



Meeting Minutes

Minutes of
George Mason Elementary School
General PTA
March 22, 2021
7:00 – 8:15 pm

1. Call Online Meeting to Order at 7:04 pm
2. Approve minutes from the February 22, 2021 meeting
 - A. Approved at 7:04 pm
3. Administrative Notes:
 - A. Meeting will be recorded
 - B. Ask questions via chat box, raise hand icon, or email
4. Presentation by ACPS Facilities: Anita Cordova & John Finnigan
 - A. CDC new recs re: 6 ft and 3 ft
 - B. Following ASHRAE standards
 - C. Lunch
 1. Alternating lunch times in classroom isn't a possibility due to regulations
 - 2.
 - D. Outdoor space and usage
 1. Equipment hopefully opened up for use after spring break
 - E. Furniture storage
 1. In room or space elsewhere?
 - i. Looking at different resources for funding (CARES Act, City of Alexandria, etc.) for PPE, HVAC, etc. but not used for space rental because of excess of furniture/buildings to find space for
 2. Creative way of keeping classroom the same setup with "x" on unusable seats, space between, etc.
 - i. Not enough space for movement between desks (egress)
 - F. Permanent outdoor space?
 - G. Coordination issue across all issues
 - H. What is the mechanism for benchmarking? Other schools/districts are solving these problems. Are we working with them? Finding out best practices?
 1. Varies school to school (custodial differences, different size auditoriums, rooms, class size, etc.)
 2. Other school districts, CDC, ASHRAE, etc.
 - I. Perfect solutions will miss hitting the mark on the social and emotional development of the students

- J. Submit more Questions to Dr. Oliver and she will relay to the ACPS Facilities team
5. Committee Reports
- A. President Elect Emily Krebs
 - 1. Plug for PTA Committees! Executive Board and Committee Spots available!
 - i. Existing positions may serve again or nominate people that are interested in serving
 - ii. Lots of ways to get involved! Not just exec board
 - 2. Introduce Nominating Committee 2021 Members - Charlotte Preston, Amanda Womble, & Ashley Baird Simpson
 - 3. Vote on Nominating Committee
 - i. Approved at 7:59 pm
 - 4. Will be voted on the last PTA meeting of the year
 - B. Treasurer (Lea Poggi)
 - 1. Music reserve/program funds/Spring to Action Budget amendment
 - i. Music proposal to purchase instruments for 4th quarter
 - a. Non-wind instruments like mini keyboards (grade level sets - 2nd grade this year)
 - b. Electric guitar/bass to be used in jazz band or rock band or other ways
 - c. Expand ukulele program
 - d. All additions can be used long term
 - ii. Vote on Budget amendment
 - a. Approved at 8:06 pm
 - C. PTAC (Tasha Hensley) - Highlights from last meeting
 - 1. Hutching report:
 - i. Staggered school entry has gone well and hoping other families can opt into hybrid. Children experiencing academic challenges or having issue with social/emotional learning. More information forthcoming.
 - ii. DEI PTAC and ACPS April 14th workshop on how to discuss race with your kids
 - iii. Highschool project info: <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/hsproject>
 - D. Fundraising (Cori Woods)
 - 1. April 28th Spring to Action
 - i. Previously used to raise money for Music in the Parks but that event is not occurring so look for information on fundraising topics
 - 2. Party on YOUR Patio May 1st
 - i. Small gatherings using your own outdoor space
 - ii. Need volunteers!
6. Principal Update (Dr. Seazante Oliver, GMES Principal)
- A. Great school reopening
 - B. Some technology issues
 - C. Thank you to the teachers for working hard
 - D. Thank you to the PTA for the recess equipment
 - E. Each class has a recess zone – not all classes play in the same zone but will rotate through
 - F. Summer program will be implemented - stay tuned for information
 - G. SEAL Mondays will begin next month (families will be contacted to participate in this in-person program)

- H. Chance to opt into Hybrid is coming
 - I. Spring Break is next week! April 5th is professional learning day.
 - J. School Spirit Day is April 26th
 - K. Facilities questions go to georgemasonpta@gmail.com
- 7. Update from School Board Member Cindy Anderson
 - A. High School Project - feedback on 3 different design concepts is coming up
 - B. Pool is currently not within the budget but discussing with the city to see if they are willing to partner as it's been a longstanding request. Reach out to city council!
- 8. Next meeting Monday April 26th at 7:00 pm
 - 9. Adjourn 8:24 pm