

SWS LSAT Meeting Notes (11/15/2022)

On the call:

LSAT Members starred

- Elizabeth Corinth (Parent, LSAT Chair)*
- Navonda Marshall (K-Teacher)
- Faith Gibson Hubbard (Parent)
- Emily Diamond-Falk (Parent)*
- Sarran Jabbie (Parent)
- Molly Wagoner (Parent)
- Nick Rutar (Parent)*
- Mischa Thompson (Parent)*
- Rachel Hennigan (Teacher)*
- Michelle Cooper (Parent)
- Laura Gengler Hudson (Parent)
- Dani Gaines (Parent)
- Lynn Crabb (Parent)
- Jennifer Coleman (Parent)
- John Burst (Principal)
- Kyra Gebhard (Parent)*
- Tiffany Reynolds (Teacher)*

Committee Updates

Community Building

- The Halloween Dance Party was a success! Hoping to make it an annual event
- Reminder about the upcoming Happy Hour at the Queen Vic on Thursday 11/17/2022.
 - Encouraging folks to attend as the Queen Vic has been a big supporter of SWS
 - Please remember to RSVP so the restaurant can be prepared.
- Pot Luck on Friday 11/18/2022. Adults can bring a dish (nothing fancy!) and please share its importance with the class
- Next coffee is on December 9th: hosted by Pre-K 4
- SWS Prom is scheduled for April 29 at the North Hall in eastern Market. Will start publicizing in December.
 - If anyone has any suggestions, please contact Sarran or Jaime.

Recruitment

- Open House dates: January 21 (10am), February 2nd (6pm), and February 27 (10am)

Communications

- Please let Molly Wagoner know anything going on, so the Communications Committee can get that out to folks.
- SOME food drive. The Communications Committee will continue to remind families about this.
- Ed Fest coming up. It is virtual and more information is coming soon!

Fundraising

- Fall Campaign still going on!
- Folks tend to donate toward the end, but no reason to delay! Please get your donations in!!!!
- Remind folks to do Employee Matches
- SWS Swag
 - Friends of SWS will ensure that every student will have a SWS shirt! 😊
 - Quite a few people responded that they wanted several items including hoodies, water bottles, car magnets, long-sleeve shirts, etc... so Friends of SWS will get those ordered to be available for purchase.
 - Hoping to have these in by the holidays!

School Updates

- School field trips are back up and running after an [incident](#).
- There are more checks and oversight now. Principal Burst will notify teachers about the new procedures so that we can begin field trips again!
- Field trip and/or volunteering in the school requirements: Need full clearance.
 - Clearance procedures [HERE](#):
 - Clearance is good for two years once you receive it, so if you got it last year you're still okay for this year but otherwise you need to re-apply
 - It may help to follow up via email to dcps.clearance@k12.dc.gov if you don't receive your clearance letter after a reasonable time period
 - Kyra Gebhard working on seeing how to get other adults (grandparents, family friends, au pairs, etc...) cleared
 - The clearance process may unfortunately not allow parents who do not meet the clearance requirements, and that is an equity issue.
 - SWS will highlight one-offs for events that do *not* need clearances.
- School Modernization
 - Pergola in the outdoor learning space
 - Sign
 - Stage is set-up

- Security updates
- Ran first lockdown drill
 - It went okay
 - Locks and shades need to be fixed
- Repaired handrails in the stairwells
- Piece of plexiglass needs to be fixed
- Ongoing leak in multipurpose room
- Air and ventilation is good
- Some art needs to be installed
- Changes continue to happen and
- New Reading Program
 - Kindergarten teachers and reading interventionist are enrolled in year-long course with DC Reading Clinic
 - Foundations is the new Phonics for K-2; PK4-1 is using Heggerty
 - Interventionists are using Heggerty, Foundations, and LLI
- Math
 - Do the Math is being used for interventions
 - After-school acceleration for ELA and math
 - Using i-ready in classrooms
 - SWS is half-way through their first cycle
- Social/Emotional Side
 - Community meeting happening in every classroom
 - Monthly community meetings up and running
 - Next month's question: When is it hard to be kind and how do you handle yourself when you find it hard to be kind?
 - Catholic Charities is SWS's new contractor for social/emotional needs.
- Fall School Panorama
 - 96% of students completed survey, but have not received results yet
- Enrollment Projections for next year
 - 320 students for next year (same as this year)
- Community Representative / Student Alumni Representation
 - Melissa Brisbane
 - Ariel Jacobs
 - New ANC Rep. Roberta Pierick
 - Carol Edwards
 - Liz met with her
 - Group feels comfortable inviting her to join LSAT; Liz will reach out to LSAT members and see if they are happy with inviting her.

- Discussed how many community folks would want to be involved.
 - Looking at folks who are not from the immediate community, but from students' communities who are not nearby
 - Reach out to teachers who may help identify parents.
- Welcoming new incoming families
 - There used to be more programming in the past for welcoming new families, but some of it has fallen off due to COVID and the swing space. Hoping to look at what worked in the past and what could have done better.
 - Maybe bring back the Family Buddy program
 - Starting next year, SWS will set aside 20% of space for Pre-K 3 for at-risk students
 - Need figure out how to reach out to at-risk families to promote our school
 - Will talk more about this next month