

November 2021 General Business Meeting

November 9, 2021

7 PM

[Google Meet](#)

McDougle Elementary

PTA[®]

everychild.one voice.[®]



Attendees: Jennifer Soliman, Principal Howard, Lindsay Harvath, Maria Bolanos, Aleza Friedman, Jessica Amsbary, Heather Kennealy, Elena Tenenbaum, Heather Thompson, Brandie Ehrmann

7:00 pm Call to order - Jennifer Soliman

7:05 pm Old Business/Approval of October Meeting Minutes- Jennifer Soliman - approved

7:10 pm Principal's/Teacher Report -Mrs. Howard/Ms. McGovern

- All staff positions have been filled
- Ms. Donovan is out for medical leave, currently school has two subs but one is covering 1st grade
- Spanish periods are being used by the class to do Spanish activities during that time until Thanksgiving
 - Question: possible to split remaining Spanish teacher's time - probably not going to make sense for the week left before Thanksgiving
- Feel Good Friday! 2.5 hours of instruction then, specials + lunch + recess. Afternoon will be community building - no electronics, but team activities/board games - for all teachers and students to take a break from the intensity of their academics.
- Concerns continue about catching up on academics after COVID, but everyone has been working hard and a break is important
- Snacks are OK (just nothing too crazy) - teachers can request.
- COVID: we have enough picnic tables - but it's going to get cold - that will end when temp goes below 40.
- To date, no internal transmission at McDougle.

7:20 pm Treasurer's Report Heather Thompson

1. Balance \$20,385, with some outstanding checks
2. Bills/check payments - none at this time, may be some reimbursements that have not been fulfilled.
3. Budget- we are showing more raised in fall fundraiser (\$12,704) than expected on the official beginning of year budget (\$9000), also made more than expected on photo session fundraiser (made \$850, budgeted \$340).

7:25 pm Committee Reports

November 2021 General Business Meeting

November 9, 2021

7 PM

[Google Meet](#)

McDougle Elementary

PTA[®]

everychild.one voice.[®]



1. Fundraising - Heather Thompson - plan is to wrap up on Friday - fundraising committee will meet after this to finalize wrap ideas
2. Communications Committee – Aleza Friedman
 - a. School Wide Directory google form is now closed
 - b. Aleza sorted by class and distributed to class parents
 - c. Google Spreadsheet went out to classroom parents - some issues with sending it out as editors so families can add themselves.
 - d. Question for Principal Howard: better to do at class level, grade level?
 - e. Birthday messages on flip grid - how can we make this accessible now that not everyone has a school issued laptop
 - i. 3rd grade added this as WIN time
 - ii. Ms. Howard can remind teachers in morning messages
 - f. For holiday gifts - in the last two years, we've asked classroom teachers to adopt a special teacher - could we expand that to support staff (social workers, interventionists). Includes approximately 100 people if we consider all.
 - g. Alternative option: catered event for all staff
 - h. Art, Music, PE, Spanish, Library and Technology were included in previous years - could we add to that list, ESL, EC, Interventionists, Ms. Olley - could the room parents be highlight
 - i. Andrea C. willing to collect the \$ for the specials teachers
3. Reflections - Brandie Ehrmann
 - a. 3 entries so far - deadline is Monday
 - b. judging will be next
4. Winter Book Fair - Jess Amsbary
 - a. Scholastic will be sending cases Dec 3-10th (deliveries might be Friday before Thanksgiving break up to day before).
 - b. Could do an afternoon at pickup and another for afterschool families in the evening.
 - c. Teachers can set up e-wallets for parents to contribute then teacher can buy for the class

November 2021 General Business Meeting

November 9, 2021

7 PM

[Google Meet](#)

McDougle Elementary

PTA[®]

everychild.one voice.[®]



- d. No longer required to be outside. Parent volunteers must be limited to 3 at a time and with proof of vaccination. Can use the cafeteria.
- e. Maybe still do one family outdoor setting
- f. Maria has an industrial tent to contribute - can do space heaters.
- g. Q: could we do it on a Saturday - would require access to school
- h. Jess A. will work with Ms. Howard to identify space.

7:45 pm Open Discussion

PRINCIPAL HOWARD WILL BE ON THE CHRIS OR JENNY RADIO SHOW (local radio show with McDougle Parents Chris Amsbary OR Jenny Cook) FRIDAY DECEMBER 10TH - <https://wcomfm.org/>

8:00 pm Adjourn

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

To join by phone instead, dial (US) +1 843-790-3306 and enter this PIN: 200 722 736#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/hpj-pcxe-gdm?pin=5040968797973>