

Vienna Elementary School
PTA Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 1, 2020 6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Heather Kenney, Stefanie Petrucelli, Mitch Schwartz, Kim Bryant, Molly Peng, John Carmichael, Shelly Baumer, Paulette Torpey, Sharon Chen, Amber Miller, Amanda Walker, Becky Elliot, Liz Bentzinger, Leslie Wood, David Dargatis, Beth Dargatis, Marina Franklin, Trish Helsley, Alyssa Lehman, Kimberly Steimel, Judy McVey, Sha Brennan

- I. **Call To Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm.

- II. **Co-Presidents' Report, Welcome — Stefanie Petrucelli and Heather Kenney**
 - The VES office and staff are donating gift cards for VES families who need some extra help this holiday season and they are welcoming donations from the entire VES community. They are collecting gift cards from Target, WalMart and Giant -- preferably \$20 or \$25 increments to make distribution a bit easier. If you would like to participate, please drop your cards off at the VES office by 4 p.m. on Monday, Dec 7
 - We have a dining for dollars event this Thursday at the Sandwich Shop on Church St from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Our event at the Casual Pint in November resulted in a \$124 contribution to the PTA
 - In recognition of National Inclusive Schools Week December 7-11, students and staff are asked to show their school spirit by wearing any VES t-shirt or VES colors on Friday, December 11
 - Many thanks to Kim Bryant and the Staff Appreciation committee for putting together 64 care packets for the staff at VES that included: hand sanitizer, tissues, life savers, emoji stress ball, and a \$5 Starbucks gift card. Those are being distributed or mailed to staff this week. And thank you to Shelly Baumer for helping Kim and the committee with the project
 - Parents are welcome to send electronic holiday gift cards to staff and they're also welcome to drop off items at the VES office during office hours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Please clearly mark who the recipient is on items brought to the office. Shelly asked that we drop items by Monday, Dec. 14
 - We had a helpful and informative call with Fairfax County School Board Member Melanie Meren in November. A video recording of the meeting is available on the VES PTA website and was posted on the PTA social media accounts
 - FCPS issued guidelines effective in late October on community use of schools' outdoor spaces by PTAs and booster clubs. The rules spell out limitations on activities and the procedure for requesting approval from FCPS to hold events. With COVID cases increasing and under the current circumstances we are unable to hold events right now. When conditions allow, we will revisit and discuss ideas for safe outdoor events
 - Many parents have reported seeing quite a bit of trash on the VES blacktop -- especially on weekend mornings. Mr. Carmichael reported it to FCPS and county officials are checking in periodically in the evenings to monitor the situation
 - The October meeting minutes were approved as presented

- III. **Treasurer's Report — Heather Kenney on behalf of PTA Treasurer**
 - As of 11/30, total \$45,908 in assets
 - \$19,502 in checking
 - \$26,406 in savings
 - YTD income: \$6,212
 - YTD expenses: \$3,962
 - Net income: \$2,250
 - Haven't spent much money this year

- 136 PTA members
- \$2,900 raised from Fall Fundraiser

IV. Principal's Report — VES Principal John Carmichael

- Hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving break. We are wishing you a happy holiday season
- Friday – next meeting for Return to School business. Unfortunately, there's been an uptick in COVID cases
- FCPS has changed the food delivery bus stop schedule. It's now 10:41 to 10:51 a.m. at VES parking lot, Monday – Friday
- Fairfax County will continue to provide meals for all students through 6/30/2021
- Madison Pyramid schools are doing a canned food drive. It ends on 12/14; Madison High School SGA running it and collecting food from all the pyramid schools each week, you can drop off canned food donations directly at VES

V. Presentation from VES Librarian Paulette Torpey

- Read "We're All Wonders" (being read to first grade this week in honor of inclusiveness week)
- Curbside check out: dates are adjusted due to the holidays
 - 12/7 last date for K – 3 before holidays
 - 12/14 last date for 4 – 6 before the holidays
 - January 4 – please return all books that your child has checked out, no books will be picked up this day
- Still missing ~150 books from the spring, keep looking for them!
- Fall virtual book fair – starts Friday, but link will be open all year. Link will be on the school's web page. Parents are welcome to share the link with family and friends
 - Teacher wish lists are posted
 - Adult books also available (such as cookbooks)
- Reminder of library catalog, databases, and Mackin Via (ebooks) available to students
 - Easiest way to access them is through the google classroom
 - Sheet of passwords also available in google classrooms

VI. New Business:

- Question for Mr. Carmichael: Can we implement YouTube filters for school computers? A: Would have to block it for the entire county and some teachers do use it. Suggest checking your children's browser histories regularly
- Question for Mr. Carmichael: Can something be put out to discourage middle schoolers from congregating on the VES blacktop? A: Will reach out to middle school interim principal – they can possibly put something out in one of their newsletters
- Reminder of needing new PTA Board officers for the next school year

VII. The meeting adjourned at 7:11pm ET