

Parent Teacher Partnership (PTP) Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2019

Drafter: Sam Jack (PTP Secretary)

Welcome Address (Jackie Kautzer - President): Ms. Kautzer reported on a meeting of the CYC Advisory Board in October, which included discussion of parent involvement and service point requirements. She reminded parents that the school year is approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ complete and that service point opportunities are available. Ms. Kautzer thanked Jenny Kilberg for organizing a successful fall picnic. She closed by encouraging parents to approach the PTP Board with suggestions or programming ideas.

Director's report (Mona Leigh Guha): Dr. Guha thanked families for attendance at the UMD women's basketball game - there was a great turnout. She reminded attendees that CYC's snow policy is on the website. In general, if UMD is closed or delayed, the CYC will follow. CYC also follows Prince George's Schools the majority of time. Families will also be notified by email of closings or delays.

Officer Updates: Megan Simpson (Vice President); Sam Jack (Secretary) and Erin Hogan (Treasurer) gave brief updates. Ms. Simpson invited families to submit suggestions for fundraising items. Last year's t-shirt sale was a success and raised \$1200. This year, the PTP is again considering selling t-shirts, or switching to coffee mugs, water bottles, bags, etc. Ms. Hogan provided a brief budget update. She noted that the PTP had renewed the CYC's Ranger Rick, Jr. magazine subscription with PTP funds. On request of the staff, the PTP also purchased breakfast for the most recent teacher development day. Lastly, she noted that the PTP Board was anticipating contributing to the campus-wide "Toys for Terps" drive.

PTP Board of Directors (Evan McDonald): The PTP Board of Directors is looking at updating a number of organizational documents for clarity. The Board would like to have a couple of parents of first-year students join the Board and, therefore, be able to continue on the Board next year for purposes of continuity.

Historian (J. Kautzer for Erin Janulis): The historian requested that community members email (ejanulis@umd.edu) her PTP-related documents when they are created. She is setting up a Google Drive as a PTP "team." This way, the files belong to the team, rather than individuals, and an ownership transfer will not be needed each school year.

Major Fundraising (Tai Tsang, Ruby Sabina): Parents were encouraged to come forward with creative ideas for fundraising activities. It was announced that a new member, Lee Kim, had joined the committee.

Book Fair (J. Kautzer for Lisa Hathaway): The book fair will be in the Great Room, starting Thursday, 12/5 and concluding on 12/11. The book fair will be open on the parent-teacher

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conference day (12/6) when CYC is otherwise closed. Lisa is seeking volunteers, and a sign-up was circulated by Lisa.

Teachers Luncheon (Margaret Bereano): Teacher appreciation breakfasts and lunches will be held on the parent-teacher conference days in Fall and Spring. Ms. Bereano thanked the volunteers and asked that they bring breakfast items the night before (and lunch items if the person will not attend the luncheon).

Family Night Out (Stacy Siegel): The Family Night Out at MOD Pizza in Riverdale Park was a success. Ms. Siegel said that upcoming events may be held at District Taco and Jason's Deli. She is also considering an evening event for parents at College Park Grille. The February 11, 2020 event at Franklins is scheduled.

Green Committee (Vera Wiest / Craig Beatty): Ms. Wiest thanked the PTP for the subscription to Ranger Rick, Jr. magazine. She acknowledged the community's participation in Trash Free Tuesdays. She provided a reminder that PTP meeting trash (plates, cups, etc.) is generally compostable.

Music Program (Eric Maring): Mr. M reported singing "Take me out to the Ballgame" to the children in honor of the Washington Nationals' World Series championship. He is working on the "St. Anne's Reel" fiddle melody with the children and an accompanying circle dance. The annual Winter Family Sing-a-Long will be on December 18th at 4:30pm in the Great Room.

Classroom Updates: **Red** (Lenea Stocker): The Red Room's pet, Tank the Fish, passed away, unfortunately. The class decided to study trains this semester and will be taking a field trip to the Riverdale Park Town Center MARC station. They have already gone to the B&O Railroad Museum in Baltimore. The class made observational drawings of trains and differentiating steam and diesel engines. **Orange** (Bryon Bareano for Susan Miller): The children decided to study pets this semester. They have brought in pets from home, including rabbits and docs. They took a field trip to a veterinarian's office. **Yellow** (Hillary Sazama): The Yellow Room is studying transportation. The class recently went to see "Huey the Helicopter." Various experts, including Dr. Guha's father, have spoken to the class about transportation. **Green** (Christina Jack): The Green Room is studying baking this semester. They learned that baking is defined as "cooking with dry heat in an oven." They made observational drawings of the CYC oven and have had several parent bakers visit the classroom. **Blue** (Tian Tian): The Blue Room is studying art. The teachers have asked the children to "look for art everywhere." They have studied various styles of painting, including famous artists' styles (Van Gogh, etc.). They will take a field trip to the National Gallery of Art. **Purple** (Patricia Bory): The Purple Room is studying siblings/babies. Baby Paul was a "guest" speaker. They made a chart to record babies' growth, teeth, how they move, how to put them to bed, etc. The children will take a baby doll home over Thanksgiving break.

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Community Discussion: Ms. Kautzer stated that the PTP has a fairly large amount of savings and there is an opportunity to make a sizable purchase for the CYC. The PTP Executive Board would be comfortable spending \$3,000-\$4,000 out of PTP savings in this school year. Even with an expenditure of this amount, the PTP would have adequate reserves for this year's and next year's anticipated budgets. Dr. Guha provided a list of potential gifts to Ms. Kautzer, based on input from the teachers. The list included - among other things - folding chairs for community meetings, office chairs for the observation booths, bikes/scooters for the playground, community books, overhead projectors.

There was a general discussion of several of these items. The folding chairs are more than 20-years old and used for PTP meetings and other community gatherings throughout the year. Dr. Guha suggested that the PTP could purchase automatic blinds for the large overhead windows in the Great Room. She noted that it can be very bright, which can cause problems (e.g., on picture day). This would be a potentially large expense, and it is unclear whether \$4,000 of PTP funding would be sufficient. Ms. Fowler noted that the bikes and scooters are heavily used and regularly break. Ms. Wiest currently fixes the bikes/scooters, but they should be replaced.

The PTP Executive Board will continue to gather ideas for using these funds and will send out a survey to parents in the coming weeks. In the interim, the PTP is planning to purchase an interactive globe for each classroom. This was identified as a need by multiple teachers.

Close of Meeting.