



MINUTES

Maury Elementary

5/21/2020 6:00 PM |

Held virtually via Zoom

Committee and Teacher Announcements

Maury at the Market Committee. Liz Lyons provided an update on Maury at the Market and reminded members that the live auction will end on Sunday, May 24th and that the PTA's fundraising goal is \$25,000 for the online auction.

Exec Board Update

PTA Board Elections. Parliamentarian Sarah Hais announced the candidates for the open PTA Board seats – President, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian. Since all candidates were unopposed, a voice vote was held and all three candidates were elected. Ross Kyle was elected President, replacing Shannon von Felden. Andrew Lyons was elected Treasurer, replacing Patrick McGeehan. Ebony Burton was elected Parliamentarian, replacing Sarah Hais. Congratulations to the newly elected Executive Board Members and a huge thank you to our outgoing members for their service!

LSAT Elections. Sarah also announced that Local School Advisory Team (LSAT) elections would take place the week of May 25th. Each year, we elect four parent representatives to serve on the LSAT. Please keep an eye out for a ballot from Sarah.

Proposed School Year 2020-2021 Budget. Patrick McGeehan, Treasurer. Patrick reviewed the proposed budget for the 2020-2021 School Year. The Board has estimated the starting budget for next school year at

Starting Balance and Income:

The biggest two drivers of our beginning balance for the proposed budget are the Food Prints budget that we've been carrying over from year to year and a large amount that has been in the PTA's PayPal account and was never programmed into the budget. We're estimating our beginning balance at \$57,000, which reflects funds to establish a Food Prints program that the PTA has been carrying forward for many years, and funds in the PTA's PayPal account, which had not previously been programmed into the PTA's bank account. The next largest amount is expected income from Maury at the Market. We've been very conservative with the amount we've assumed we will raise, and we hope to raise more than what we've budgeted. Other income has either been held level or lowered, in light of the expectation that social distancing will continue and could impact PTA fundraising. As a result, we've estimated we will begin the new school year a little over \$156,000.

Expenses

The largest budgeted expense for next year is classroom aides. The PTA has paid the aides through the end of the originally-scheduled 2019-2020 school year. The budget provides the aides a small cost of living adjustment in the new school year. We will have the same number of aides (five aides total). A sixth aide had been under consideration, but in light of the impact of the pandemic, we are unable to fund a new aide. For educational programs, we had to make cuts for some programs. We zeroed out Playworks again and dance class for PK, as well as the 5th grade capstone project. School Spirit and the Events funds are fully-funded. Although we have not budgeted funds for Kindergarten and 5th grade graduations, we expect these celebrations will be funded out of other line items. Amounts for professional

development were also lowered. Readers and Writers Workshop funding is lowered to \$2,000, which is a pretty significant cut (down from \$8,000). School supplies were held steady at \$25,000, but we had hoped to increase it to \$30,000.

Patrick also walked through proposed funding for PTA-controlled funds, such as SEL, staff appreciation, and hospitality, and PTA expenses, such as Greater Giving. We are likely to publish the school handbook online to reduce expenditures in the next school year.

Questions about the Budget:

Question: It seems like a big chunk that we are getting back from not having to pay for a portion of Ms. Conant's salary. It was asked why that can't get us another aide?

Answer: Given our priorities and reductions in so many areas, there isn't room in the budget.

Question: Will Kindergarten and 5th grade promotion be funded?

Answer: These lines are currently funded at zero, but there are other funds that could be used for these purposes, if the PTA Board and Principal decide to do that.

Shannon noted that the full PTA will vote on the proposed budget at the June 11th meeting, which will also held via Zoom.

Principal's Update

Principal Payne Chauvenet discussed distance learning and plans for the next school year. She noted that Maury staff are doing a lot of reflection to prepare for next school year. She emphasized that plans for the start of the next school year are still in flux. NBC Washington reported that DCPS is looking at different options for combining remote and in-person learning for next school year. A lot of the scenarios that have been described will require significant logistical work. There may be temperature checks at the door and limited access to the building, by appointment only. A lot of the teachers' and administration's June work will be figuring out the logistics, as well as academic and social emotional learning. Principal Payne-Chauvenet has heard consideration is being given to trying to ensure siblings can attend on the same days. The school will think creatively within the options DCPS provides about how to successfully transfer children to their new grades. The Principal's first priority for next year is safety and then learning.

A question was asked about access to food for Maury families. The Principal noted that some gift cards for groceries have been given to families and there likely will continue to be a need for such gift cards. The Maury Community may want to consider if they can help with this. Liz Campbell offered to be a resource to the school to help get information out to families.

In Attendance

The meeting was held virtually due to the ongoing DCPS closure, and attendance was not taken.

Next Meeting

June 11th at 6:00pm via Zoom.