

PTA Minutes  
October 1, 2019

- I. Principal's Report
  - a. Volunteer/Field Trip Update
    - Everyone must complete an online application form
    - Safe schools component training for Sexual Misconduct
    - Field trip: interested in chaperoning, make sure to select the box
    - This will all take time. If these are not complete before day of the field trip, you will not be allowed to participate.
  - b. Construction and playground update
    - GAGA pit is a ton of fun and students love it
    - Playground. Basketball hoop coming on the upper blacktop. 4-Square also coming.
    - Courtyard committee connected with GCP and looking for people who want to help. There will likely be weekend work days.
    - Gym is clean! Also new painting to be completed by Columbus Day weekend. May be delayed, but hoping for the best. Also hoping for new mats.
  - c. CARES posters and expectations
    - Consistency across building and shared locations
    - Visual reminder of expectations throughout the building
    - COOPERATION, ASSERTION, RESPONSIBILITY, EMPATHY, SELF-CONTROL
  - d. School initiatives this year
    - Sensory Path for movement breaks
    - Monthly birthday celebrations for kids in school
    - Food bus as a way to reuse food from the cafeteria; helps diminish food waste. Donate to AFAC. Students will donate uneaten/unwanted sealed food and there is a weekly dropoff on Fridays. There is a signup genius to volunteer to transport the food.
    - Push to increase recycling last year and it continues this year
    - Global Citizen Project is still an ongoing theme at Ashlawn
    - Priorities: increase achievement for all students; increase diversity of texts and love of reading; students can identify one school-based adult who supports and encourages them; increased improvement in mental health measures and accessibility to mental health resources
- II. SRO Geoff Gammell – unable to attend
- III. President's Report

113 members of PTA; used to have a goal of 100% membership.  
Heather Wood updated and submitted out Bylaws. PTA is in good standing.

Bob Matthew – County Wide PTA Rep

We have temporary superintendent. Strong history of inclusion in Arlington, and there is now a Diversity Coordinator position for Arlington County.

County Wide Efforts: Cooperation among PTAs to help elementary schools without PTAs. Parents often take efforts to school board, so if you are really concerned about allocation of money, you need to go to the County Board. County Board dictates the budget for schools.

Odyssey of the Mind team starting at Ashlawn. International creative problem solving program/competition. Informational meeting for parents, either October 16 or October 17.

Joan Horwitt – Lawns 2 Lettuce 4 Lunch. Come volunteer and help out. The gardens are fun! The students love it! The students get to try fresh lettuce, cucamelons, and lemon lettuce (sorel). Fiesta Salad twice a year! They need lots of help to make the program work.

Important PTA committees we need help with:

Yearbook – Rebecca Dodelin would like help, especially with sales of the yearbooks

Spirit Wear – Katie Harvey would love to train the next person.

Fun Fair – Help with this year, and take on role for next year.

Book Fair – Help with this year, and take on role for next year.

CCPTA

Website Liaison

Healthy Kids/Healthy Planet: Gym Night and Fun Run

Fundraising Co-Chairs – help run the online auction that is tied to an adult social; pieces of fundraising can be divided among multiple people

Room Parent Coordinator Role: Susan Whiteside– Helps to train room parents and get them on the same page. This also means for specials teachers will get room parents.

#### IV. Action Items

Grant Application - \$6000 Budgeted for Grants. Total amount requested \$4691.14. Under budget.

Motion to Approve Grants. Seconded. Voted in favor. No opposition.

Vote to approve purchase a refrigerator for monthly ASPAN Homeless lunches and Food Bus Storage.

Motion to approve. Seconded. Voted in favor. No opposition.

#### V. Treasurer's Report

Balance \$82,000.

Motion to increase grounds keeping budget because have already spend majority on gaga pit (funding for equipment, no labor), new shed. Want to increase budget to \$5000. Want to add picnic tables, digging boxes, beautification boxes.

Questions: Will be spent on landscaping (technically should be covered by APS). Answer: no.

Motion to approve. Seconded. Voted in favor. No opposition.

Dates to Remember

Walk & Bike to School 10/02

Ashlawn Spirit Night Meridian Pint

Picture Day 10/10

ASPAN Walk to End Homelessness 10/18

Ashlawn Spirit Night The Simple Greek 10/20

Halloween Parade to Sunrise 10/31

Book Fair 11/08-11/15