

February 2022 General Business Meeting

February 8, 2022

7 PM

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McDougle Elementary
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Attendees: Principal Howard, Andrea Clusiau, Aleza Friedman, Amy Shaw, Jennifer Soliman, Elena Tenenbaum, Jess Amsbary, Lindsay Harvath, Andrew Lerner, Heather Thompson, Heather Kennealy, Stefanie Kotzen

7:04 pm Call to order - Jennifer Soliman

7:05 pm OPEN DISCUSSION: PTA members and community at large

- future meetings can address topics relevant to parents in our school community
- Principal Howard can make something happen if given topics of interest
- Ms. Ollie might be able to do something on social emotional wellness
- Jess Amsbary - suggestion of an enrichment organization - per Principal Howard, that is already in the works for spring - details pending - possibly a puppeteer
- Aleza Friedman: previous years included funding for age-appropriate assemblies but this hasn't happened in the last two years due to COVID
- Might be able to do something outdoors
- Shaded structure pending - kiss and go may be a good space for it so as not to take up too much space on the blacktop
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7:20 Old Business/Approval of [January Meeting Minutes](#) : Jennifer Soliman

7:25 pm Principal's Report

1. Update on Needs
 - a. Friday is LOVE DAY - may include Inside Out (TBD by grade)
 - b. Presentation from students to Principal Howard on excessive use of paper towels in our school. Sustainability Program awarded \$1000 to these students to support compost efforts for grades 3-5, they will be recruiting other students to participate
 - c. We're working on getting back to normal - only 12 kids out today - after winter break it was 60 per day.
 - d. Volunteers needed to support kids in math and reading - please pursue volunteer status through CHCCS
 - e. Substitutes needed - some parents may be eligible - e.g. through UNC volunteer hours
 - f. Field trips - up to teachers - has to be a masked location
 - i. could PTA help support that?
 - ii. parents already donate extra money and that helps support those who are not able to pay
 - iii. possibly as grade-level allocations so each grade can choose how to spend it

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- g. N95 masks - school now has enough for the time being
- 2. Vacancies
 - a. several teacher assistant vacancies - all have been filled, just waiting for one more to start
- 3. Other school business
 - a. None

7:35pm Treasurer's Report: Heather Thompson

- 1. Bills/check payments
 - a. Budget- \$28,000 (wahoo!) -
 - i. if we spend ALL of the budgeted items, we'll be left with roughly \$8000 to cover start of next school year
 - b. Modifications
 - i. request for change in budget to cover Face Jugs project for 4th and 5th Grades. \$800 per grade level. 5th Grade was not able to participate last year because of COVID
 - 1. students make a clay face jug - it's a McDougle tradition that involves a local potter who fires them in their kiln
 - 2. linked into NC history - Seagrove
 - ii. we need to put this to a vote to increase allotted value by \$1000
 - c. Discussion
 - i. We have \$6000 for teacher special projects
 - ii. Should we give a deadline?
 - iii. We have another couple of sources of revenue
 - 1. Grata Cafe \$380
 - 2. Photo shoot \$850
 - 3. Spring Fundraiser Photo Shoot will be Saturday April 9th
 - iv. We need to go back to vote in the jug option so anything else to vote on?
 - 1. raise the teacher lounge fund?
 - 2. Spelling Bee? Happening in April 2nd - 5th grade - each class will have their own as well
 - 3. Kindergarten graduation?
 - a. Principal Howard will speak to K teachers about it or parents can inquire
 - 4. Alternatives for end of year
 - a. Field day
 - b. Block party
 - c. After the end of grade testing - so June?
 - d. Balloon arch - to shout out for each grade

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- e. DJs on black top
- f. Ice cream truck
- g. Pictures by grade
- h. Last day of school? Friday before school gets out?

7:45 pm Committee Reports

1. Campus Beautification: Heather Kennealy
 - a. Tommy Blair walked campus in pouring rain - progress on the backfill
 - b. Thanks to Principal Howard for getting this moving
 - c. Thanks to Heather Kennealy for massive efforts around campus
 - d. eroded area by back-walker entrance - engineers are being called in. may need a higher retaining wall on that corner
 - e. soccer goal nets and basketball nets
 - f. painting basketball court lines
 - g. committee meeting next week
 - h. February 20th small group meeting to plant some daffodils
 - i. next big events will be in March and April in coordination with arts team
2. Nominations committee/2022-23 MES PTA Board: Aleza Friedman
 - a. have a nearly full slate of folks to run
 - b. bios etc. will be available by next meeting
 - c. Only Pres, VP, Secretary and Treasurer are the only officers that need to be voted in by the membership before the last meeting of the year
3. Staff Appreciation Week:
 - a. May 2-6th - Brandie - info will come from district on how this will run
4. Staff Lounge Makeover:
 - a. discussion of cabinets being turned into shelves
5. Spring Bookfair
 - a. could we do a virtual only option?
 - b. In-person was VERY well received - dates would be 4/14-4/22
 - c. we have \$1300 in Scholastic \$\$
 - d. maybe birthday books?
 - e. Flyleaf instead?
 - i. would be supporting local

8:00 pm Adjourn

To join the video meeting, click this link: meet.google.com/hpj-pcxe-gdm

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