

# Miner Elementary School PTO

General Meeting: November 10,, 2020 - 6:00 pm

## Meeting Minutes

*The meeting came to order at 6:02pm. The minutes from the October 6, 2020 meeting were approved without being read aloud.*

### **Welcome and Introductions:**

- Introduction by Vice President; and a review of the meeting norms: stay on mute, use chat feature, feel free to ask questions!
- Please follow up with likes and dislikes after the meeting.
- Next PTO General Meeting: 12/01/20 at 6pm via Zoom.

### **Principal's Report - Mr. Jackson:**

- As of Monday, we are now in Term 2. Report cards from teachers are due on November 16, then reports cards for K-5 will be mailed out later in the week.
- DCPS is rolling out a new Parent Portal. Parents/Guardians should have received an email from DCPS with instructions. They will also be mailing out written instructions. From the portal, parents/guardians can access student's attendance records and report cards.
- Reminder about attendance. Overall, students are doing a good job logging in every day. However, it has been noted there is a decline in the number of students logging into specials. Students do receive grades in those subjects so don't forget login and participate.
- Miner will be opening one CARE Classroom. This will be a combo of 2nd & 3rd graders (5 seats for 2nd grade and 6 seats for 3rd grade). These students will be in a classroom doing their virtual learning being supervised by a staff member. Miner had staff members volunteer to supervise this classroom. There will be training on 11/16-18 and students will be back in the building on 11/19.
- Families for the CARE class were matched through a similar process as regular in person learning. As classrooms increase, the school will re-evaluate which other grades will open, however it is uncertain what else might be opening in the future. Mr. Jackson noted the current classroom is more than 1/2 full on Day 1 on outreach.
- Mr. Jackson, AP Lee, LSAT members and a staff member from CM Allen's office conducted a building walk through on 11/2. It was agreed the building is ready for virtual learning. The school has on hand over 2 months worth of PPE for 12-13 classrooms, even though only one classroom is opening now.
- Mr. Jackson said there will be looking to fill staff openings soon. He is looking for a parent volunteer for the personnel committee to help interview candidates.

### **Community School Update - Ms. Woodson:**

- After care is open. Please see the website for information on how to register.
- There will be a Community School Advisory Board meeting on 11/18/20 at 6 pm via Zoom.
- The board will be a group of parents, teachers, and community leaders. The first meeting will focus on how families are feeling about parent engagement. The Board is part of the requirements in the grant we received to start the Community School model. Once the Board is established it will meet Quarterly. Please participate to help determine where we are going and what we are going to do moving forward.
- Contact Ms. Woodson: 202-520-0788 or [mwoodson@ebfsc.org](mailto:mwoodson@ebfsc.org)

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### **Kindred Report:**

- Azeb Kinder from Kindred introduced Manny Rameriez of PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education) who gave an overview of what the group does
- PAVE welcomed any Miner parent to get involved. They will be having a virtual House meeting on 11/17 from 6:30 to 7:30 via Zoom.

### **Equity Team Report:**

- Next Meeting: November 24, 2020 at 5 pm via Zoom.
- As of November 12, there will be new co-facilitators of the Equity Team - Dominique Foster, Latoya McCarthy-Scott and Billy Lynch
- Thank you to Lashawn Oliver and Dave Treat for serving as facilitators for the first year.
- Miner Mutual Aid Network -
  - The next Community Table will be on Saturday, November 21 from 11am-2pm. We will be seeking volunteers from 10am-3pm, and we will be sending out a sign-up form tomorrow, but you can also email us at [minermutualaid@gmail.com](mailto:minermutualaid@gmail.com) to volunteer.
  - We're seeking donations of winter clothing and Thanksgiving food. Donations can be brought on the day-of at 10am or can be arranged ahead of time with Ms. Sydney Lawson, to be dropped at the Miner garden between 1-4pm on M,W,F. Email her at [sydney.lawson@foodcorps.org](mailto:sydney.lawson@foodcorps.org) to arrange a drop-off.
  - We will again be offering flu shots for anyone age 12 and up.
  - Please visit <https://www.minerelementary.org/mutual-aid-network.html> for more information about the Miner Mutual Aid Network!
- If you're interested in joining the equity team, contact [minerequityteam@gmail.com](mailto:minerequityteam@gmail.com)

### **Green Team/FoodCorps Report:**

- Miner's Green Team, Equity Team, and PTO are partnering with Arcadia Mobile Market to collect food and donations to create holiday food boxes for local families. They will be accepting donations to purchase a box of fresh fruit & vegetables (\$15/box) until November 18.
- On Friday, November 13, the Kindergarden classes will be in the garden to help harvest sweet potatoes and get the garden ready for winter
- Garden is still open on weekdays from 8am-3:30pm. There is no limit on the number of people in the garden at a time, but please keep a safe distance and always wear a mask.
- Goal of FoodCorps and Green Team is to create a culture of wellness and safety in an equitable space.

### **LSAT Report:**

- Next meeting 11/17 at 5pm via Zoom. These meetings will be the 3rd Tuesday of the month, except for January and February due to planning for the Budget.
- LSAT members attended the school walk-through on November 2, however no DCPS rep was present at the walk-through. There were some concerns, but Mr. Jackson confirmed they were addressed and corrected. AP Lee collected questions and now Jackson has answers to 90% of them. He will be emailing those answers to the LSAT on Thursday.

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- Will there be a chance for parents to talk to a DCPS rep since one was not at the walk-through? No data back on the Air Quality Test. DCPS didn't have enough folks to do all the walk-throughs so they sent the HVAC report instead.
- Playground will not be open to the public during the day once the CARES classroom opens. However, Mr. Jackson is getting more information on when they might be able to open it.
- Approval from DCPS to have 2 community members. They will be voted on at the next meeting.

### **President/Vice President Report:**

- If you are interested in chairing or joining a PTO Committee, please email us!
- Bear Paw Fund has already raised \$1,620 toward our \$10,000 goal (other goal is 50% family participation). We will continue to push this campaign. Ms. Halley recorded a video that shares how important the fund is for helping teachers. Also, we will try to connect it directly to events like the Halloween Spooktacular.
- The 5th annual Holiday Greenery Sale website is LIVE and the sale will be held Friday, December 4 & Saturday, December 5. We will try to focus on pre-orders so keep social distancing possible. Eliot-Hine will sell poinsettias again as well.
- *Budget discussion:* The SY20-21 Budget was presented. There were some adjustments made for the school year being virtual. It does show slightly more in expenditures than in income. However, since this is just a budget, it is ok. The budget was approved by unanimous consent.

### **Treasurer Report:**

- Balance as of Sept 10, 2020: \$16,375
- Plus: Income (Sept 10 - Oct 5, 2020): \$1,185
- Less: Expenses (Sept 10 - Oct 5, 2020): \$(2,264)
- Balance as of October 5, 2020: \$15,295

### **Teacher Representative Report:**

- Ms. Halley reminded everyone that Progress Reports are due from teachers on 11/16.
- The teachers are working to figure out a live attendance tracker.
- She also reminded teachers they now have \$200 to use for classroom needs. These grants are directly funded by donations to the Bear Paw Fund.
- At this point in the year, teachers are in more of a routine with virtual learning, and so far so good.

### **Committee Reports:**

*Communications:* Support the Miner Spirit Store! Purchases can either be made through the PTO (standard t-shirts, car magnets, yard signs) or via our CafePress store for more options!

*Community Engagement:* no report

*Family Engagement & Events:* Had a wonderful Halloween Spooktacular in the Garden on October 31.

*Fundraising & Grants:* Bear Paw Fund & Holiday Greenery Sale - December 4 & 5

*Appreciation & Recognition* - we do not have a chair if anyone would like to volunteer

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**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:**

- If you would like to volunteer at the Miner Mutual Aid Network's next Community Table (or support them in another way), visit <https://www.minerelementary.org/mutual-aid-network.html> and email [minermutualaid@gmail.com](mailto:minermutualaid@gmail.com)
- If you are interested in becoming more involved in the garden/with the Green Team, contact Ms. Sydney Lawson at [sydney.lawson@foodcorps.org](mailto:sydney.lawson@foodcorps.org)
- If you are interested in joining the Equity Team, visit <https://www.minerelementary.org/equity-team.html> and email [minerequityteam@gmail.com](mailto:minerequityteam@gmail.com)
- If you are interested in joining the PreK Parent Committee, visit <https://www.minerelementary.org/prek-parent-committee.html> and email [minerpto@gmail.com](mailto:minerpto@gmail.com)
- If you are interested in joining a PTO Committee, visit <https://www.minerelementary.org/parent-teacher-organization.html> and email [minerpto@gmail.com](mailto:minerpto@gmail.com)

**Open Comments/Discussion:** *None*

*The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.*