PTP Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2018

**Director’s report (Mona Leigh Guha)** It’s been a great year. Please send in sunscreen and the medical form for your child(ren) as the weather gets warmer and we spend time outdoors.

The CYC teachers have been on the national stage – Erin attended the National Association of Multicultural Education and got a proposal funded; Kristin attended the NAEYC which provides training and lobbying for early childhood education; Mona attended the International Association of Lab School which allows for great networking for similar school/programs.

A big thank you for the Teacher Appreciation Lunch! It was a wonderful time to be able to talk to you about your kids and to partake in all the delicious items you provided.

There are spaces left for the Kindergarten class. If interested, or you know anyone who may be, please pass along the information. The CYC will waive the application fee for those interested in coming in to see the program.

**PTP (Parent Teacher Partnership) Opportunities:**

There are several PTP Officer positions that will be available for next year! Currently, the positions of President and Treasurer are available as well as many committee chairs. If you are interested, please reach out to any of the current PTP Officers and let us know. We will be sending out an email of available positions and what they entail in the very near future. Please consider volunteering to hold one of these positions! Being a PTP Officer will fulfill all your point requirements and many of the committee chairs will also or get you quite close to being fulfilled!

**Committee/Events:**

**GREEN Committee (Ms. Vera Wiest, CYC In-house Sub & Web Developer, Priya Varadan, Chair)**

The CYC is a Gold Certified Green Office! The University of Maryland Office of Sustainability has awarded the CYC status as a Gold Certified Green Office which will expire on April 9, 2019. This is the highest level that can be achieved and the CYC has had it for the 4th year in a row!

The GreenFest on the quad was cancelled due to the weather but was held in the Great Room. Thanks to all who attended!

For the CYC’s Saving Fuel activity, there were 32 entries recorded where people used an alternate form of transportation to save fuel. Way to go!

For Maryland Day, the CYC displayed all the activities that enable us to be a Green/Eco School. It was a great day!

Continue to do a great job for Trash-Free Tuesdays! We are down to ounces in trash for the whole school on these days. Please take care of the Earth!

**ARCHIVES SPECIALIST (Liz Novara, Chair)** The CYC collects materials from events (electronic records or paper documents) so that people who follow in the footsteps of those events can do things more easily and know what is expected or what worked or didn’t work. If you have any documents to share, please do!
**Music Program (Mr. M)** – The music program encourages lots of story telling and the hope is that the children share what they learn with you, the parents! Come to the 10th Annual Family Dance Night on May 31st and see what your kids have learned first hand! The kids arrive as experts and the parents may not know the dance steps but they are easy to learn. The program will last about 45 minutes. Traditionally, everyone goes to Ledo’s after the event as a fundraiser for the PTP. We hope to see you there!!

**Teacher Appreciation Luncheon (Deb Patra, Chair)** – The Spring Teacher’s Appreciation Luncheon was a great success. Thanks to everyone for pulling together at the last minute to make those main dishes happen and create a great event for our amazing teachers!

**Family Night Out (Blessing Enekwe, Chair)** – We had two great events at The Board and Brew in March – and one at Potomac Pizza in April. The last one will be at the beginning of June, with the location still to be decided – open to suggestions! Will send out an email with the information!

**Silent Auction (Margaret Bereano & Meghan Simpson, Co-Chairs)** – The PTP’s biggest fundraising event was held on Saturday, April 21st at Fishnet. It is the ultimate highlight of our fundraising efforts and we were able to raise over $6000! Thank you to our venue, everyone who came out and to everyone who donated or bid on an item!

As we move into next year, please consider taking on this very important chairship! There are many ways things could be improved and/or new ideas of how this event could be done-transformed (Carnival Night, Game Night, Bingo Night, etc.) Any input/ideas would be appreciated!

Several new ideas were raised at the meeting:

- Provide babysitting so more people may be able to attend. Parents could pay a charge and know their kids would be safe while they enjoy the night to fundraise for the CYC.

- Perhaps our great classroom aides would be able to babysit in some sort of organized fashion and earn some extra money.

- Invite alumni (or new families that will be attending). Come up with an alumni listserv/email/newsletter to relay information.

- Bingo Night / Basket Bingo – pay to play and pay for any food items (bake sale?) available. All items are donated and everything is for sale. The cost would be reasonable ($1/slice of pizza, etc.). Everyone is there to have a good time and help raise money!

- Is everyone ‘silent auctioned’ out? It is a lot of work to organize and have items donated.

- Representatives from each class could serve as the liaison for the Silent Auction – organizing the class gift and assisting with the event when it happens. This would enable another opportunity to earn service points and to ensure there are additional hands to help with this large event!

- Family Night Outing in the form of a show at CYC – Perhaps hire a magician (parent with a talent or someone willing to donate their time) or something similar so that families can stay after the school day and participate in a fun event with their kids and be able to interact as a family with other families at the CYC. People don’t pay to attend, but pay for the food/drink to create additional revenue for fundraising.
CLASSROOM/COMMITTEE Updates:

**Red Room (Craig and Becca Kier, Rep)** – Doing a study on the Human Body which has been enlightening! Talked about all the systems inside with a special interest in spinal cord/joints. Their favorite topic has been the digestive system. They are learning how messages are sent from the brain to the body and back. They visited a dentist, had a Health Center field trip, and a School of Psychology field trip. They measured themselves and brought in pictures of themselves as babies with their heights and weights and compared them.

**Orange Room (Claire Worshtil, Rep)** – Doing a study on plants. Planted lima beans and journaled about them. Drew pictures of the growth process. They did a bug hunt and learned about bugs and plants – both bad and good. Went to the UMD GreenHouse, Behnke’s Nursery, and Brookside Gardens. Doing planting in the CYC garden.

**Yellow Room (Megi Renjilian, Rep)** – Doing a study on grocery stores. They were tasked to take a picture at the store and share their experience. They dug deeper and visited HMart and shopped for different kinds of foods and international foods and tried samples and determined likes/dislikes. In April, the focused on produce and went to the campus Farmer’s Market, got a Giant PeaPod delivery in May. They have a new class pet – a rat named Ricky!

**Green Room (Trisha Lay, Rep)** – Went from a study on art tools using sand/clay and the pottery wheel (visited the UMD Art and Learning Center) and making their own clay pots to focusing on Garden Tools. A classmate’s mother came in to share Persian New Year traditions. They explored the CYC’s tools in the shed/cottage, had a field trip to Home Depot to look at tools, and went back to plant a flower/tomato. Ms. Penny from UMD Facilities came and talked to them about how she takes care of the CYC gardens. They cleaned out the Green Room garden and are determining where sun/shade is at different times of the day. Will have a field trip to Behnke’s to get plants for the Green Room garden.

**Blue Room (Alison Minoque, Rep)** – The sports study has finished – they learned 9 different sports and saw them in person from all over campus. They held a sports expo, demonstrating different sports and what they learned. In May/June they are focusing on going to a new school and what to expect.

**Purple Room (Kristy Murray, Rep)** – Learning about cars. Focused on colors and parts of cars. Explored teachers’ cars. Went to College Park Honda on a field trip to see display cars and the service bays. Now working on a movie as their culmination project that they will share.

**BUDGET report by PTP Treasurer (Amanda Pike-McCruden)** Thanks to the Silent Auction, the PTP will be ending the year with a balance of $12,881. There are some commitments still to be paid, but should end the year with over $10,000. Annually, the PTP spends about $6000 in operating costs.

**Additional Notes:** Please consider volunteering (and earning points!) for a PTP position or a committee chair position for the coming year! By working together, we can all make this a great place for our kids and families! Please check for an email outlining what positions may be available!