



4/22/2021

Introductions and General Announcements

Ross Kyle, PTA President, kicked off the meeting by thanking the Maury at the Market Committee and everyone in the community who supported the effort by donating items and parties or by bidding on items. The event was very successful, and will provide critical funds for the next school year.

Danny Sullivan, 5th Grader, presented on the 5th grade class's capstone project for the school year, which is a T-shirt fundraiser to support organizations advocating for Black Lives Matter and climate change efforts. Danny explained that the project grew out of the 5th grade class's persuasive writing curriculum. All students had to draft essays and the class voted for the most persuasive essays, which focused on Black Lives Matter and climate change. The class then worked with Ms. Bomba to design a graphic for a t-shirt that the class would sell to raise funds for organizations research and selected by the students. If you are interested in ordering a t-shirt, please complete this order form and submit your payment by Friday, May 7th: <https://forms.gle/JvCoEV7PMPsKoK7h7>. All payments should be sent to the PTA PayPal account (maurypta@yahoo.com) with the subject line "5th Grade Social Justice T-Shirt Order."

Executive Committee and Other Committee Updates

Treasurer's Update: Andrew Lyons, PTA Treasurer, noted that Maury at the Market has raised a bit over \$75,000, which is incredible given there was not an actual event. So far this year, the PTA is under budget on both our revenues and expenses, and we expect to end the year in the black. The Maury at the Market funds raised this year and anything we have left over from this year's budget will be used to fund expenses for next year. The Board is currently preparing the budget for next year. If you would like to provide any input regarding next year's budget, please email Maury.pta.treasurer@gmail.com. At this point, the PTA is expecting next year's budget will be very tight.

PTA Elections: Ebony Burton, PTA Parliamentarian, announced the two candidates for the open PTA Vice President and Secretary positions. Lora Nunn is running for Vice President and Liz O'Gorek is running for Secretary. Because Lora and Liz are uncontested, a voice vote will be held at the May PTA meeting.

Local School Advisory Team (LSAT): Jean Kohanek, Co-Chair. There are four parent representative LSAT seats that are up for election for next school year. The LSAT is the Local School Advisory Team—a group of parents, teachers, staff, and a community member who advise the principal on a variety of school issues, as well as the school's budget for the coming year. Serving on the LSAT is a great way to connect more deeply on school operations, and to learn about and raise issues

impacting the whole school community. Terms are for one year (July 1-June 30). All parents/guardians of students at Maury in 2021-22 are eligible to run; you do not need to be a member of the PTA. Nominations are due by Thursday, May 13. The election will be held online on Thursday, May 20. All current parents/guardians are eligible to vote (you do not need to be a member of the PTA), and will be sent a link to the e-mail address on file with the school.

To learn more about what we do, check out the minutes at: <http://mauryelementary.com/lsat>, or get more info at the main DCPS LSAT site: <https://dcps.dc.gov/page/local-school-advisory-teams-lsat>. And please feel free to contact any of the current parent reps (D'Ann Lettieri, Richard Parker, Stefany Thangvelu, and me) if you have questions, or would like to know more.

School Equity Group: Jean Kohanek announced that there is a final series of listening sessions being offered over the next week. Please participate in one if you have not already to share your thoughts about Maury's community. Sessions will be held at the following dates/times:

Monday, April 26th at 8:00 PM
Tuesday, April 27th at 8:00 PM (Black Affinity Session)
Thursday, April 29th at 6:00 PM (Black Affinity Session)
Friday, April 30th at 6:00 PM

SIGN UP HERE: You can sign up for the sessions here: <https://www.keianamayfield.com/maury-listening-sessions> (password: Maury20002). Attached is a disclosure form with more information on what to expect.

Principal's Update

SY2021-2022 Enrollment: Colette Marchesini (Ms. Coco) encouraged everyone to reenroll their students for next year. To prove residency, she recommended providing a pay stub, which is easier than providing utility bills. If you provide utility bills, you can only use Washington Gas, Pepco, or DC Water and you have to provide two consecutive months bills. It is also necessary to have all documentation in the registering parent's/guardian's name. Everything can be provided online and the school can review it electronically. Returning students do not need a birth certificate; however, everyone must reenroll and prove residency every year. The school is not able to confirm with all returning students they they are reenrolled. Once you submit your child's enrollment online, you should assume it is successful, unless you are contacted by the school. You can email Maury Attendance with any questions (mauryattendance@dc.gov). Families can re-enroll in person, if desired. In-person reenrollment is available on Wednesdays during normal school hours.

School Reopening: Instructional Superintendent Eric Bethel joined the meeting to discuss school reopening both for Term 4 and the next school year. Superintendent Bethel is the Instructional Superintendent for Cluster 5, which includes Maury. Superintendent Bethel acknowledged that it has been a difficult year for all families and noted that he has two elementary age children who will finish out the school year learning at home. He encouraged everyone to approach each other with grace and understanding, recognizing that this has been an incredibly challenging year for everyone, parents, teachers, and administrators. Superintendent Bethel explained that DCPS's philosophy for term 4 is to prioritize ending the year strong and planning for summer school, while also ensuring in the next school year all students can be in-person. Given the limited time in which to make and implement changes for Term 4 and the ongoing restrictions, even with the loosening of distance guidelines, it has been challenging to implement a return plan that works for everyone. Schools, including Maury, were required to submit a draft Term 4 reopening plan; Maury did so and DCPS approved the plan. You may look at other schools and their in-person learning offerings and you might ask why can't Maury offer that model. It is important to keep in mind that each school was given flexibility to adopt a model that worked for them. Every school community's preferences and needs varied, including differences in staff desire to return to school and in building spaces. Ultimately, there was not a one-size-fits-all approach. Superintendent Bethel encouraged anyone with questions or concerns to contact him directly at eric.bethel@k12.dc.gov.

Questions & Answers for Principal Payne-Chauvenet and Instructional Superintendent Bethel

Q: Annie Perezchica asked about the number of staff in the building who are vaccinated and those who are not. Will DCPS be looking to require vaccination for staff?

A: Superintendent Bethel: DC offered vaccinations to all staff returning, but DCPS does not have the ability currently to mandate that all staff receive vaccinations.

Q: Kate Wright: What resources will be provided to the schools to ensure that schools are fully able to reopen in the fall, assuming current health guidelines don't change?

A: Superintendent Bethel: DCPS and the city are currently working hard to figure this out.

Q: Rachel Abrecht-Litchfield asked what are the driving barriers to allowing the small remaining number of children who want to return and can something be done to fundraise for a swing space?

A: Superintendent Bethel: The school could certainly fundraise – DCPS would not stand as a barrier to that. Principal Payne-Chauvenet: The current challenges primarily relate to staffing. As a result, even if you have a swing space, there could be challenges to staffing it.

Q: Diana Dillon: DCPS says all kids will be back five days a week in the fall. What communication is happening with the teachers' union, which noted, when it was announced, that this plan was news to them. For parents it's frustrating to see lack of communication between DC and the union. This suggests that parents can't rely on plans to return in person fully next school year.

A: Superintendent Bethel noted that these discussions are happening above his level at the senior leadership level, but he knows that there is a commitment to a full return and he is hopeful that teachers will be confident in DCPS's plans for a full return. DCPS is seeing a lot of schools, like Maury, where a lot of staff are back in person so there is growing confidence in a full return.

Q: Why wasn't hybrid learning an option for Term 4 at Maury?

A: Principal Payne-Chauvenet noted that the Maury Reopening Committee opted not to use a hybrid model. Superintendent Bethel noted that DCPS's priority with reopening was to provide seats to priority populations – this is how DCPS defined equity (ensuring that those students who needed to be in person the most got those seats) and it was important that schools honor those priorities. These priority students received offers in Term 4 if they had declined them in Term 3. Additionally, DCPS put out guidance to schools for Term 4 to encourage continuity for their programming and continuity of students' learning experience to ensure big breaks in student learning didn't occur.

Q: Will funding for substitute teachers help with staffing a swing space?

A: Principal Payne-Chauvenet: This hasn't been an issue of funding but of finding substitutes who are willing to come in person and to stay longer term. Two of the barriers to full reopening is ensuring sufficient staffing and allowing teachers to work with more than 2 cohorts.

Q: What percentage of Maury students fall into priority groups? A: It's about 20 percent.

Q: How did the school assess parent interest for term 4?

A: Principal Payne-Chauvenet: All students in the priority group got Term 4 offers. Superintendent Bethel noted that DCPS put out a survey for term 3 and used that survey data for term 4. We understand some demand may have changed and we wanted schools to identify any change in needs. Schools had flexibility regarding how they did this.

Q: Why wasn't it communicated that families that declined a term 3 offer meant they wouldn't get one for term 4?

A: Principal Payne-Chauvenet noted that at the time we made term 3 offers, we didn't know or expect there would be an expansion for term 4. This was decided and communicated when term 4 offers were made.

Q: What are Maury's summer school plans?

A: Principal Payne-Chauvenet noted that Maury received money for COVID-19 that will be used to accelerate learning this summer and for planning for next school year. The school had to submit a summer acceleration plan and apply for funds to pay for summer staff and support learning. Selected students who will be rising 3-5th graders will be invited to participate in summer school. The selection will be mostly based on reading and math assessments during the school year.

Q: How many students did not receive a return to in-person learning offer?

A: Principal Payne-Chauvenet noted that there are a total of 14 students who haven't received an in-person learning offer at all this school year.

Q: Brad Winans asked if the contractors conducting health screenings at the door are required to wear full PPE.

A: Principal Payne-Chauvenet stated these contractors are required to wear full PPE.

Zoom Chat Box (unedited)

From Richard Parker to Everyone:6:06 PM

Congratulations and thanks to MATM team!

From Jean Kohanek to Everyone:6:08 PM

Well done, Danny! Thanks for repping Grade 5!

From Margaret Ben-Or... to Everyone:6:08 PM

Great job, Danny!

From Adrienne Alcant... to Everyone:6:08 PM

Nicely done, Danny!



From Andrew Lyons (h... to Everyone:6:10 PM

maury.pta.treasurer@gmail.com

From Me to Everyone:6:15 PM

Thanks, Liz! I look forward to passing the typewriter to you!

From Elizabeth O'Gor... to Everyone:6:15 PM

THERES A TYPEWRITER

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V Exciting

From Me to Everyone:6:15 PM

You'll have to win your election to find out!

From Jean Kohanek to Everyone:6:16 PM

Thank you Liz and Lora—very exciting!!

From Tanya Myers to Everyone:6:16 PM

yay! Liz & Lora 🥳

From Andrew Lyons (h... to Everyone:6:17 PM

hurray Lora and Liz!

From Stefany Thangav... to Everyone:6:17 PM



Wonderful to have Lora & Liz joining the Exec Team

From Jean Kohanek to Everyone:6:18 PM

And thank you Tanya and Sandra!! You're the best!

From Angie Stillwell... to Everyone:6:18 PM



From Lora Nunn to Everyone:6:18 PM

Thanks everyone! I'm excited. Apologies, I'm currently at my neighborhood reimagining safety committee meeting so I may be distracted tonight

From Tanya Myers to Everyone:6:18 PM



From Adrienne Alcant... to Everyone:6:18 PM

Sandra and Tanya, thanks so much! We appreciate you keeping us on track - and fo the great notes.

From Miles Burton to Everyone:6:18 PM

Thank you Ross!

From Jean Kohanek to Everyone:6:18 PM

You guys are all top notch!

From Stefany Thangav... to Everyone:6:19 PM



Many many thanks to Tanya & Sandra!!!!

From Richard Parker to Everyone:6:22 PM

DCPS Canvas indicates that we can enroll online or at school - can we enroll at school?

From colette.marches... to Everyone:6:30 PM

enrolldcps.dc.gov is the website to enroll online. You will be able to upload your residency documents. Please look at the Proof of Residency link before enrolling. Only new students need to include proof of birth i.e. passport or birth certificate-and Yes, you can bring your documents and enrollment forms to school between 9:00 and 3:00 pm every day except Wednesdays 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Thank you all ! Miss you !

From Stefany Thangav... to Everyone:6:31 PM



Thank you Ms. Coco!!!! You hold us together.

From Adrienne Alcant... to Everyone:6:32 PM

Hi Principal PC and AP Griffin, do you have any updates on the K and 5th promotion ceremonies, including the dates and whether they will be in person? Thank you!

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:6:33 PM

@Adrienne Alcantara, plans are still in the work. An update is coming soon.

Term 4 changes forced us to pause the planning process but we will be finalizing details in the coming weeks.

From Adrienne Alcant... to Everyone:6:36 PM

Great thank you AP Griffin.

From Alison Schwartz... to Everyone:6:40 PM

I really appreciate this update, and I share the gratitude for our teachers and Maury staff who make this all work. you mentioned responding to families desire to return - how was that assessed for term 4 versus what they said in term 3?

From Helena PC to Everyone:6:41 PM

Instructional Superintendent Eric Bethel - eric.bethel@k12.dc.gov

From Rachel Abrecht... to Everyone:6:42 PM

If there are a small number of remaining children wanting to return to IPL in certain grades, what are the driving barriers to this. Is there something we can fundraise for to help bridge this gap - like a swing space?

From Kristen Gustafs... to Everyone:6:45 PM

I would like to know how Maury and DCPS consider it equitable for a handful of students in every grade who wanted IPL to get nothing in Q4 while well over half of their peers received full time IPL. And for Maury, how is this consistent with inclusiveness or the 5 stances? Why wasn't hybrid an option?

From Kara Marchione to Everyone:6:50 PM

Thank you for speaking with us today. ,Could you explain again...did DCPS guidance require that schools maintain models from Term 3 for Term 4? I was confused by how you framed that. Id also like to know if DCPS will be providing guidance to schools on additional supports for virtual learners who may be struggling emotionally and

academically. DCPS received federal money from COVID relief packages...the last one alone provided \$398 million to DC, how is that being used? Thank you!

From Rachel Abrecht... to Everyone:6:52 PM

Thank you P.PC - for further clarification would funding for substitute teachers and additional staffing along with a swing space help for Term4, or is there a lack of available approved/approvable staff resources, even if funding/space was provided?

From Weaver to Everyone:6:52 PM

Is the DCPS fall commitment for every student to be in the school building 5 days a week from 8:30-3:15? What do you see as the major barriers to meeting that commitment and is there a plan to hire more staff to meet this goal if needed?

From Kristen Gustafs... to Everyone:6:53 PM

What percentage of Maury students fall into the high priority categories?

From Stefany Thangav... to Everyone:6:59 PM

As a school that doesn't not receive extra funds to support needs for high priority categories because we are not in this category, will DCPS be adding extra support across the district w extra COVID funds?

From Kristen Gustafs... to Everyone:7:02 PM

What is meant by "declines" who changed their mind? There was no communication or transparency that a Q3 decline would carry over to Q4. Zero.

From Stefan Hankin to Everyone:7:02 PM

how many kids are not in the building that would like to be?

From Elizabeth Rigby... to Everyone:7:03 PM

In addition to district-defined priority students, did Maury use any other priority considerations (e.g., attendance, achievement, etc.)

From Taeneress Griff... to Everyone:7:05 PM

@Elizabeth Rigby, we are not able to determine our own priority designations. Only priority seats for IPL were based on the designations previously mentioned.

Summer Academy will offer seats based on school-level data in our MTSS system.

From Elizabeth Rigby... to Everyone:7:05 PM

Thanks for clarifying!

From Weaver to Everyone:7:09 PM

Thank you.

From Eric Bethel to Everyone:7:10 PM

Thank you @ Maury! Please don't hesitate to email me with any additional questions or comments.

From Jean Kohanek to Everyone:7:10 PM

Thank you IS Bethel!

From Eric Bethel to Everyone:7:10 PM

Thank you, Ross.

From Richard Parker to Everyone:7:10 PM

Thanks Superintendent Bethel

From colette.marches... to Everyone:7:12 PM

Also to anyone that has enrollment questions (not if the enrollment was received) please email mauryattendance@k12.dc.gov which is where you email if your child will be absent from school.

From Jean Kohanek to Everyone:7:12 PM

Final listening session sign-up here: <https://www.keianamayfield.com/maury-listening-sessions> (password: Maury20002)

In Attendance

The meeting was held virtually and attendance was not taken.

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 6:00 PM (virtual)