**Flora M. Singer Elementary School PTA General Membership Meeting**

**Hybrid (In Person and on Zoom) – 05.15.2024**

PTA President Beth Angerman Black called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Those in attendance (in person and on Zoom) are listed below.

PRESIDENT UPDATE:

* Upcoming Dine Out: Pacci’s on 5/21 at 5 PM. 10% of the sales will go to the PTA
* Rockin’ Recess: 5/31 at lunch time
* End of Year School Picnic: 6/7 at 6 PM. In case of inclement weather, the picnic will be canceled and not rescheduled.
* 5th Grade Activities:
  + Dance: 6/7 from 4 PM to 6 PM
  + Field Trip: 6/7
  + Promotion Ceremony: 6/12

MARCH MEETING MINUTES:

* The minutes passed with 26 voting in favor in person and 9 voting in favor online.

BUDGET UPDATES

* Revenue: generated $1,600 from the Square Art Fundraiser
* Expenditures include:
  + Staff appreciation: $3,000
  + Grants to school for field trips, patrol picnic, Singer games: $2,739
  + Recycling assembly: $1,500
  + Bingo Night: $600
  + STEM Fair: $719

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

* *March:* Ms. Celia Taylor (also nominated: Ivette Orona)
* *April:* Ms. Kayla Sui (also nominated: Katherine Donovan, Natalie Gracias, Kimberly Kincaid)
* *May:* please submit nominations within the next two weeks

STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

* Featured chair massages, La Finca pop up, food trucks.
* Teachers and staff expressed their appreciation

5th GRADE PETITION FOR URINAL DIVIDERS IN THE BOYS’ BATHROOMS

* Fifth grade student Sam Levin spoke to the PTA about funding urinal dividers in the boys’ bathrooms. He presented a petition with approximately 90 students’ signatures in favor of the dividers.

MEMBERSHIP BUDGET VOTE

* Motion #1: Move $1,200 from balance to Grants to fund additional field trip support
  + This will help cover students’ expenses for those who need it
  + The motion passed unanimously in person and with 14 in favor online
* Motion #2: Move $1,500 from balance to Grants to fund the installation of urinal dividers
  + The motion passed unanimously in person and with 18 in favor online
* Motion #3: Move $3,700 from balance to “BrainPop” to fund next year’s subscription
  + The motion passed unanimously in person and with 18 in favor online
* Motion 4: Move $1,000 to school support for indoor recess games
  + The motion passed unanimously in person and with 18 in favor online

2024-25 BOARD MEMBERS

* Nominated:
  + President Elect: Maura Davis
  + Recording Secretary: Christine Riley
  + Both Maura and Christine won their votes unanimously in person and with 15 votes online
* Still Need:
  + Treasurer Elect
  + Corresponding Secretary
  + MCCPTA Representative
  + Singer Needs
  + Staff Member of the Month Manager
  + Spirit Wear Coordinator
  + Directory Coordinator (trainee)
  + Square 1 Art
  + Parent Social Coordinator
* Contact Rachel Gellman at [rgellman36@gmail.com](mailto:rgellman36@gmail.com)

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

* Many thanks to Julie Roddin for all her hard work around the silent auction, teacher appreciation, and more
* Many thanks to Michelle Grier for all her support overseeing the PTA financials and compliance

PRINCIPAL’S UPDATE

* Thank you to the PTA and all parents for making Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week so special last week
* The Variety Show was a huge success. Thank you to all the parents for helping their children participate. We had nearly twice as many acts this year.
* Staffing Update:
  + Ms. O’Keege is moving to Chicago
  + Ms. Money is moving to Sherwood Elementary School
  + Ms. Fox is going to be the staff development teacher at Rock View Elementary School
  + Two new third grade teachers are joining: Carly Wirth (Strathmore), Emily Ancona (Howard County), Mary Christensen (Learning Center)
* Articulation Input
  + Current grade teachers will make suggestions on groupings. Over the summer, Mr. Heatwole and staff will make adjustments and assign teachers
  + Parents can provide inputs by filling out the [articulation survey](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSePhpFcQ7jCv5GhAtCtG_2_S2gw53N5OZPYinDx2AMseV6QiA/viewform). Can’t select the teacher but can provide input into learning environment
  + Open house is held every year in August on Friday before the first day of school. Historically, the event took place at 3 PM. This year, we will need to divide the event into two parts: one hour for Kindergarten and then a second hour for 1st through 5th.
    - Option 1: Kindergarten at 2 PM and 1st-5th at 3 PM
    - Option 2: Kindergarten at 9 AM and 1st-5th at 10 AM
  + Attendees discussed the options and had a slight preference for afternoon but no strong preference either way.

YOUTH SUPPORTS IN MOCO

* Panel:
  + Brett Gellman: boys baseball, boys basketball, girls softball
  + Justin Black: boys baseball, boys soccer, boys flag football
  + Shira Printup: girls basketball
  + Julie Roddin: swimming
  + Maura Davis: swimming, girls softball
  + Sarah Barthel: girls soccer
* Highlights:
  + Levels from easiest to hardest generally go: Rec - classic/select - travel/academy
  + Rec
    - Rec is lowest cost of entry; child will practice once a week and have a game once a week
    - Kids will vary widely in skills
  + Classic/select
    - Could be a parent coach or professional
    - Price point could be a bit higher
    - Higher level of competition; maybe a couple of practices a week and a game on the weekend
    - Season or year-long commitment
    - Games tend to be local
  + Travel/academy
    - More expensive; including travel expenses
    - Generally 12-month programs
    - Games may or may not be local
  + Moving from rec to classic
    - Became pretty clear after a few seasons based on their peers
    - Generally for rec, no try outs; can even occasionally choose team or coach
    - For classic/select/travel, will need to try out
  + Montgomery County Rec
    - teams/leagues can vary; for instance, few girls basketball teams in this side of the county but more on the west
  + Amateur Athletic Union
    - Recommend waiting until middle school before joining AAU
  + Swimming
    - Many options in Montgomery County
    - Summer swim teams are different than “winter” swims
    - Summer swim teams:
      * tend to be low barrier to entry (wide range of skills)
      * No try outs
      * A lot of teams have “pre teams” for those not ready for regular swim team
    - “Winter” swim teams (Labor Day - Memorial Day):
      * A variety of lesson options (county, private club, stroke-and-turn)
  + Other tips
    - Email the PTA listserv to see if other parents have info on teams for your student
    - Connect with other team members’ parents and take advantage of car pooling for practices and games

Meeting Adjourned: 8:36 PM

Respectfully submitted, Yasmine Williams, PTA Recording Secretary

**In Attendance (Via Zoom)**

| Rabia | Chaudhry Helu |
| --- | --- |
| Jocelyn | Donnelly |
| Aaron | Foxman |
| Catherine | Foxman |
| Julieta | Francis |
| Britt | Gordon-McKeon |
| Valerie | Grussing |
| Moneer | Helu |
| Amanda | Lorch |
| Elyssa | Monzack |
| Erica | Rojek |
| Darin | Sharar |
| Kristen | Sharar |
| Lauren | Whitney |

**In Attendance (in person)**

