

Feb. 28, 2020 PTA Meeting

Social events update (Megan Miller)

- Successful, well-attended movie night on 2/21; thank you parents and staff for your help!
- Seeking feedback on future events: possible 'Taste of HES' potluck with dancing/karaoke or international night? There was enthusiasm for music and dancing. Other feedback included that evenings may be difficult for some people but events with food are well-attended, and another idea tossed around was park playdates or breakfasts. Ultimately we decided to pursue the music/dance option and pick a date in May.
- April 25 City of Hyattsville parade – most-attended class will get some kind of reward; Ms. Ellis suggested we combine it with a dress-down day
- Chipotle fundraiser is March 31

Teacher appreciation committee (Jess Port)

- Passed thank-you card around for maintenance team, for help cleaning up after PTA events, etc. and will pull together a basket of goodies for them
- Coffee cart for the last week before Spring Break; people can contribute healthy snacks, grab-and-go snacks to that cart
- Ms. Bey expressed her appreciation for PTA recognition of support staff

Beautification (Lauren Kelly)

- Water garden cleanup help may be needed on April 18 in the morning; we also have a Girl Scout troop interested in doing some light gardening
- Our project with Anacostia Watershed Society and ArtWorks Now will continue, and the fifth grade will help design new mural panels for Jefferson St.
- Music room mural also in design stages

Communications/Outreach

- Meredith asked how people found out about the movie night, and it was a mix of people who heard via Dojo, email, and fliers (fliers seemed to be least visible; Dojo read by most families). It was suggested that when kids have a say in/vote in (like movie night), events are more well-known, better attended
- Some questions were asked about how to sign up for PTA mailings. We stressed you do not have to pay or register as a PTA member in order to receive updates; just go to <https://hyattsvillees-pta.org/>

Library Needs

- Our part-time librarian is looking for parent help on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8-8:30 a.m., help with checking books out and putting books away
- PTA just purchased new scanner
- Parents expressed interest in helping to beautify the library and make it a more inviting space

Update from Principal Bey

- Other classroom volunteer needs include early morning help with reading in the Kindergarten, including Spanish-speaking volunteers; see Ms. Ellis if interested
- Also seeking help with Kindergarten lunch in the cafeteria, please volunteer from 12:30-1:30 (any amount of time would help!)
- Fingerprinting is required to help; if you qualify for free school lunch you qualify for free fingerprinting or the PTA can help with costs.
- School has placed a work order on malfunctioning clocks; only one person in the county can do this, so get used to guessing what time it is
- Mr. Moses, building supervisor, is following up on work orders that have not been taken care of, including the water buildup outside the kindergarten classrooms. The tools the county maintenance people have are not sufficient to fix it, so that is “pending” and pickup will continue to be re-routed.
- Talented and Gifted update: First graders and third graders have been screened; our model is TAG in the regular classroom (TRC) because we do not have the staff to support the pullout model as we have in past years. HES is in the process of working with the county TAG office to get teachers trained. A TAG meeting will take place soon to inform the parents of TAG-identified students what teachers are doing to follow the TRC protocol.
- Parking: don't park in the lot directly behind the school or you will get towed; use a city lot or the St. Jerome lot during drop-off/pickup times

Advocacy

Stay tuned for more info on the Kirwan Commission Recommendations, thank you to HES for making the space available on 2/26 to discuss!

Upcoming Events

- March 2-6 – Read Across America volunteers are needed in the school NEXT WEEK; see Ms. Ellis if interested
- March 20, HES Talent Show
- March 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m., PTA meeting in the library
- March 25, 5-7 p.m., parent engagement meeting