

Fairland Elementary School PTA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 2, 2017
7:00 PM, Media Center

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Kerry Luse

PTA Report:

- President Kerry Luse reported that the kindergarten teachers had made a request for the PTA to purchase more of the Fairland cinch-bags to be used in future kindergarten orientations. Those present voted on this new expenditure, and the purchase was approved.
- PTA is preparing for book fair for the week of May 8-12. A sign-up form was present at the meeting for volunteers.
- Teacher appreciation week is being celebrated the first week in May. The PTA provided small gifts to teachers and was planning a breakfast for Friday morning.
- Yearbook is complete; see VP Claudia Silberglitt with any questions.

Principal's Report

Principal Lakeisha Lashley gave the following updates and news:

- The administration was planning teacher appreciation week celebrations with a lunch and raffles.
- May is a heavy testing month at Fairland, with 3rd-5th graders taking PARCC tests, MAP assessments, and usual school assessments Younger students are taking MAP. All testing is now computerized. Parents are asked to avoid the need to pull students out of school for appointments during testing times.
- Kindergarten orientation went well; 68 students are registered at this time. It's expected that ~90-100 will be registered by the start of the school year.
- The school is holding a fundraiser at Pump it Up on Friday, May 5, to raise money for end-of-year expenses such as supplies, field trips, etc.
- A "Muffins for Moms" event is tentatively being planned.
- Current teacher allocations for next year are: Kindergarten – 5 teachers; 1st – 5 teachers (compared to 6 this year); 2nd – 6 teachers (compared to 5 this year); 3rd – 4 teachers (compared to 5 this year); 4th – 5 teachers (compared to 4 this year); 5th – 4 teachers (compared to 3 plus a focus teacher this year).
- The school received \$400 in Boxtops this year; thanks to the PTA for running the Boxtop store (funds go directly to the school, not the PTA)

PTA Officer Elections:

Nominations and elections were held for officer positions for the 2017-18 school year.

- *President:* Sykeena Mitchell (currently VP) nominated for President. Elected unanimously by voice vote.
- *VP:* Vincent Wolburn nominated for VP. Elected unanimously by voice vote. Only one candidate for VP was identified, so only one VP position is currently filled.

- *Secretary*: No nominations. Position remains open; can be filled at later date.
- *Treasurer*: Tentative nomination of Mike Silberglitt, who was unable to attend the meeting to accept. No other nominations. Those present indicated that Mr. Silberglitt would be elected if he is willing to serve. If not, position will remain open until future candidates are identified.
- Discussion of new Health and Wellness committee, to be organized/chaired by Amber Powell and Jeanette Proudfoot. Potential ideas include incorporating fitness into the school, organizing a 5K, etc.
- Kerry Luse (current President) volunteered to be Membership Chair for the 2017-18 school year.

Community Comments:

- Amber Powell gave a presentation from the Real Food for Kids Montgomery organization, a county-wide group focused on promoting better foods in MCPS schools. Suggestions include having a salad bar in the cafeteria. The Health and Wellness committee of the PTA may choose to work with Real Food for Kids, although the PTA is not directly a part of that organization. More information can be found at <http://www.realfoodforkidsmontgomery.org/>
- A community member asked about the reported theft from the Montgomery County Council of PTAs. No Fairland money was involved in this theft. Further information can be found at <http://www.mccpta.org/>
- A discussion was had about the value of local athletic organizations and opportunities, including Girls on the Run and the Burtonsville athletic organization. A question was raised about having a running program for boys.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.