

PTA Executive Board Meeting September 3, 2013

Meeting Minutes

1. Discussed open volunteer slots. As of meeting time, chairs for teacher appreciation, childcare coordinator for PTA meetings, and yearbook were filled. We still need chairs for book fair and the Big Chili.
2. Discussed update on Hardy feeder schools collaboration. Recent collaboration meeting were attended by Key, Hyde, Eaton, and Stoddert representatives. Proposed plans include academic initiatives and increased Hardy exposure. Two meetings are being planned to discuss long-term plans for Hardy, one with Chancellor Kaya Henderson and Councilmember Mary Cheh and one with feeder school representatives and Hardy Principal Trish Pride.
3. Discussed potential for another Middle school night. No decision was made, but likely to be planned in collaboration with other feeder schools.
4. No update from Fillmore.
5. Upcoming executive meeting dates will be done via Doodle Poll.
6. Principal Bryant's report.
 - a. DCPS sent a landscape crew before school started. Principal Bryant will look into DCPS landscape arrangement as PTA has a contract with a private landscaping company to maintain school grounds.
 - b. Enrollment as of 9/3 was 381. The projected enrollment for 2013-2014 is 411. It is expected that Stoddert will not lose budget/resources as long as enrollment is close to 400.
 - c. Principal Bryant is planning "Coffee with the Principal" once a month; details to be announced on the Chalkboard.
 - d. Principal Bryant is meeting with Kaya Henderson on 9/16 to discuss Stoddert's goals: reading proficiency, math proficiency, growth goal, literacy goal, and school-specific goal, which may include achievement gap and science proficiency. Principal Bryant will brainstorm with staff to come up with a school-specific goal.
 - e. Principal Bryant reported a safety hazard in the playground where crushed beer cans and tabs were found on the east side of the playground. This safety hazard is being actively worked on.
 - f. Principal Bryant would like for Stoddert to draft a vision, mission, motto, and core values statement. He would like to get parents and students involved with creating the statements.
7. Teacher's report. Teachers are grateful for annual teacher allotment checks (\$750 per teacher) and breakfast to start the school year. Jenny Choi noted some teachers need additional resources as they have been reassigned to teach higher level grades this school year. These teachers include Terrell and Duff. Transition to the new principal has been smooth and everyone is pleased with changes. Ms. Ogburn needs help with putting together and organizing leveled libraries. New staff includes psychologist, custodian, and full-time nurse. Teachers inquired about linking their blogs to the Stoddert homepage.

8. After care. Tuesdays and Thursday are at capacity. There are open slots for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Announcement to parents will be made about a wait list for Tuesdays and Thursdays.
9. LSAT report. Introduction meeting was held, with another scheduled for 9/5/13. As of 9/3 no chair has been elected.
10. Treasurer's report. Reviewed budget line items. Evaluating contractor estimates on varying solutions to playground drainage issue. Noted that Key Elementary was given \$1M by DCPS to fix a construction problem. Also discussed were ideas for expenditures to reduce cushion from \$110K to \$60K. Ideas include hiring an enrichment coordinator, math enrichment aide, field trip coordinator, and reading support. Principal Bryant will survey teaching staff on academic support needs.
11. Communications Report. Alert Anne Banner and Jen Perry if you come across outdated information on the homepage. Goal is to send weekly Chalkboard messages.
12. Garden Report. Ms. Kealy is now a full-time DCPS teacher aide. She is splitting her time between the Stoddert garden and providing support as a science resource center.