

Nov. 13, 2018 PTA meeting

Teachers present: Principal Bey, Ms. Roy

Albie from Deni Taveras's office was here

Introductions

The group broke up into committees and then after 15 minutes reported out

Advocacy—how do we increase funding for schools? We will need LOTS of public support. Ballot measure passed for the education lockbox for casino revenues. A meeting of local PTA officers was held recently and mutual issues for cooperation were discussed—lowering bar for parental involvement was high priority.

Beautification—painting temps has been pushed to spring. How can we beautify the blacktop? Ideas: paint a US map, clock, a 120 chart.

Teacher appreciation—an event for teachers, community potluck, can we have entrance fee for events be teacher supplies (tissues, etc.). Do teachers have Amazon wish lists? Megan will coordinate this with Ms. Roy.

Communications—When a little girl was hit in the crosswalk why didn't a letter go home from Bey? **Would be helpful to clarify if you need to be fingerprinted for ALL volunteer opportunities—i.e., book fair. Ms. Bey says everyone gets a one-time "free pass" to volunteer without being fingerprinted for events where volunteers will not be alone with students. After that, you must be fingerprinted for everything. Jarrod likes the HPD Facebook page—could be something to emulate. Not much enthusiasm for starting up the school-wide newsletter, but perhaps we could replicate certain parts of it (i.e. teacher interviews) on PTA's FB page.

Zombie Run update: \$21K profit, 500+ registered. 15 schools split \$6K in donations (up from 5 schools last year), more than 100 volunteers. Post-race survey was sent out, high response rate! People loved the race, great community event. Who would like to take on a larger volunteer role next year?? Kevin or Christine Blackerby can answer questions.

Pete Daniels (guest), a local parent with children attending the Cesar Chavez Spanish Immersion School, talked about the Kirwan Commission—a once-a-decade chance to re-jigger how the state spends \$\$ on education needs. This January (new leg. session) is when the new rules (for next 10+) years will be established. Pete talked about Strong Schools Maryland—an education advocacy group. They can help with advocacy, outreach, etc. and will also keep us abreast of important events (hearings, etc.) that we should attend. Pete is organizing a group of parents through this group and looking for volunteers—reach out to Lee Cain if you'd like to participate. Two of our state reps (Sen. Pinsky + Rep. Washington) are on the Kirwan Commission.

Update from Principal Bey

Many volunteer opportunities! Ms. Page is HES volunteer coordinator. You can also reach out to your classroom teachers. Northwestern fingerprinting office will open imminently—perhaps, by end of Nov. Today was the first HES-sponsored session for viewing of the required safety video—14 parents

attended. If you haven't turned in your blue form—please do! (the Federal Impact Aid forms). One form per family is required. Please also turn in the forms for free and reduced-price lunches—and tell your friends.

HMS Chipotle night is tomorrow

Honor Roll assemblies are next week—Monday (4th and 5th) and Tuesday (2nd and 3rd)

The next PTA meeting will be on Dec. 7 at 8AM in the cafeteria!