

Virtual PTA meeting—5/5/20

Teachers attending:

Ms. Bey
Ms. Dawkins
Ms. Monjes
Ms. Contreras
Ms. Roy
Ms. Muscardin
Ms. Peele
Ms. Cooper
Ms. Harrison
Ms. McNeill

Special guests:

Pam Boozer-Strother, PGC school board member
Rep. Deni Taveras, member, PG County Council

PTA president Meredith Muth welcomed the group. As we're in the middle of the fourth week of distance learning, we wanted to check in with Pam Boozer-Strother and Ms. Bey and get an update and have the chance to ask questions.

Pam gave an update: the School Board is still meeting and working. Their main job is supporting Dr. Goldson. Summer school will be online. Any incomplete grade can be changed up to Jan. of next year. Every family should do what they can and take care of their mental health. BOE is still working on getting Blueprint legislation passed.

Here is a link for educational content on the PGCPS television channel:

<http://vod.pgcps.org/CablecastPublicSite/?channel=1>

Please be sure to follow [Pam](#) and [PGCPS](#) on Facebook for the latest information on distance learning, school calendars, and more.

Meredith opened the floor for questions.

How will the current situation effect the building of the new HMS? No indication that anything has changed—the BOE meets next week and Pam will try and bring us an update.

Can laptops still be procured through PGCPS? Yes. Let Pam know and she will help facilitate.

Decision to not hold any students back could have a substantial impact next year. How will we address that? The first three weeks of the new school year will be a review of the last quarter.

What is the last day of school? Not before June 9. We have to make up five days. Pam will confirm and get back to us. Edited to add: June 8 is the last day of distance learning for this school year. Make-up work will be allowed June 9-16.

What about kindergarten registration? There will be an online system, details to be announced soon.

Ms. Bey gave an update: as a principal, I couldn't have a better team. I salute them today and every day.

A big task right now is getting in touch with every student to make sure they are safe and connected to online learning.

How can we help teachers? We can be sure wish list items are sent to their homes, instead of school. Here is the link for the wish lists: <https://hyattsvillees-pta.org/teacher-wish-lists/>

Encourage any neighbors or friends to participate in online learning, if they are not already.

This week the school is having two sessions for ESOL families to help them navigate Google classrooms, etc.

ESOL Family Sessions this Thursday for Grades 3-5, 9:30 on Zoom
Kindergarten—second grade @ 11am

Rep. Taveras spoke. We have a very low response rate for the census—please encourage everyone to fill out their forms! She needs help sewing facemasks. Also looking for people to contribute financially. 20783 has the highest positive test rates in the entire DMV. Deni will distribute 15,000 food boxes; 2,000 in Hyattsville.

Deni, Pam, and Ms. Bey will coordinate on getting info out to folks about the census.

HES parent and Hyattsville employee Laura Reams compiled a list of city resources—we will share on Facebook when we have it.

PTA secretary Jen Hanna gave an update on PTA elections. While we are not allowed to hold virtual elections (per the MD state PTA), we are beginning to build a Nominating Committee and solicit interest from potential candidates, in order to be ready with a slate of nominees when we are able to hold an in-person election. If you are interested in standing for election, or know someone who might be a good candidate, please email Jen at jenniferhanna9@yahoo.com. The positions to be filled are president, vice president (2), treasurer, and secretary.

Kevin Blackerby talked about the 2020 Zombie Run. It is scheduled for Oct. 10 and planning is moving ahead. We are exploring virtual and in-person scenarios. We still need help, so please reach out to Meredith Muth, Kristen Wares, or Kevin or Christine Blackerby if you are interested. Note that a critical need to be filled is that of on-site race-day coordinator—the person who makes sure everything is set up properly on race day (i.e., tents, food stations, etc.).

PTA treasurer Lauren Kelly gave quick budget update: We are doing fine, with \$20K in the bank.

5th grade Jefferson St. murals will happen this year! PTA is funding them and we are partnering with ArtWorks Now and the Anacostia Watershed Society as in years past.

Sarah Eisen told us that she is working on setting up ordering for school supply kits for next year. Details will be shared soon.