

PTA Meeting Minutes

November 22, 2024, 5:30-6:45pm

Longfellow Elementary Room 190

For online meeting link: www.loespta.com

Call to Order

Call for Quorum

- Announcement: all attendees please check in with Margot; especially PTA members

Welcome

- Review of Meeting Format

Section 1: Updates (5 minutes)

I . Needs

- Volunteer for Winter Wonderland (on 12.12) **Sign up genius coming soon**
- Sign up for Lunar New Year Celebration WG, recommendations due Dec.
- Fill out Golf Tournament Fundraiser Feasibility Form (due in Jan) **First step, email will be sent to put feelers out there to see how big the interest is.**
- Sign up for Black History Month WG, recommendations due Jan. **Call scheduled for Tuesday 11/26/24 to discuss ideas and planning.**
- Sign up to lead a Spring Restaurant Night in Feb, Mar, Apr, or May **PTA members will scout restaurants to sign up for a fundraiser night.**
- Sign up for Culture Con Planning Committee (and Chair)
- Sign up for Spring Fair Planning Committee (and Chair)

II. Participation/Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteer for Henry's Joy of Giving Market (12.6, 12.9-12.13) **Signup genius & QR code was added to the 11/24 Family Newsletter.**

- Sign up for Budget and Finance Committee
- Book Vending Machine [Signup link on PTA website.](#)

III. Calendar Update (PTA only)

- Week of 11.25 - PTA Hospitality for PT Conferences (11.25); early dismissal Mon 11.25, Tues 11.26; school is closed Wed 11.27, Parent/Teacher Conferences; school is closed Thur 11.28, Fri 11.29; (FYI: Thanksgiving, Thur 11.28)
- **Week of 12.2 - PTACHC Meeting Mon 12.2); AIM (Wed 12.4 will discuss advocacy for school funding and how to reach out to local counsels); PTA Meeting (Fri 12.6); LoES Holiday Concert (Thur 12.5)**
- **Week of 12.9 - Winter Wonderland (Thur 12.12)**
[Possible additional hospitality event for teachers in Dec. TBD](#)
- Week of 12.16 - NO PTA Events
- Week of 12.23 - NO PTA Events; school is closed
- Week of 12.30 - NO PTA Events; school is closed
- GL Socials - JANUARY

Section 2: School Spotlight (15 minutes)

I . Admin Report

Thank you PTA for fall fest/trunk or treat. Parent conferences are coming up. Close at 12:45 on Monday/Tuesday (11/25 &26). Thank you PTA for providing a meal for teachers on Monday night during conferences.

- Follow up discussion from AIM: Responding to Disruptive Behavior of Students [code of conduct and discipline policy](#). Longfellow follows HCPSS policies and never veers from that. Admin tries to stay grounded in humanness. On a bad day Admin sees 10-12 students a day for disciplinary reasons. On a light day, 2-3 students a day. Surveillance footage can be viewed by parents after central office blurs other kids out. Consequences are not shared to the offended parents. Also names of aggressor not given.
- **Attendee question: how does the county/HCPSS policy say to handle repetitive disruptive behavior in class.**
- Addressing post-election concerns, specific to the Federal Dept. of Education [11/21/24](#) talked to county execs, they reported “we’ll see” on whether dept. of education will be done away with.

II. Teacher/Staff Spotlight

Related Arts and Kindergarten.

- Ms. Erin Engelbrecht, librarian
- Ms. Gina Rower, library Paraeducator
- Ms. Alicia Wetmore, music teacher K-5
- Ms. Jane Collins, PE
- Mr. Peshang Abdullah, PE
- Ms. Jameelah Jefferson, Technology
- Ms. Diana Williams, band/orchestra
- Ms. Sandra Algers, Art.
- Ms. Anderson, school counselor
- Ms. Kelly, Ms. Walker, Ms. Ellis (Kindergarten teachers)
- Ms. Rzegocki, Ms. Butler Kindergarten Paraeducators

Section 3: Reports and Business (20 minutes, *aim to end by 6:25pm*)

Exec and Committee Reports

- Website Updates
 - New Pages: Advocacy, Community, etc. [Events, meetings, school page](#)
- AIM Meeting
 - FYI: \$2.7B budget deficit projected for Maryland next year (Baltimore Sun)
 - PTACHC Updates will be posted to advocacy portion of website. APFO meeting. Task force in Howard county.
 - Next PTACHC meeting (Dec 2)
- Fundraising Review
 - Community Events
 - Read-a-Thon
 - Golf Tournament Fundraiser Feasibility Form asks if 128 people will sign up. Early June for golf.
 - Fun Run [Will schedule a zoom to learn about it. More to come](#)

- Ongoing
 - Spirit Wear
 - Amazon Smile?
- Date Specific
 - Taharka Brothers Ice Cream
 - Spring Restaurant Nights: Feb, Mar, Apr, May (technically “donations”) **not fundraisers. They are considered Corporate donations. Endorsements are technically not allowed.**
- Committees
 - Hospitality **will do something mid Dec. for teachers**
 - CultureCon Chair and Committee
 - Spring Fair Chair and Committee
 - GL Reps: Look for GL Socials Week in January “New Year, Meet a New Friend)
- Working Groups (think of these as issue/project specific with a deadline)
 - Black History Month WG, recommendations due Jan. **Forms will be added to PTA website.**
 - Lunar New Year Celebration WG, recommendations due Dec.
- Details on Needs (Section 1)
 - Need Crowd and Safety Certified Volunteers
(<https://mdsp.maryland.gov/firemarshal/Pages/CrowdManagerTraining.aspx>; <https://crowdmanagers.com/>).
- Details on Participation/Volunteer Opportunities (Section 1)
 - Sign up for Budget and Finance Committee
 - Book Vending Machine

- From the Community
 - Volunteer for Henry's Joy of Giving Market (12.6, 12.9-12.13):
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0445AEAD2BAAFE3-53407463-henrys#/>



II. Treasurer Update

- Announcing New Treasurer: Shavonne Austin
 - Per LoES PTA Bylaws, approved by vote of the Board of Directors: 8 for, 0 against, 1 abstain
- Budget Accounts Update

III. Old Business (or Actions)

- Approval of Minutes from Last Two Meetings (September/October)
 - Quorum was NOT established during September meeting when approval vote was brought up **We have 10 members present today to approve. Sung Hwa/Christelle**

IV. New Business (or Actions)

- Winter Wonderland Overview

End of Meeting

Transition to Family Fun Event, this month's activity: BYO Game Night