

PTA Board Meeting Agenda (Virtual)
Tuesday, January 12, 2020
Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

**Please note: In accordance with MDPTA bylaws (Article VI, section 5), general meetings are now permitted to be held electronically. This information has been confirmed by the Baltimore County Council, Maryland PTA, and National PTA. In addition, general membership will continue to be updated via newsletter, push notifications, social media, etc.*

I. Welcome: Present: Jennifer Dickerson, Kerri Brozene, Melinda Stankowski, Corinne Roth, Meredith Heyl, Sapna Prasad, Alex Castillo, Magam Chyko, Shannon Maple, Courtney Bishop, Christian Lombardini, Beth VanDerslice, Maryanne Andrews, Megan Stewart-Sicking, Sarah McNelis, Catherine Jackson, Leslie McGuire, Julie Ortel, Erin MacDougall

II. 2020-2021 MDPTA vs. NPTA Updates: The MDPTA has officially approved online meetings.

III. Sparks Elementary School Updates (School Administration):

A. Reopening

1. Phase 1: Public Day Schools
2. Phase 2: Pre-K to 2
3. Phase 3: FALS grade 3-12
4. Phase 4: All students
 - a. Schools will only talk about reopening if County positivity rates are below 5% AND Covid cases number <15 per 100,000 county residents. Our numbers are currently above this threshold.

B. Teacher Vaccinations: Teachers are currently eligible for vaccination. At the time of this meeting, Admin does not know if BCPS will make vaccines optional or mandatory for staff.

C. Mrs. Chyko will provide resources for talking to school-age children about current events. Will be added to the Sparks PTA website by Jenn.

www.sparkspta.org

IV. Financial Information, Budget Vote, & Other Updates:

- A. Budget: (Kerri Brozene, Treasurer) Annual budget was presented for a vote. Of note, the budget was set with the plan of return to in-person learning in Feb as per BCPS original plan. Budget was voted on members in attendance. 17 votes in favor. Budget is adopted.
- B. Financial Secretary update: (Sapna Prasad) MD Sales and US tax file on time (Due 1/20/21). All documents submitted to our CPA in order for taxes to be filed.

V. Board & Committee Updates

a. 1st VP Updates: Family Events (Corinne Roth, 1st VP):

1. 5 Below Fundraiser: \$35.75 raised. Was an in-person event which may have limited sales. 5 Below gives back 10%, so total sales were good.

2. Serpico: Declined to host winter fundraiser, but will consider for Spring.

3. Hot Pots Fundraiser: This is a carry-out event. Families will order their project from a list on the website between 1/27 and 1/29. Projects range in price from \$20 to over \$100. Families will choose a color pallet for each project which will include 6 colors of paint. Projects orders will be picked up starting Sat. 1/30/21. Will need to indicate SParks ES PTA when ordering kit. More info to follow.

4. Coal Fire Fundraiser: Restaurante is under new ownership. They will donate 20% of all total Sparks sales. Carry-out included. Would encompass lunch and dinner. 2/18 or 2/25 for possible dates. More info to come.

b. 2nd VP Updates: (Meredith Hey, 2nd VP))

1. My Neighbors Foundation was able to provide holiday gifts for 30 families (79 children) thanks in part to Sparks ES donations.
2. The Sparks ES Charitable Committee (SParks ES Faculty and Staff) will be meeting soon and will follow up with the PTA re: how we may be able to help Sparks families ongoing this year.
3. Valentine's Day Parties: The PTA will provide teachers with \$20 to use for access to online activity platforms or decor for Valentine's Day parties for the students. Meredith will research ideas for activities for the classrooms and put together a list for teachers to use if they so choose. Mrs. Chyko to send to teachers.

c. Newly Formed Equity Committee (Sapna Prasad, Financial Secretary)

1. Current plan is to partner with Sparks ES teacher/staff Equity Committee.
2. Jenn contacted Michelle Guyton re: the status of the proposal to ban hate symbols on BCPS property. Awaiting response.
3. Office of Community and Family Engagement for BCPS has been emailed and we are awaiting a response.
4. PTA website has a link for Parent University from BCPS which has many resources.
5. The Sparks ES faculty/ staff has engaged in 2 Equity trainings this year. Staff will read "White Fragility". Books purchased with previously donated PTA funds. Student appropriate books were also purchased for each grade for use in classrooms. Mrs. Tarlton has read one of these book, "Forgotten Girl", to her classes.

d. Holiday Shop Update: (Jenn)

1. Holiday shop was online this year. 17 families participated. Dates have been booked for next school year so that we can take advantage of the \$100 bonus offered.

e. 5th Grade Farewell (Alex)

1. Alex will email the 5th grade teachers along with MRs. Chyko to

start tentative plans for this year. Once teachers have been contacted, will send email to all 5th grade parents to form planning committee. Will include Meredith Heyl on all communications for succession planning purposes.

f. Spirit Wear Updates (Kerri): Bonfire's customer service was excellent. Handles the few printing errors we encountered quickly and easily. May do another campaign with them.

VI. Questions/New Business/Miscellaneous

a. Driveway Sign Updates: Jenn to research and have printed. Richard will hang it.

b. PTA Bylaws Updates : (Jenn and Corinne)Bylaws dues for 3 year update this year. Corinne and Jenn to address. Awaiting copy of bylaws to update, sign and return to the MDPTA.

c. PTA Election Cycle Information: (Corinne) The Election committee will start looking for parents interested in being PTA board members. Several board members have fulfilled their full terms and will be leaving their positions for next year.

d. Attendee inquired about Direct Donation campaigns for this year. Direct Donation had not been overly promoted this year due the current state of the economy which may be impacting Sparks families as well as the need for less funds during virtual schooling. Will add a note to the next PTA newsletter reminding families that this is still an option.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.