



PTA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 12th, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

In attendance:

Nora Rigby, President | Kari Cunningham, Vice President | Matt Adinolfi, Treasurer | Kate Gardner, Secretary | Debra Olson, At-Large Member, Upper Grades | Shanti Sale, At-Large Member, Lower Grades | Holly Searl, Principal

• **Welcome, President Rigby**

o President Rigby called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and welcomed the Board. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the February and March PTA Meetings.

• **Principal's Update, Principal Searl**

o Principal Searl shared re-enrollment data: forms will not be mailed home this year, but hard copies are available in the office, with Ms. Campbell's hours from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to accept completed enrollment packets, including residency verification. She reported that she sent a reminder to families to complete the process as soon as possible, as we are hoping to reach 90% by the end of April.

• **Proposed Budget for SY2018-2019, Treasurer Adinolfi & President Rigby**

o A motion was made and seconded to table discussion and approval of the proposed budget until the May Board meeting.

o School to School Initiative

- o The Board discussed donating a percentage of our budget to a grant program through the Washington Lawyers' Committee that supports low-income schools. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to donate a certain percentage of the Winter Tree Sale & Bake Sale proceeds, which will be added to the budget for General Body approval this Spring..

o Treasurer Adinolfi announced that our fiscal year change in the bylaws will need to be raised at the May General Body meeting and voted on in June, before the End of Year Picnic.

• **Committee Reports**

o Outstanding Membership Invoices

- o Secretary Gardner shared that she will send invoices through the Ross PTA e-mail account, instead of through Square, and then follow up with paper invoices to collect outstanding monthly membership dues.

o 10th Annual Ross Auction Update

- o Upper School Representative Olson provided an update on procurement status, packages, and raffle ticket sales. Vice President Cunningham reported that she is helping to market the event.



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- o 10th Mother's & Father's Day Book Drive Committee Update
 - o In addition to advertising the Book Drive, it was reported that the Chair is seeking more volunteers, especially for the weekend, Saturday, April 28th in front of Safeway and Sunday, April 29th at the Dupont Farmers Market.
- o Teacher Appreciation Week Committee Update
 - o Parent Miwa Kamras is leading the Teacher Appreciation Week efforts at Ross again, which will be held April 30th - May 4th due to PARCC testing the following week. Special events for the week to include delivery of favorite Starbucks drinks; a "Thanks for Being So Sweet Day"; a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast; and a Lauriol Plaza Happy Hour later in May.
- o 4th of July Parade Discussion
 - o Friends of Stead Park have asked if Ross would be interested in putting together a contingent to walk/ride in the Independence Day Parade on July 4th. Upper School Representative Olson and Secretary Gardner to reach out to families to spearhead.
- o D.C. United Game
 - o Upper School Representative Olson reported that our contact is giving us an opportunity to select a date in the Fall in D.C. United's new stadium. The Board agreed that an afternoon game in mid-October works best.
 - o The Board additionally discussed an end of year game at Nats' Park. Upper School Representative Olson to reach out to parent Neha Misra to see whether she is willing to organize a Ross Day Out on Father's Day, June 10th, a 4:05 p.m. game.
- o DCPS Calendar Discussion
 - o The Board discussed the 2018-2019 DCPS calendar and its changes, such as a longer February break; more five day weeks with less Fridays off; & eliminated half-days, as some parents found it difficult to secure childcare for just one day. It was mentioned that families can reach out to the DC Office of Family and Public Engagement with any concerns.
- o Uniform Policy Discussion
 - o After a parent requested the Principal/PTA to do away with the dress code, the Board discussed the pros and cons of having a uniform at Ross. The Board agreed to conduct an informal survey of families, and Principal Searl to discuss with the LSAT and the upper grades. The Board will discuss findings at the May Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The next PTA EB Meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 4th, 8:45 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY KATE GARDNER, SECRETARY