

Vienna Elementary School: PTA Meeting
Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Attendees: Stefanie Petrucelli (Co-President), Heather Kenney (Co-President), Kim Bryant (Treasurer), Mitch Schwartz (Vice President), Molly Peng (Secretary), John Carmichael, Shelly Baumer, Maureen Cohen, Alyssa Lehman, Marina Franklin, Judy McVey, Liz Bentzinger, Andrea Paradise, Leslie Wood, Mara Thayer, Sam Moser, Rebecca Johnson, Angela Sorrell, Darren Parsons, Sha Brennan, Allison McKee, Amber Miller, Sharon Chen, Rebecca Johnson Zara, Catherine Wideman, Tyler Blanchard, Terese Blanchard, Becky Elliott, Kayleen Oblack, Leah Moser, Stacey Min, David Dargatis, Gul Raza Gharbieh, Kimberly Steimel, Moira Jacobsen, Maureen Cohen, Kristen Rhoads, Jessica Sartorius, Trish Helsley, Carag Krieger, Than Ross.

Meeting Minutes:

I. Call To Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:32pm

II. Co-Presidents' Report, Welcome — Stefanie Petrucelli and Heather Kenney

- Board introductions
- Thank you to the VES staff
- Kona Ice Truck will be at VES from 3:30 to 5pm on Friday, free to all VES families, will accept PTA donations
- Hoping to do other events such as a virtual trivia night, family fun run, virtual wine tasting, possibly more food trucks
- Alyssa Lehman is the new D4D chair – first event will be at Chipotle
- Angela Sorrell is managing the VES directory again this year; it will be online only
- New position open this year on the new equity committee (Mr. Carmichael addressed later in the meeting)
- Thank you to all families who donated to latest gift card drive. Raised \$1,100
- School Board meeting happening currently – info on phasing in students
- Plug for new set of officers for next school year (all current officers will reach term limit at the end of this school year)

III. Treasurer's Report — PTA Treasurer Kim Bryant

A. Budget Overview

- Unique budget for this year, we can be fluid and adjust mid-year
- Budget proposal was attached to Zoom info email and is posted on VES PTA website
- We started last year with a surplus for the budget, which helped us a lot since we missed our spring fundraisers
- Balance forward: \$43,124.88
- Target reserve: \$18,000
- Gives us roughly \$25,000 to spend
- Receipts are potential income – currently being conservative, the bulk of income will come from membership dues
- Currently at 91 members (almost halfway point), need more
- Fall fundraiser (no fuss) – almost at \$2,000 already just from sign-up donations
- D4D – hoping to bring in \$2,000
- Projected income: \$12,732.50

- Expenses: Student events, school supplies, Great Art, special education, staff appreciation (full amount), classroom materials, paypal and insurance fees, website maintenance, QuickBooks, etc.: \$9,900

B. Vote to Approve 2020-21 Budget – Kim moved to approve budget, it was seconded, no questions: Budget was APPROVED

C. 2019-20 Audit Overview — Audit Committee Volunteer Darren Parsons

- Audit – backup and documentation for the numbers
- Darren verified that the numbers check out as presented

D. Vote to Approve 2019-20 Audit – Kim moved to approve, it was seconded, no questions: Audit was APPROVED

IV. Report on Initiatives to Help Food Insecure Families — Vice President Mitch Schwartz

- Last year partnered with Blessings in a Backpack for food insecure families, not able to continue this program until we're back in person
- There is a waiting list for Food for Others, can donate to them (our food drive last year got cut short mid-way due to the pandemic)
- Gift cards – National VA PTA prohibits us using the PTA funds (Brandon Bryant helped for most recent initiative)
- Going to be doing this periodically throughout the year

V. Principal's Report and Q&A — VES Principal John Carmichael

- Thank you to all parents for partnering with us
- Last week was back to school night, there are videos for those unable to attend a live session, they are on the VES website along with the school board members messages
- Hoping once metrics are met to bring in preschool class based students in. They would be in for approximately 2 weeks, if things keep going well then opening up to kindergarten students and IDS students (on alternate assessment track) after 2 weeks, then grade 1 and 2 students
- VES working on this as well as the school board
- Need to have contingency plans for other students in the building
- Intent choices for this school year – as of now the county is going to hold everyone to those choices, but waiting to hear from school board if there will be changes to that and reassessment of those choices
- On Mondays, attendance is taken at Morning Meeting at 8:30. If a student is not there, the parent will receive a message from county. You can call the school to let them know that child just missed Morning Meeting (those sessions are not recorded)
- Have moved to Google Meet so that specialists can record their sessions
- Grades are being given this school year (unlike spring distance learning)
- 2.5 – 3 hours of asynchronous work will be issued on Mondays, some students have small groups, some students have additional specials, special education, ESOL and AAP will be pulling kids during those times
- Hopeful that kids will finish up by Noon on Mondays, screen break after
- If Technology issues come up, FCPS website has a help desk, or you can email Mr. Lazun and Mr. Lesser (our Tech specialists)
- Information will probably come out from FCPS central office shortly about Return to School
- VES families – greater need for food and necessities. There is a site at Cunningham Park Elementary – can go over and pick up breakfast and lunch, providing for the weekends too (pick up on Friday)

- Stuff the Bus: happening on September 26 at Patrick Henry Library – a FastTram bus will be there 10am – 3pm; collecting food donations, benefitting Cornerstone and CHO – requesting diapers, peanut butter, jelly, tomato sauce, elbow macaroni, dish soap, spaghetti sauce, kids snacks, laundry detergent, tuna, other canned meat
- VES curbside library – took place yesterday for grades K-3, went very well (A week)
- B week: grades 4 – 6, books should be placed on hold by Tuesday or Wednesday the week before (put on hold up to 5 books, Ms. Torpey will get 2 or 3 to your child)
- Admin learned they could probably shorten the book pick-up timeframes, so will adjust those times
- Emergency care cards and health forms: they were sent out in the supply kits (VES folders). Please turn them in at your earliest convenience. Can turn in during library pick up. Can also drop them off at Door 1 during school office hours. Need to have them on file if we're in the building sooner rather than later
- SOL tests – being put on hold for right now, waiting for more guidance from the state, can't envision it if we're still in virtual state
- Equity team at VES (3 leads: Ms. Lawson, Ms. Grimm, Ms. Medlicott along with Mr. Carmichael) – continuing to dive into discussions about what we can do to better acknowledge and support the differences at VES (racial and socioeconomic), Ms. Lawson joining next PTA meeting to share about the work being done, looking for a member of the VES parent community to join the equity team
- Ms. Powers joining the next PTA meeting as well to talk about mental health
- Question from Sharon Chen: What is the plan for the frequency of parent teacher meetings in virtual environment? Mr. Carmichael shared that if there is a lack of progress from a student, the teacher will be contacting the parents. If you want additional feedback, reach out to classroom teachers at any time if see if they're missing any assignments, most of the info will be in their google classroom (look there as well)
- Question from Angela Sorrell: How will teachers be allocated if we go back in person? Mr. Carmichael shared that they tried the best they could to match students with same choices for staff (hybrid with hybrid, virtual with virtual), trying to be as least disruptive as possible. Gets more difficult in upper grades with 2 teachers at each grade level. Will try their best when making adjustments

VI. New Business - None

VII. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Next PTA Meeting: Tuesday, October 20 at 6:30 p.m.