

## **PTA General Meeting, 7pm, 11/13/2018**

Members in attendance (15): Kathryn Farmer, Candi Sparrow, Jennifer Pulliam, Chris Owens, Nicole Durity, Abena Durity, Beth Keber, Jen Topping, Chuck Dale, Scott Probst, Jill Anderson, Carrie Lewis, Sandy Marks, Trey Billips, Seth Kennard.

Trey Billips opened the meeting at 7pm.

### **Exec Committee Reports:**

- **President**
  - Volunteers needed (signup genius' are online cbpta.org click "News"):
    - Farm to table
    - PBIS Dance Party
    - PTA Potluck for Teachers & Staff
    - Holiday Shop
  - Special Thanks
    - All who have donated to Fall Appeal
    - The Fall Appeal Committee
    - The Hospitality Committee for Halloween treats
    - Reflections Committee
    - Room Parents
    - Carrie Lewis for creating our inaugural newsletter
- **Treasurer**
  - Income and Expense statement (hand out at meeting, if you would like a copy, please contact PTA Treasurer, cbptatreasurer@gmail.com
    - Please look over the report and if you have questions email questions to Carrie.
  - 281 PTA members. (44 paper, the rest online)
  - Newsletter went out, please let me know if you have questions or concerns
  -
- **Secretary**
  - Motion to approve the minutes from the October 2018 PTA Meeting.
    - Minutes approved

### **Principal's Report**

- Playground renovations for both school and Rec playgrounds. Seth will go over the ACPS playground renovation.
- Reminder of early dismissals Thursday (11/15) and Friday (11/16) @ 12:30. Lunch is still included in a half day, just on an adjusted early release schedule.
  - Parents welcome to come for lunch on Thursday for a Farm to Table thanksgiving lunch
- School board posted the CIP budget for the next 9 years online, starting 2020. (link)
  - Charles Barrett doesn't have much slated.

- Will replace all the old carpet
    - HVAC will get replaced.
      - Our units are 6 years over their service date.
    - Kitchen and cafeteria redo
    - Painting
  - Margaret Lorber is gathering input regarding the CIP, please contact her with questions, input, concerns.
  - CIP is slated for 10 years, but changes can be made in that cycle.
- School playground renovation:
  - Address safety issues: Mulch replace by softscaping.
    - Replace items that don't meet code
  - Make it ADA accessible
  - Phased plan: 1st phase - make it ADA accessible some softscaping. 2nd phase - relocate some of the structures, adding in some benches. 3rd phase - adding some softscape under/around the swings. Replacing the major play structure (it's about at the end of the life-cycle)
  - Renovation scheduled for this summer, bids are going out in the next few weeks as 3 separate projects. 3rd phase may not be this summer, may get pushed to later.
  - The timeline crosses over with the Rec playground reconstruction. May impact some of the summer programming (we host Rec summer programs and this year slated for summer school).
    - Questions:
      - Can we try and get the surrounding community to help us push the playground reconstruction? Seth thinks yes, if it comes to that point.
      - Do you feel that with the proposed CIP, as is, are there equity issues across the district? Seth: It's hard to tell. We have a pretty good building even though it is old. But as more new schools are built, there will be some equity issues. As other schools are built and expanded, we need to be aware that our building should be clean, look nice, and be ready to welcome children every day.
      - Can we use PTA \$\$ to supplement painting and building improvements. Yes, we have a budget from PTA for capital improvements. Seth thinks a better use of our funds would be specific to one goal that we have, like a piece of playground equipment that might be beyond the budget for the playground renovations.
- West Glebe road/South Glebe/bridge issues - No trucks/busses over 5 tons are supposed to go over it. City workers are around this week during drop off/pick up to see if there are issues impacting us due to increased truck and bus traffic. We haven't noticed much increased bus/truck traffic by the school yet. We're watching it closely. If they end up closing the bridge we'll see a much bigger impact. Closure is a possibility.

## **Presentation - Anna Tush - PBIS**

Send Anna Tush email to get slide deck for her presentation: [anna.tush@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:anna.tush@acps.k12.va.us)

- PBIS - Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports
  - Behaviour is something that is learned and we have to teach it, just as we teach reading writing and math.
  - A framework to identify needs - students who need more support and help students develop strategies to become successful citizens
- Initiatives of PBIS
  - We want to shift focus in schools from negative feedback and reinforcements to positive ones. We should be reinforcing positive behaviors.
  - Teach behavior to all, and address behaviors of all students
  - Have consistency across all grades, classrooms and teachers.
  - Create a positive environment for students for learning and working - a positive environment at school.
- Essential Features
  - Research based approach offers a common approach to discipline
  - Faculty/Staff team that is representative of the staff. Needs to be diverse and broad.
  - Behavior expectations are clearly defined and taught
  - Continuum of procedures for supporting positive and addressing negative behaviors
    - Tiered system of support to address negative behaviors.
  - Continuous monitoring and review for effectiveness. Reviewed every month. Is there one behavior that is sticking out? If so, then we can address that. Our goal is to keep kids in the classroom and out of the front office.
    - Example: We have done “drive in movies” before winter or spring breaks because we see a spike of negative behaviors before breaks. Tracking this and seeing it coming allows us to plan and address.
  - Data-driven decision making. See above bullet.
    - Puzzle challenge in winter is another way to keep kids positively motivated in the lead up to Christmas break. What is the puzzle challenge?
      - Every class gets a puzzle piece, and the teacher sets a goal to earn the puzzle piece (a certain number of class panda paws). Between Thanksgiving to winter-break, working hard for every class to meet the goal of earning their puzzle piece.
  - MTSS - Multi-tiered System of Support (both behavioural and academic)
    - Tier one - primary prevention - 80% of population - school/classroom, for all students, staff and settings.
    - Tier two - secondary prevention - 15% of population - specialized systems for students with at risk behaviors.



## **Presentation on the Rec Center Playground - Judy Lo, Park Planner/Project Manager City of Alexandria Dept of Rec**

- The Department sent out a survey in January 2018 requesting input/feedback on playground design, got 280 responses back.
- This is a city capital project, funded by the city. The Charles Barrett Rec playground was last renovated in 1990, so almost 30 years ago.
- Based on the survey comments, Rec dept had playground consultants generate some ideas:
  - Widen out the sidewalks and create a plaza area (a spill-over space) with picnic tables and seating there. Will meet ADA requirements.
  - Will be softscaped with rubberized surface (safer, lasts longer)
  - Save all the existing trees that provide shade. Add some boulder seating and log seating in that area
  - Main play area focused on the 5-12 age group. Will have a ropes theme and independent stand-alone activities theme. A rope/net/slide structure, a merry-go-round, a rope-based obstacle course.
  - Proposing a loop pathway around the main grassy/baseball diamond field. It's not in this renovation, but will be phased in over time.
  - A BMP (Best Management Practices) rain garden near the entrance to deal with drainage issues (storm water, etc).
- Budget is set at \$495,000. It is set aside and not going anywhere.
- Drainage that currently causes some flooding in front of rec entrance should be addressed by this project.
- Rec Center Council was included and they had some ideas. Can contact the school to get more ideas to make it inclusive for students with disabilities (wheel hair bound, etc.)
- If construction proceeds in summer 2019, there would be access to the existing field for rec summer programs. There is some flexibility to coordinate with ACPS to find the best solution so both playgrounds get completed.
- All workers will be background checked prior to working on site at the school.

## **Committee Reports:**

- Fall Appeal
  - We've raised \$36,196 so far - Goal is \$40K
  - Raffles have been successful. Direct appeals have been successful, family appeals, friends appeal.
  - We want to finish by Tuesday night!!! \$3800 to go. Please donate if you've been meaning to, tell your family, neighbors/friends!
- Holiday Shoppe - Dec 8th!
  - Event we hold every December. The whole idea is that we come up with a dozen crafts, bring in the kids and they pay "at cost" and make amazing crafts that they can give to grandmas/grandpas, aunts/uncles, friends for the holidays. This is not a fundraiser, rather a community event to help you prepare for the holidays!

- There will be samples set up at Family Literacy Night (Nov 29th) so you can see what crafts the kids can make at the shop!
- Motion to Approve Anna Jaeger as President Elect!
  - Motion approved!