

HES PTA Meeting—Feb. 5, 2019

Staff present: Ms. Bey, Mr. Durkin, Ms. Davis, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Roy, Ms. Peele

Meredith welcomed the group and reminded us of the purpose of the new committees established at the beginning of the year: Advocacy, social, communications, beautification, teacher appreciation

Communications committee—Agreed that the staff spotlight on Facebook was successful and plans are underway to do more.

Teacher Appreciation—there is now a link on PTA website: wish lists. These link to Amazon lists. What other needs do teachers have? Ms. Calloway needs help organizing the math room. Jenn Linn, Catarina Correia, Melanie Robbins volunteered to help with math room.

Beautification—when the weather allows we are stocked up to paint the temps; bathroom painting is pending; we will also support 5th grade murals on Jefferson St. What can we do now to enhance the playground? We'd like to set up a small committee including teachers to come up with a plan—Sarah Weber, Kat Schooley, Ms. Cooper, and Ms. Roy volunteered.

Advocacy—Meredith gave an update on the Kirwan Commission. Christine offered to send out talking points to the PTA list for folks to contact their representatives. CIP plan from the County is done and we should see it in the next few weeks. March 11—education rally in Annapolis, 6-8pm. PTA may charter a bus.

Catherine Bennett—Nwosu spoke about PGCABS (Prince George's County Advocates for Better Schools). There is a blog, FB group. On Feb. 28 they will hold an event with the Education Trust, inviting Dr. Thornton. She will share details with Meredith once they are finalized.

Sen. Pinsky has a bill to reverse the Hogan decision on school start/end dates—to let the counties decide what works best for them.

Ms. Brock will share her presentation on testing for posting on the PTA website; may hold another Testing Info Night in the spring

Ice Skating party—Kevin Blackerby, Sarah Eisen, Cat Correia, and Jen Hanna volunteered to help with concessions; Sarah Weber will contact Heather McDonald to help on Friday morning.

Jen will post notices about ice skating events on HOPE and HNP lists

Question: Can we open a phone line/video option for morning PTA meetings?

Movie night is March 22. Can we ask attendees to bring a school supply as entry fee? Hold a contest for class participation? Suggest asking for just a few specific items that are needed: for example, a box of tissues, or hand sanitizer. Ms. Roy/Ms. Cooper will be POC for kids voting on movies. Kevin B. will lead on logistics.

Suggestions for movies to consider: Ralph Wrecks the Internet, Incredibles 2 ... others?

April 27—HVL parade. More on this soon.

October 5—Zombie Run! Christine updated the group. This is the PTA's biggest fundraising event. We need volunteers!

Three things she needs help with now:

A small team (3-4 people) to review and update sponsorship plan. New plan needs to be ready in about a month.

Setting up the course on race day—take written instructions Christine has and map the step-by-step instructions for setting up the course, plus re-format the instructions so they could be easily handed off to someone new.

Similarly—posting no parking instructions along race route—turning these logistics into a plan. These last two can be done closer to race day.

Also—any ideas for potential sponsors would be great—contact Christine or Kevin. Kevin asked if there was something kids/school could do to thank sponsors—banner, sign?

Meredith thanked Ms. Bey and Mr. Durkin for being responsive to requests/feedback from the PTA.

Ms. Bey thanked the PTA for the collaboration on all fronts. Ten-12 parents came to the HES open house last week. She thanked Mr. Durkin for making her job easier. From Dr. Goldson's meeting with principals: she will focus on compensation for all staff (not just teachers), class sizes for K-3, school safety.

Daria Brown from Rep. Taveras's office attended joined us at the end.

Next meeting is Friday, March 8, 8-9AM, in the HES cafeteria.