



## Meeting Minutes

Minutes of  
**George Mason Elementary School**  
General PTA  
June 6, 2022  
7:00 – 8:00 pm

1. Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm.
2. Minutes from the April 25, 2022 meeting approved at 7:07 pm.
3. Thank you to all volunteers from today's Field Day.
4. Welcome to Ashley Simpson-Baird, member of the Alexandria City School Board.
5. Thank you and congratulations to this year's school staff retirees: Nurse Thompson with 30-years of service; Ms. El-Baba with 33-years of service, and; Ms. Moore with 21-years of service.
6. Principal's update from Dr. Oliver:
  - A. Staffing updates coming in the next week or so.
  - B. 5<sup>th</sup>-grade kickball tournament tomorrow at 12:45pm w/ Ms. Moquin.
  - C. Early release at 12:30pm this Wednesday through Friday.
  - D. 5<sup>th</sup>-grade breakfast this Thursday at 8:45am, followed by the ceremony at 9:30am.
  - E. Report cards coming home on Friday.
  - F. Mason Messenger soon for parents to provide character traits of their children, which will help the school staff match students with teachers.
  - G. Safety update:
    1. All doors locked, and students know not to open the door to anyone they do not know.
    2. Safety drills – practice exiting the building and meeting at Trinity. Teachers know that they have options, and can move in the safest direction which may mean moving away from Trinity. They also practice sheltering in place if the threat is outside the building.
  - H. Parent Square – emergency notification system. Ashley Simpson-Baird will research this and get back to the PTA executive board.
7. School Board update from Ashley Simpson-Baird:
  - A. Celebrated the 2022 ACHS graduates this week.
  - B. The board is researching initiatives for students during their after-school time.
  - C. Gun violence prevention measure approved at the last meeting; new measures coming soon.
  - D. School Budget and Capital Improvement Budget (10-year outlay plan) both approved.
  - E. Received a presentation on May 26<sup>th</sup> on Special Education, which can be viewed on the website.

- F. Received a presentation on May 26<sup>th</sup> on Dual-language programs.
  - G. Received a presentation on May 19<sup>th</sup> on transition programs and how to support students entering Kindergarten, transitioning from Elementary School to Middle School, or transitioning from Middle School to High School.
  - H. Received a presentation on the textbook adoption process.
  - I. Meeting planned for June 13<sup>th</sup> – will be a joint meeting with the School Board and the City Council. Will discuss the plan for School Resource Officers.
  - J. Final meeting planned for June 16<sup>th</sup>.
8. Nomination and Election of next-year’s PTA Executive Board (all nominees elected by voice-vote):
    - A. President: Geoff Goode.
    - B. President-elect: Liz Bartlett
    - C. Treasurer: Lisa Pena
    - D. Secretary: Tasha Hensley
    - E. Vice President of Fundraising: Brooke Johnson
    - F. Vice President of Outreach: Crystall Merlino
    - G. Vice President of Programs: Julie Zahn
  9. Introduction of additional PTA Board Members (no vote required):
    - A. Meghan McCarthy: website manager
    - B. Emily Litten: past-president
    - C. Edith Andrade: PTAC Representative
  10. Introduction of, and remarks from, the new PTA President: Geoff Goode
  11. Treasurer update from Lea Poggi:
    - A. Discussed and voted on three budget amendments (all approved by voice vote):
      1. Yard signs for 5<sup>th</sup>-grade students: expense increase from \$600 to \$1,050, and income increase of \$500.
      2. T-shirts for 5<sup>th</sup>-grade students: expense increase from \$800 to \$1,300.
      3. Gifts for the 4 retiring staff members (\$250 per gift): expense increase from \$500 to \$1,000.
  12. Programs update from Julie Zahn:
    - A. Planning ongoing for next year.
    - B. Baroody may pay for an on-site coordinator out of their budget.
    - C. Expecting to receive the contract soon for next year’s programs.
  13. Capital Improvement update from Crystall Merlino:
    - A. Funding approved for both the design and construction.
    - B. Design process will begin in Fall/Winter of 2023.
    - C. Everything on schedule and no changes from previous update.
  14. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.