

PTA Minutes - June 18, 2019

1. President's Report

- No prior meeting this year because there were no actionable items.
- Please remember that the PTA is a volunteer organization.

2. Action Items

a. Review of Updated By-Laws

Will the voting members agree to a 30-day waiver to view the Bylaws prior to voting?

Vote: To Discuss the updates

Motion: To Discuss

Seconded: by Danielle

Voting in Favor, no opposition

Discussion:

Most bylaws come down through national and VA PTA. Most articles in Bylaws are not changeable. Only changes that we have made: a requirement of five meetings per year. Proposed changes (1) Want to change from five to four meetings per academic year, with five days notice of meetings. (2) executive board required to meet 4 times per year (principal, president, treasurer, etc). Want to change to 2 meetings per year. (3) Final change: propose to add under Article 9: to add a statement of inclusivity.

Concerns raised: how many meetings is too many meetings? How many is enough? Is there a way for the general community to request a meeting? What is our process to request a meeting? Answer: if people feel need a meeting, send an email to President and a meeting can be called.

Motion: Pass the bylaws

Question: can we amend bylaws before we vote?

Amend to three meetings.

Second: Yes.

Vote: All in favor, no opposition.

b. Review of 2019-2020 budget

Info: Audit committee looked over to ensure books were balanced. Everything balanced. The state PTA accepted -we are members in good standing. Need to vote to accept the audit.

Motion: Accept the audit.

Second: second the motion

Vote: All in favor, no opposition.

Overbudget of Teacher Appreciation

We are at \$56,000. Expenses are still coming in. Treasurer wants to vote on budget for Teacher-Staff appreciation.

Motion: Move \$1174.88 from account to cover cost of Teacher Appreciation expenses from General Fund.

Second to motion

Vote: all in favor, no opposition.

Next year need to communicate better with teachers. Coordinate with room parents to make sure teachers know these funds were available. Better idea to make the push during the first quarter.

Review of 2019 – 2020 budget

Discussed the difference between estimates for the 2018-2019 year and actuals from the year, in the context of how to shape the budget for next year (2019-2020).

Expenditures

Field day is increasing in price because more students and now happens over the course of two separate days.

Field trips and scholarships are moving to Ashlawn Cares line item.

Library increasing expenditures and music.

STEM Activities and Supplies are renamed:

Might be a good idea to add money to Grounds Fund.

Income: \$46,700. Expenditures: \$46,700. We are non-profit, so it should balance.

Budget is flexible document. As things come up we can vote on and change.

Motion: to pass the budget

Second

Vote: all in favor, no opposition.

Digression: Ashlawn Cares. Used to be line-item budget. Ashlawn cares (according to National PTA) can pay for snacks for kids at school, class t-shirts, scholarship for enrichment or extracurricular activities, yearbooks for everyone, school lunch debt, alternative seating for kids in classroom. Ashlawn has over 20% free and reduced lunch population. Need to help these families and would like an automated fundraising source (Scrip, Amazon percentage). Ashlawn Cares can stay under umbrella of PTA, and there are firm guidelines in place.

Suggestion: Hire a translator for future PTA Meetings.

CCPTA Report (Bob)

- Rep to county-wide PTA
- Great way to understand the complexity of Arlington Public Schools.
- Population: continues to grow. Amazon coming and tagalong companies. Budget is complicated. Go to County Board Meetings if you are upset, not just school board meetings. Parents, teachers, should go to County Board Meetings.
- Cross PTA meetings are being encouraged. Especially with school-boundary changes. As new schools are opening, established PTAs are taking new PTAs under their wing. PTAs can share money for legitimate reasons.

Mrs. Crepeau

- May 21st at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, school safety meeting. Discussed recent shootings in government centers and schools. ALICE, Run Fight Hide – different policies that exist. Officer Gammel is SRO. They are increasing SROs at county level. Relocatable safety and safety associated with propping doors and movement of students.
- BE SMART Campaign to teach gun safety.

Fundraising (Sharon and Sara)

- Thank you to our Fundraising Committee this year!

Slate Openings

- Many openings for next year. Please check the slate and let people know you are interested!

Box Tops going electronic next year

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Ashlawn Mondays at Meridian Pint: July 22 & August 19

Summer Library Nights (see emails from Ms. McClain)

Rising K Playdates (Rebecca Guy?)

3. Principal's Report

- Thanks from Ms. McClain and Ms. Neary for a great year.
- Thank you to June for being a great PTA President for the past 2 years!
- Learning Log will have summer activity ideas: math pack, reading, summer library nights.
- Ashlawn has grown this year: projected at 680 – ended up with ~800 students. Relocatables are coming. No empty classrooms at Ashlawn. County suggests use of music and art rooms, but we have highly valued programs. They hired more teachers to lower student:teacher ratio. Giving Ashlawn 4 relocatables. The only place the relocatables can go is the blacktop – because of Arlington County's storm water rules. They will work to improve the playground. 4th grade will be in the relocatables.
Question: will relocatables be temporary? Answer: Ashlawn will be part of the Arlington County boundary changes.