raise \$2,000, so we exceeded our expectations. Rebecca mentioned that the Committee worked with Ms. Delaney to ensure that families that might not be able to afford the buttons were given one. The Committee also allowed students who didn't have a button to participate. Please contact Rebecca with any questions.

Maury at the Market- Liz Lyons and Steve Stasiowski: The theme for Maury at the Market this year will be Homecoming. Liz and Steve want everyone's help defining what homecoming means,

including what it means to return home to our original school location. We are looking for three more volunteers to help solicit donations from area businesses that will be auctioned off at the event and to help with budget (there are a lot of funds coming and out for the event). There is also need for another volunteer who understands tech and has aptitude for pulling technology together.

Liz and Steve are also looking for positive testimonials about businesses that donated in the past. We would like to use this to solicit more donations for this year.

Amy Toner is managing Maury Parties, and is encouraging families to step forward to offer to host a party this year.

Hospitality- D'Ann Lettieri

November is the busiest month for the Hospitality Committee. D'Ann will be sending out information about the upcoming coat drive. There are 35-40 children who have been identified by Ms. Delaney as needing coats. Please respond to the list for requested items as soon as it goes out; the list will identify sizes needed. The coats must be new. When the coat drive ends, the Thanksgiving basket drive will begin. The Committee will collect items in November and the Girl Scout troops at Maury will prepare the baskets. Ms. Delaney will make sure they get to the right families before the holiday.

Social and Emotional Learning - Caitlin Wesaw

The Committee is here to support the programs offered in the classroom and to help parents reinforce what is being learned in the classroom. There will be a Parent Encouragement Program (PEP) workshop on raising "I Can" kids, which is about raising resilient and persistent kids on October 29th from 6-7:15. Polite Piggy's is offering free childcare. Please RSVP so the Committee has a head count. The Committee is working on creating a lending library focused on empathy and the five stances. They are also tagging on to other events, such as Family Fitness night, to provide additional activities that families can do at home. The committee will also be identifying social service projects, such as partnering with the DC Diaper Bank, that the school community can contribute to. The Committee will also be sponsoring the Operation Grand (grandparent) event in May and will be having a Kindness Week.

Principal's Update

Drills:

The school conducted a successful lock down drill last week. We also had an earthquake drill today.

Three Rs:

DCPS is introducing a curriculum called 3Rs (Rights, Respect, and Responsibilities). The curriculum seeks to provide students with knowledge related to sexuality and teach them healthy behaviors. The individual lessons are about how to protect your body and are age-appropriate. Ms. Delaney will be working with the teachers to implement the curriculum.

Volunteer Clearance Update: Nurse Heidi will be coming to Maury for TB testing on November 12th and returning to check results on 14th. DCPS will also be offering fingerprinting at Maury on November 21st (time is TBD). You will need to sign up for both in advance, as spots will be limited. In response to concerns about the TB testing and fingerprinting required to volunteer at school, the Chancellor is reviewing the volunteer requirements. It was mentioned that MedStar at Eastern Market provides TB tests for only \$25.

DCPS Budget Meeting: There will be a DCPS budget meeting the same night as the PEP session (October 29th). It's a citywide budget session that rotates to different schools, as a result there will be attendees from other schools, in addition to Maury, trying to communicate their needs. Related to school budgets, David Bibo asked if we should be advocating for anything

in particular at the DCPS Budget Meeting. Shannon mentioned that Eliot-Hine Principal Magrino will be presenting at the November PTA meeting and that attendees can ask her to discuss budget issues. Amber Gove mentioned that construction is on target to be completed at Eliot-Hine in August 2020, and that the cost is currently estimated at \$85 million. Amber encouraged the Maury community to participate in Eliot-Hine School Improvement Team (SIT) meetings. She also noted that, from a budget perspective, a significant challenge for the school has been accurately estimating enrollment. It would be helpful for families at feeder schools, including Maury, to communicate their enrollment plans so that the school can appropriately project enrollment.

Construction at Eliot-Hine. Amber Gove mentioned that construction is on target to be completed in August 2020. Cost is currently at \$85 million. The biggest issue they are facing budget wise, is enrollment. Enrollment was far above what was expected last school year. It was better this year, but having a better sense of what enrollment is anticipated from feeder schools, like Maury, is important. Amber welcomed the Maury community to participate in the Eliot-Hine SIT meetings.

In Attendance

Shannon von Felden
Sarah Hais
Sandra George
Helena Payne-Chauvenet
Lora Nunn
Tom Nagle
Stefany Thangavelu
Amelia S[arks
Kristene Blake
Kate Wright
Julie Aaronson
David Pinchotti
Amber Gove
Mindy McDaniel
Rebecca Watson
Kirstin Erfe
Amy Toner
Kriss Wozniak
Caitlin Wesaw
Sarah Swift
Sheryl Freedman
D'Ann Lettieri
George Blackmon
Ebony Burton
Richard Parker
Natalie Tverdnyin
Fonta Gilliam
David Bibo
Stephanie Gregorian
Rebecca Watson
Ms. Cooper
Ms. Duckett

Next Meeting

11/21/2019 6:00 PM, Maury Multipurpose Room

