

Miner Elementary School PTO

General Meeting: February 4, 2020 - 6:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

The meeting came to order at 6:05pm. The following members of the Executive Board were present: Julie Muir, Portia Terry, Jamie Milhous, Keana Bedney-Wallace, Principal Bruce Jackson.

Opening Remarks:

- Thank you to Christ City Church for providing babysitting and food in room 103.
- The next meeting will be on March 3 at 6:00pm.
- The minutes from the December 2019 meeting were posted to the website over a month ago. A motion to approve the minutes without reading them aloud was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the December 2019 minutes were approved.

Principal's Report - Mr. Jackson:

- Several grades are in the middle of assessments so it's very important that students arrive at school on time.
- There are several upcoming field trips planned. Thank you to the PTO for including room in your budget to support them.
- Please complete the Panorama survey. Paper copies are available in the office or you can complete it online at <https://bit.ly/dcpsfamily>. The survey closes on February 14.
- We added girls' basketball this year. Please come to a game and support our Miner Bears!
- K-5 report cards will be mailed this week; ECE will be available at the end of February/beginning of March.
- Lottery update: demand is high! We have over 200 applications as of today (at this point last year we only had 135). We have approximately 52 pk3 seats available. 48 in boundary families and 23 families with sibling preference have already submitted applications for pk3 (there is some overlap in those numbers).
- DCPS is releasing budgets to LSATs tonight. THE LSAT budget meeting is 2/6 (we are looking at an approximately \$21,000 deficit).
- February recess: no school Feb. 17-21.
- The remaining Open House dates are as follows: ECE (2/13 at 10am; 2/26 at 9:30am); K-5 (2/26 and 2/27, both at 5:30pm).
- The K teachers will be holding an Open House that is ONLY for current Miner pk4 students. An invitation will go out soon.

Community School Update:

- Childcare during February recess is available at Rosedale for K-5. You have to apply online and pack your own lunch. <https://dpr.dc.gov/page/mid-winter-camp>
- Parenting workshop is scheduled for 2/27. Email mwoodson@ebfsc.org for more information.
- If you would like your child to participate in the vision screening this week, please sign the permission slip that went home in backpacks or email Ms. Woodson at mwoodson@ebfsc.org
- Food handlers workshop is scheduled for 2/18 and 2/19 (during February recess). Lunch and childcare will be provided. Email mwoodson@ebfsc.org to sign up.
- CPR class is scheduled for 2/25. Lunch will be provided (but childcare will not).

Special Topic: Neighborhood Legal Services Program (Jason Horrell, Senior Attorney):

- Neighborhood Legal Services Program is a non-profit law firm that provides free legal information, advice, and representation to low-income D.C. residents.
- They work on civil cases only.
- They have 3 fully-staffed neighborhood offices in Wards 5, 7, and 8.
- They help with problems involving housing, family, domestic violence, public benefits, and barriers to employment issues. We also provide assistance on some consumer issues, and assist with preparing wills and advance directives.

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- Contact information:
 - Online: 24/7 at www.nlsp.org
 - By phone: call (202) 832-6577 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 10:00am and 3:00pm.
 - In person: Visit any of our three offices on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 10:00am and 3:00pm.
 - 64 New York Avenue NE
 - 4609 Polk Street NE
 - 2412 Minnesota Avenue SE
- Copies of the slide presentation and brochures will be available in the Main Office.

LSAT Report:

- Next meeting 12/6 at 5pm in the Large Group Instruction Room.
- Budget meeting will be long and can go into executive (closed) session if discussions about specific positions are necessary, but it is open until that point and all are encouraged to attend.

PreK Parent Committee Report:

- Next meeting is 2/6 at 3:45pm in the Library. Discussion will include Valentine's Day drop-off activity on February 13.

Green Team/FoodCorps Report:

- Garden Team is now the Green Team!
- Special topic at March PTO General Meeting will be a report from the Green Team.
- Team is currently working on layout for Peace Garden
- Team is also hoping for funds to retain our FoodCorps servicemember for an additional year

Equity Team Report:

- Next meeting 2/6 at 4:30pm in Large Group Instruction Room
- Childcare will be available until 6:30.
- Meeting will only last 30 minutes since it's before the LSAT budget meeting; during that time the team will focus on equity and inclusion issues relevant to the budget discussions. Attendees are encouraged to stay for the LSAT meeting if possible.
- Spring Kindred dialogue groups will resume after the current anti-racism discussion groups end. Please contact Azeb Kinder if you would like to sign up. azeb@kindredcommunities.org

President/Vice President Report:

- Fundraiser at The Capital Candy Jar on Sunday, Feb. 9 from noon to 8pm.
- Community Yard Sale scheduled for 3/21. Volunteers needed during and before the event.
- Mr. Tony's Adventure Camp will be at Miner this summer. Aftercare will be free for Miner students. Visit <https://dcadventurecamp.com/> to sign up.
- My School DC Lottery opened December 16. If you know anyone interested in attending Miner, please encourage them to fill out the application and attend one of our open houses. <https://www.myschooldc.org/>
- We are kicking off our Corporate Bear Paw Campaign. If you have any local business contacts who may be interested in sponsoring PTO events or generally supporting the PTO, please contact us at minerpto@gmail.com

Treasurer Report:

- Balance as of June 30, 2019: \$18,097
- Plus: Income (Jul 1 - Feb 4, 2020): \$38,150
- Less: Expenses (Jul 1 - Feb 4, 2020): \$(34,407)
- Balance as of Feb 4, 2020: \$21,841

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Teacher Representative Report:

- Several field trips scheduled

Committee Reports:

Appreciation & Recognition - If you or your child(ren) are able to help pass out roses to teachers on Valentine's Day, please email jessica.burniske@gmail.com. Additionally, if you are able to help with our monthly snacks for teachers, please contact Hannah Williams at williams.hannah@gmail.com.

Community Engagement - Please let us know your thoughts on holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for our new playground with CM Charles Allen. Potential date: March 21 to coincide with Yard Sale and playdate. Also, if you have any local business contacts for potential PTO donations, please contact us at minerpto@gmail.com

Family Engagement and Events - Movie night has been moved to the Spring to coincide with enrollment events. Date still TBD. Spring Dance is April 3. First planning committee meeting is 2/13. We are also taking donations for our Spring Dance Boutique - sizes 4T - 14, boys and girls.

Upcoming Events:

We reviewed the upcoming events for the next few weeks. They are available on the Miner Elementary Website and in the slide presentation.

Reminders & Opportunities:

- Contact minerpto@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering for the Yard Sale.
- Contact Jessica Burniske at jessica.burniske@gmail.com if you are able to help pass out roses to teachers on Valentine's Day.
- Contact Hannah Williams at williams.hannah@gmail.com if you are able to contribute snacks or time for our monthly Teacher Appreciation Snacks.
- If you are interested in being a classroom volunteer or field trip chaperone, there are requirements to have a TB test and a background check. The background check consists of an application & fingerprinting: <https://octo.quickbase.com/db/bg37a864v?a=dbpage&pageID=26>. For more information, visit the DCPS classroom volunteer page: <https://dcps.dc.gov/page/volunteer-our-schools>

Open Comments/Discussion: None

The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.