



1/14/2021

Introductions and General Announcements

Ross Kyle, PTA President, kicked off the meeting by announcing that the PTA Executive Committee and LSAT are beginning to think about the PTA and school budgets for next year. If anyone in the community would like to provide input on next year's PTA budget, they should reach out to anyone on the PTA Executive Committee.

Executive Committee and PTA Committees

Treasurer's Update: Andrew Lyons, PTA Treasurer, explained that the PTA's spending to date in this fiscal year is consistent with the budget. As of the end of December, we were forty percent of the way through the school year and have spent only 33 percent of our expense budget. To date, we have raised 47 percent of our fundraising requirement. Contributions to the Annual Fund have been strong, and some in the community have even made four-figure contributions. The wreath sale, sponsored by Shavanna Miller and Bloom Pop, raised over \$1,200 for the PTA. A huge thanks to Shavanna for donating 100 percent of the profits from this sale. Andrew encouraged everyone to make an Annual Fund donation, which can be done [here](#).

Staff Appreciation Committee: As teachers and staff prepare to return for live instruction, the Committee is planning something to make the first day back special for teachers and staff. If you would like to offer your ideas or assistance, please contact Amy Toner at amysuebee@gmail.com

Maury at the Market: Liz Lyons, Maury at the Market Co-Chair, encouraged everyone to think about next year, when we will be back in the building and of all the events we will be able to have. This year's Maury at the Market fundraiser will raise funds for the next school year, and everyone's support is critical. There are three ways you can help: (1) think about businesses you have worked with to encourage them to sponsor the event, (2) think about any items you have to donate, and (3) think about parties to offer. We have a great community and parties are a very good way to meet people. Parties can even be scheduled for 2022.

School Equity Group: Jean Kohanek announced that a new school equity group has been formed. Information about how to get involved will be shared over the listserv soon. One of the first activities the group is planning is a series of listening sessions to gauge the community's views about various equity topics. Keiana Mayfield, who you may know from East City Books, will be facilitating these sessions.

Principal Payne-Chauvenet provided an overview of DCPS's and Maury's reopening plans for February. She explained that, in late 2020, the school formed a reopening committee, as directed by DCPS, that was composed of various individuals in the community. The Committee considered student, teacher, and family needs. For students, the most important needs identified were safety and creating a supportive learning environment; for families, structure and consistency; and for staff, communication and safety.

The survey the Committee fielded to Maury families revealed an overwhelming demand for in-person learning (150 responses were in favor of some return to in-person learning). For February live instruction (start of Term 3), the Care classrooms will be collapsed into live learning classrooms. Because the school must go through a priority ranking to offer spots for these classes, those Care classroom students without a priority ranking may not be offered a spot for in-person learning. These families have been notified of this possibility.

The Committee identified three priorities for Maury families completing the survey: social-emotional, academic, and safety. The Committee determined we needed a plan that would serve both in-person and virtual learnings. To accomplish this, the school is offering 140 in-person learning spots, and hopes to expand as DCPS allows based on health conditions. The lower grades (PK-2) will serve 22 students in-person in half-day sessions; the upper grades (3rd-5th) will serve 11 students in-person in full day sessions. Wednesdays will be virtual for all students. The grade cohorts will maintain separate classroom spaces. These changes will necessitate homeroom shifts; any changes to homeroom assignments will be announced once it is known which students are returning.

There will be three teaching models for in-person learning. For PK-2nd, a single teacher will teach two separate cohorts, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Each cohort will have a three hour school day, with some time for outdoor play. Lunch will not be served during the school day for these students. For grades 3-4, a single teacher will teach one group of 11 students for the full school day, and students will have lunch in the classroom and will have recess blocks. For 5th grade, both teachers will return to school and will continue to teach their departmentalized subjects, as they currently do for both the 11 students in-person and those remaining virtual. The 5th grade students will also have lunch in the classroom and will have recess blocks.

In-person learning will begin February 1st, which is the start of Term 3. Pre-K will not begin until Thursday, February 4th.

Please see the attached slides presented by Principal Payne-Chauvenet for additional information.

Ms. Delaney, Social Worker at Maury, provided guidance to families on how to discuss school reopening with their children. She encouraged families to discuss the impending changes with their students and to help their students name their emotions about this transition. She also explained that she will be sharing ideas for rewards and incentives with families. She knows that students have been working very hard and that it's important to keep them motivated. This is a team effort between staff and parents. Ms. Delaney reminded everyone that this is a difficult time and how important it is to have empathy for one another.

Questions & Answers for Principal Payne-Chauvenet

Question: Will more cohorts be added at a later date?

Answer: The current number of cohorts is limited by the 11 student limit per classroom, as well as the fact that, if we bring back more teachers, it will increase the size of the virtual classes.

Question: For teachers who are going in, were they told they had to?

Answer: Teachers were ranked by the staffing department based on certain criteria, and this is what determined which teachers will return. There are two teachers returning in 5th grade, because they both agreed to return.

Question: Why aren't 3rd and 4th grade following the AM/PM model?

Answer: Grades 3-5 are not following the AM/PM model and will instead be full day, because the content is departmentalized and it was too difficult to have a half day model and fit everything in. DCPS also had concerns about using an AM/PM model for these grades.

Question: Is testing required?

Answer: Assistant Principal Griffin indicated that testing for students is optional. Principal Payne-Chauvenet explained there is a daily health screening for students and parents have to fill out a form each morning for their students. There is a consent component for testing, and it is highly encouraged. All Cares students at Maury are currently getting tested. If anyone in the cohort tests positive, the whole cohort will go virtual for a time period.

Question: For which class was there the most in-person demand?

Answer: In terms of the survey, the grade that wanted the most seats is 1st grade. As of the PTA meeting, 13 students had accepted seats in 1st grade. All of the other grades, currently have between 4-10 students accepted. The school will have a better sense of acceptances of initial seat offers on Friday, January 15th. As of the meeting, no grade is full. DCPS has not indicated any minimum number of students needed to allow in-person learning to commence.

Zoom Chat Box (unedited)

From Andrew and Liz ... to Everyone:6:02 PM

Can everyone please mute?

From Bradly Winans to Everyone:6:05 PM

Yeeeeah booyyyyyy! LOL

From Glaven to Everyone:6:06 PM

Thanks Brad!

From Andrew and Liz ... to Everyone:6:06 PM

yay shavanna!!

From Amy Toner to Everyone:6:10 PM

<https://mauryele.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/MauryattheMarket2021/MauryParties/tabid/1189541/Default.aspx>

Reach out to Katie Juhl Telligman at katie.telligman@gmail.com or Andrew Holod at mwtobe@gmail.com to host a party.

From Cari Fisher to Everyone:6:11 PM

For more information on how your support helps Maury Elementary School: Maury @ the Market Video Maury @the Market Website <https://twitter.com/MauryAuction>
<https://www.instagram.com/mauryatthemarket/>

From RZaklad to Everyone:6:13 PM

Rosie's email is: jzaklad@gmail.com

From Amy Toner to Everyone:6:13 PM

Feel free to reach out to us at amysuebee@gmail.com and jzaklad@gmail.com if you would like to participate or have ideas on Staff Appreciation.

From Marcus Stanley to Everyone:6:17 PM

be good to email the slide presentation out

From Sheryl Freedman... to Everyone:6:25 PM

Is the first grade teacher still pending or has it been decided?

From Gregorian Famil... to Everyone:6:26 PM

If don't get an in-person spot and our teacher was chosen to return, when will we find out what teacher/class our child will go into?

From Sara Cardello to Everyone:6:26 PM

Would love to hear about 1st grade as well!

From Stefan to Everyone:6:26 PM

still pending as of 3pm today

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:27 PM

Yes, families offered spots will be made aware of who the classroom teacher will be if the teacher selection is finalized. We do have some outstanding staffing matters that need to be finalized with HR.

From Jose Manuel Sil... to Everyone:6:27 PM

until when will the in-person offers be sent out?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:27 PM

First grade is one of the grade levels that staffing is being finalized with HR. We will inform families as soon as we receive the designation.

From Ashley Quarcoo to Everyone:6:28 PM

will we be informed if spots are full?

From Erin Hudson to Everyone:6:29 PM

How often does onsite asymptomatic testing occur?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:29 PM

At this time in-person seats will be offered until seats are filled or we no longer have interest.

From Liza Rao to Everyone:6:29 PM

are all in-person

From Sairah Saeed to Everyone:6:29 PM

so not all teachers will be vaccinated when they return?

From Liza Rao to Everyone:6:30 PM

are all in-person spots lottery based (after special needs, cares etc)?

From Sara Cardello to Everyone:6:30 PM

Yes, please confirm if teachers will be vaccinated

From Marcus Stanley to Everyone:6:30 PM

How will lunch work for grades 3-4? Seems like one of the settings with the highest contagion risk so interested in details, thanks

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:31 PM

We will not be able to communicate when seats are full. But seat offering will likely conclude before the February start date. There is a possibility that a few lingering spots will be available at the beginning of term 3 if a class has space.

Yes, after the priority spots, all seats are based on a random lottery.

From Christie Turner... to Everyone:6:31 PM

Is there anything we should do to communicate our desire to continue to be on the "wait list" or list of families interested in returning?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:32 PM

Teachers and staff will likely not be vaccinated before the term begins. We have been informed by DCPS that a sign up will become available the week of 1/25

From Sara Cardello to Everyone:6:32 PM

yes, same question about wait list

From Angie Stillwell... to Everyone:6:32 PM

Is the lottery based on entire scoop population, or based on prior surveys?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:32 PM

Asymptomatic testing- I believe will still follow the CARE model which I believe is every 10 days.

From Stefan to Everyone:6:34 PM

is testing mandatory?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:34 PM

Lunch for all grades will be in the classroom. Classrooms have Hepa filters and are also encouraged to open windows to allow fresh air circulation. When the weather is nice we hope to have more outdoor options.

From Sara Cardello to Everyone:6:34 PM

Will polite piggy programs still be allowed to be at Maury once this starts?

From Stefan to Everyone:6:34 PM

also do parents who have kids in the building have to agree to adhere to certain behaviors? like not flying, leaving the DMV etc?

From Jennifer Sklar to Everyone:6:34 PM

sorry I missed it - is the in person classes four days a week?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:36 PM

You will not need to communicate your interest. We will offer priority seats first and then move down the wait list as spots are declined.

I will need to circle back on Polite Piggy. I believe after school programming will continue. We will not be offering before or aftercare.

From Angie Stillwell... to Everyone:6:36 PM

Ms. Griffin, Are all students placed in the waitlist?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:37 PM

The lottery is random. Priority seats are designated based on data on file and DCPS criteria.

From Colleen Long to Everyone:6:37 PM

Will more classes be added as possible per safety and other factors, or is this model fixed for the term?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:37 PM

Parents must opt into testing. Testing and vaccines are encouraged but not mandatory.

In-person learning is MT, TH,F. Wednesday will remain virtual.

From Sara Cardello to Everyone:6:37 PM

Yes, also interested if more classes will be added

From Andy Marchessea... to Everyone:6:38 PM

If a family declines an in person spot

do they go to the bottom of the waitlist?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:38 PM

ALL students are automatically generated a lottery number. Parents do not have to opt in. You have the option to accept or decline a seat if/when offered.

From Caitlin Wesaw to Everyone:6:38 PM

For those kids not in-person learning and losing their current teacher what is the plan for them to meet or get to know their new teacher prior to the first day of Term 3?

From Stefan to Everyone:6:38 PM

do we get to know how many parents opt out of testing? Do teachers get to know or are we all kept in the dark?

From John Toner to Everyone:6:39 PM

great job Laura! we all need a dose of your enthusiasm!

From Sara Cardello to Everyone:6:39 PM

Seconding how will kids get to know new teacher, and testing opt in info

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:39 PM

We are unsure if the program will be able to expand. It will be largely based on public health, staffing and building capacity to social distance.

From Erin Hudson to Everyone:6:39 PM

Is there a chance that DCPS will change their mind about reopening as the new more contagious strain enters the district?

From Margaret Ben-Or... to Everyone:6:40 PM

Thank you, Ms. Delaney!

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:40 PM

If a person declines, they will not be offered a seat again during that term.

From durcan to Everyone:6:40 PM

will more classes be added mid term or is this set?

From Jessica Clancy to Everyone:6:40 PM

what happens when all teachers have the option to be vaccinated? will there be more seats?

From Rory to Everyone:6:41 PM

can you share why 4th grade is not trying the am and pm model?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:43 PM

Each grade level will be hosting a a family night so students can get to know their new teacher. Teachers will also have an opportunity to say "see you later" to their teacher. We also hope to have future opportunities for students to connect with their original homeroom teacher.

At this time DCPS is steadfast in reopening for term 3. It seems very unlikely that this will change at the moment.

From Andy Marchessea... to Everyone:6:43 PM

Is there a threshold to stop IPL if DC case rates continue to increase?

From Me to Everyone:6:43 PM

Why doesn't it also work for 5th grade to have two cohorts of 11 given that both teachers are going to be in person?

From durcan to Everyone:6:43 PM

can they use classrooms for am and pm? not using building completely.

From Stevenson's to Everyone:6:43 PM

If I opt out my slot in the 3rd advisory, Will I get a chance to opt in for the 4th?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:44 PM

I'm not sure if the meeting is being recorded. I don't remember seeing the record message.

From Margaret Ben-Or... to Everyone:6:44 PM

The meeting is not being recorded (from your meeting host! :))

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:45 PM

No additional classes will be offered in term 3. We hope to expand if circumstances allow in term 4.

We have not been given a threshold to return to in person learning.

From Me to Everyone:6:45 PM

I'll include the chat box back and forth in the PTA minutes.

From phoebeevans to Everyone:6:45 PM

Plans for term 4? Continue with same numbers if IPL spots?

From Priya Sarathy J... to Everyone:6:45 PM

With the timing of K classes - i assume lunch can be handled at home instead of in class. Is that accurate?

From Jennifer Sklar to Everyone:6:46 PM

For grades 3 to 5, can you remind me by when we should expect to hear if we have been offered a spot. is it basically up to February 1st?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:46 PM

Due to the fact that there are 45 students in 5th grade and only 2 teachers, we are unable to bring more students into the building with our staffing. Currently 34 students are learning online while 11 are learning in person.

From Alison Schwartz... to Everyone:6:47 PM

For the current teachers who are going back - have they opted in? or have they been volun-told?

From Jennifer Sklar to Everyone:6:47 PM

Are there any rules about the 11 students in person not socializing with kids outside of those 11 in her/his classroom?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:48 PM

We are unsure of what term 4 will look like and how many additional classes we may or may not been able to open.

After 5 consecutive absences a student loses their in-person learning seat.

From Jessica Clancy to Everyone:6:48 PM

so it takes DCPS changing the 11 kid limit to welcome more kids? Do we know if they will do this once principals have the option to be vaccinated

*teachers

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:50 PM

No plan for term 4 yet. The unpredictability of the public health crisis has not afforded us much planning time to think and plan ahead, unfortunately.

We are not mixing cohorts. Students in a given cohort must remain separate from other cohorts.

From Stephen Markus to Everyone:6:51 PM

for consistency, if your child's current teacher is remaining virtual and your child remains virtual, will your child be able to stay with his or her current teacher?

From Jennifer Sklar to Everyone:6:51 PM

Is it a fair assumption that the kids who are now in the CARE program would be given the first priority for the in person spots?

From Stacie's iPhone... to Everyone:6:52 PM

what will the process daily screening look like?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:52 PM

11 kids is the max we can have given the square footage of our classroom and keeping physical distancing. Expanding to more classes depends on public health factors and staffing.

From Sara Cardello to Everyone:6:52 PM

Is there currently a CARE 1st grade?

From Ashley Quarcoo to Everyone:6:53 PM

Is the lottery based on per child or per family?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:53 PM

We are trying to minimize disruption. We can't guarantee that a student remaining virtual will not be shifted to another class but it is only a LAST resort (potentially to balance numbers or need).

From durcan to Everyone:6:53 PM

are we using all rooms in the building such as using specials or reading rooms as classrooms to maximize use of our building for student use?

From Stacie's iPhone... to Everyone:6:53 PM

are families encouraged to arrive early for screening to make it to class on time?

From Priya Sarathy J... to Everyone:6:53 PM

based on the timing and extra steps for drop off, will there be windows to drop off or any specifics on that timing?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:53 PM

CARE students are 1 of the priority groups, but a student in a higher priority group could bump a CARE student if they accept a spot in term 4

From Rachel Abrecht-... to Everyone:6:54 PM

I'm confused, will Care for 3rd grade remain in term 3

From Diana Dillon to Everyone:6:54 PM

Will there be CARE classrooms for 3-5 graders? I missed that information if it was already announced

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:54 PM

We are not using all rooms in the school but using more rooms than we have cohorts. Separate room for AM/PM cohorts, rooms for specials education services we have an isolation room as well.

From durcan to Everyone:6:54 PM

Are we using the library and upper lab room? can we use other open rooms / spaces off the hallways?

From Kristiana Garci... to Everyone:6:55 PM

Will half day students be able to opt out of lunch?

From Andy Marchessea... to Everyone:6:55 PM

Will students be able to avoid unmasked kids eating breakfast if they prefer , or will breakfast be in the classroom?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:55 PM

Drop off will begin at 8:30 and go until 8:45. We will have separate entrances based on grade levels.

No CARE in term 3.

From Sara Cardello to Everyone:6:56 PM

Will breakfast be in the classroom?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:57 PM

Lunch and breakfast are optional. Breakfast is served from :30-8:45. If a student isn't eating breakfast they can arrive closer to 8:45 same for lunch at 12:15

From durcan to Everyone:6:57 PM

I understand we can only have 11 students in a room but can we use every available space to maximize in person options?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:57 PM

Breakfast is in the classroom.

From AsherThornburg to Everyone:6:58 PM

how does the pm cohort work for pre-k? will there be a rest time?

From Priya Sarathy J... to Everyone:6:58 PM

if we are in the morning slot should we pick up by 12 if we want to avoid lunch in the room?

From Annie Perezchic... to Everyone:6:58 PM

have all the in-person slots already been offered

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:59 PM

We will not have rest time for either cohort. We will have recess time for the AM/PM cohort.

From Andrew and Liz ... to Everyone:6:59 PM

Thank you PC, Griffin and the members of the committee for all your hard work on this!

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:7:01 PM

Morning pickup is at 11:30.

Lunch will be served at 12:15. AM students are offered breakfast. PM students are offered lunch.

We are still in the process of offering in-person seats. Parents have time to make a decision which makes the timeline fluid.

From S&T to Everyone:7:01 PM

if an in-person teacher tests positive, what happens?

From Reyna Taylor to Everyone:7:01 PM

If an in-person child needs to revert back to virtual will they go back to their original class?

From durcan to Everyone:7:01 PM

how many students are enrolled this year?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:7:02 PM

If a staff member tests positive the cohort shuts down

Enrollment is currently 482

Based on Aspen database

From veronica to Everyone:7:02 PM

So if lunch starts at 12:15, at what time does the PM cohort start?

From Stephanie to Everyone:7:03 PM

I understand there are staffing issues for 1st grade. Have in-person offers for 1st grade started yet or is Maury trying to resolve the staffing first?

From Ashley Quarcoo to Everyone:7:03 PM

Can you let us know how full the classes are at this time?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:7:03 PM

1st grade seats have been offered

From Caitlin Wesaw to Everyone:7:05 PM

How will teachers with increased virtual classes be supported?

From Stacie's iPhone... to Everyone:7:05 PM

just to be clear we should expect a phone call for the seat offer?

From Tamara McDonald... to Everyone:7:05 PM

Are there second grade seats offer

and how many will be in class

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:7:06 PM

Seats will be offered via email first. Then a phone call to follow if there is no response.

From Priya Sarathy J... to Everyone:7:06 PM

if you don't get enough acceptances for K for am and pm will you not have either?

From Elizabeth to Everyone:7:06 PM

Thank you so much Principal PC for all of your work to keep the lines of communication open and to provide as much information as possible in this time of rapid change and lots still pending. And to everyone who has been working to help coordinate this shift!

From Tamara McDonald... to Everyone:7:06 PM

When will the email be sent out

From Erin Hudson to Everyone:7:06 PM

What's the minimum amount of seats that need to be accepted to open?

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:7:07 PM

We will try to have at least 1 cohort for K if the response is very low and we can't fill two cohorts.

From durcan to Everyone:7:07 PM

Are state office superintendent increases size mid term, would you add more students?

From McCann Family to Everyone:7:08 PM

Thank you so much Principal Payne Chauvenet and Assistant Principal Griffin! And thanks to the PTA for hosting this important conversation tonight

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:7:08 PM

Emails are already in the process of being sent out. They will continue this week.

From Natasha to Everyone:7:08 PM

Thank you!!!

From durcan to Everyone:7:08 PM

Are teachers who are returning prioritized for vaccine?

From Lisa Page to Everyone:7:08 PM

We know that you are.

From Sairah Saeed to Everyone:7:08 PM

Thank you!

From Stephanie to Everyone:7:08 PM

Thank you!

From Susan Wall to Everyone:7:08 PM

A HUGE thank you!!!

From Cari Fisher to Everyone:7:08 PM

Thank you!!

From veronica to Everyone:7:08 PM

Thank you!

From Angie Stillwell... to Everyone:7:08 PM

yes thank you!

From Jose Manuel Sil... to Everyone:7:08 PM

thank you!!

From Tamara McDonald... to Everyone:7:08 PM

thank you

From Stevenson's to Everyone:7:08 PM

Thank you!!

From Annie Perezchic... to Everyone:7:09 PM



From Me to Everyone:7:09 PM

A huge thank you to you and all of the staff and teachers. We know everyone is making sacrifices and none of these plans is ideal.

From Priya Sarathy J... to Everyone:7:09 PM

Thank you!

In Attendance

The meeting was held virtually and attendance was not taken.

Next Meeting

Thursday, January 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM