

PTA General Meeting Agenda
Montgomery Knolls-Pine Crest PTA
December 2, 2015
6:30-8:00pm
Montgomery Knolls Elementary School APR

The meeting started at 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Madeleine Santiago, PTA President
Natesia Johnson-Samuel, PTA Vice-President
Heeyeon Jeong, PTA Treasurer
Rebecca Wilson, PTA Corresponding Secretary
Jean Foster, PTA Recording Secretary
Bertram Generlette, MKES Principal
Cheryl Booker, PCES Principal Intern/Acting Principal

In addition, 29 parents attended the meeting - see sign-in sheets

Handouts Distributed/Posted:

- "Agenda for MK-PC PTA General Meeting, December 2, 2015"
- "MKPC-PTA Minutes from PTA Meeting October 5, 2015"
- "PTA Committee Chair Reports - November 2015" English
- "Treasurer's Report as of December 2, 2015"

I. Call Meeting to Order

- A. Welcome by Madeleine, program overview

II. Program: Enrichment, Acceleration and Technology

A. Lauren Simpson, Audubon GreenKids Specialist

1. ANS is a nature sanctuary located in Chevy Chase. GreenKids program is grant funded program with MCPS. It is a 2yr partnership program, mostly in elementary schools, but also available in some upper schools. The program involves teaching teachers and modeling lessons so that teachers can carry on with lessons when 2yr partnership ends.
2. MK-PC are working towards becoming Maryland State Green Schools. The award comes from the governor of MD. Lead teachers at both schools are doing a great job of getting this application together. Application is due in March 2016
3. Some projects occurred last school year and are continuing this year.
 - a) Kindergarten made recycled paper from newspaper
 - b) 1st & 5th grade program - Salad Science where they grew vegetables Spring 2015 which culminated in a salad party. Whole Foods Grocery Store provided toppings and salad dressings for the party. Kids really enjoyed it!
 - c) 2nd & 4th grade program - Red Wiggler Worms that work as nature's composters and compost soil by eating food waste. The students created outdoor compost bin in courtyard at both schools
 - d) 3rd grade - made recycled paper and made signs for recycling containers
4. GreenKids at PC
 - a) Involves a collaboration with Blair HS Green club and ESOL at PineCrest.
 - b) The club is building a butterfly garden.
 - c) GK is hoping to bring this collaboration to MKES this year

5. MKPC is very likely to get Green School Certification. The Awards Ceremony will be in May at Sandy Point State Park
 6. Anjna Kurichh is the Lead for Green team at MKES. Talk with her to volunteer
 7. Audubon Nature Center Handout provided which gives a general overview of programs and contact information
- B. Lisa Pfeifer, Book Swap
1. Donations are accepted at both schools at any time throughout the year. Please specify that it is a donation for the Book-Swap (Donations can be left in the school offices)
 2. MKES could use a large amount of volunteers. MKES happens weekly on Thursday mornings. The children love it.
- C. Rosemary DePietro: Acceleration Overview
1. Parents last year felt that we needed to organize as a school community and create structure for outreach opportunities. Ideas such as: What are our schools providing to our students? What outside resources could we take advantage of to enrich our student's learning experience?
 2. Handouts provided which detail MCPS Special Programs (English and Spanish); Website resources for Accelerated and Enriched Education (English and Spanish); Information on the Highly Gifted Center Program at Pine Crest (English and Spanish)
 3. Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA) has announced the first (with at least one to follow) Saturday PTA Meetings (to be held Sat. 12/5/15) in 5 high schools throughout the county. This will be an informative session about gifted educational opportunities in MCPS. Led by Meredith Casper (former PCES principal). Presentation can be accessed online on our PTA website and MCCPTA.org website. Valuable information for ways to think when we are talking to our teachers about enrichment opportunities being offered to our students
 4. This committee is not just geared toward labeled HGC students. This committee is looking at ways of enriching experience for all students. Book swap is one example. Music instruments/steel pans/xylophones/band/chorus/green kids/etc.
 5. In February, MCCPTA is sponsoring another opportunity for parents to learn about middle school opportunities for HGC students. Information to come.
- D. Ms. Elizabeth Sadqui, PCES Focus Teacher
1. Math Enrichment PCES
 - a) Common Core Math is so different from how math was taught years ago
 - b) Our school now employs an Enrichment Model rather than an Acceleration model
 - c) Common Core Math
 - (1) Emphasizing deep understanding/representation/modeling of problems
 - (2) Reason and Model about Mathematics
 - (3) Teach several different models for multiplication
 - (4) Standardized assessments look very different from earlier teachings
 - (5) For the students who master objectives faster than others, the county gives teachers recommendations for acceleration and enrichment
 - (6) Compacted math programs (enrich.maths.org) available starting in 4th grade which provides accelerated learning of math
 - (7) Enrichment is the focus to engage students and challenge students to apply previously learned content in a novel way
 - (8) Sometimes the enrichment matches the curriculum for the week, sometimes it doesn't. Enrichment can be in the forms of brain teasers, word problems, small group work, discussion with classmates,

enrichMath website, allows for time in classroom to think about problem, talk with classmates, talk with teacher.

Allows for deepening of thinking on a problem

(9) Tips for Parents

- (a) To support math learning: Ask questions and talk about Math at home. Ask questions about their homework. For example, Why did you multiply those factors first?
- (b) Play Math games online, think fun games; RushHour, chocolate fix, application of math is very important in all aspects of home life: household projects, sports, etc.
- (c) Parents: Resist the urge to accelerate. Allow your children and the school to lead this

2. Curriculum 2.0 acceleration information available

E. Ms. KT Moore: Media Specialist PCES

1. Enrichment resources at PCES

2. Chromebooks and Electronic Resources

- a) GoogleChrome has now become a platform for educational resources learning
- b) Montgomery County strategic technology plan has enabled chromebooks to be available to every 3rd, 4th, and 5th grader. We use the Chromebook as a classroom
- c) Every grade has a quarterly inquiry project
 - (1) Allows for empowering, collaboration, immediate feedback from teachers, can be as extensive or as basic as needed
 - (2) Students are able to “join” the classroom for their class’s project online. Media Specialist can pose questions online for research projects, and students answer online. Work can be accessed from school or home. Classroom teacher is a co-leader
 - (3) Websites, digital encyclopedias are still used, Britannica books are still used online, but not necessary. A link is sent to each student’s Google Account so that they have the capability to access the knowledge
- d) Writing
 - (1) Students work collaboratively on their individual Chromebooks and contribute to a group presentation because it’s a live document. Students can monitor who is joined on the account
 - (2) Project can be turned in online
- e) Presenting: Kids are using many different applications to give presentations.
- f) MYCAPSTONELIBRARY - students are encouraged to access during DEAR time and any available times they have. Books are available that they can read themselves or that can be read to them.
 - (1) Login: pcelem Password: school

III. Approval of the Minutes, Announce next meeting date: 2/3/16

IV. Reports of Officers

A. Treasurer’s Report – please see handout

B. Principal’s Report

1. PCES:

- a) Ms. Booker announced that as of Nov. 30, Ms. Booker is the acting principal at PCES and will continue into the scheduled program through February 19. Ms. Sherbourne will be the visiting principal for assistance in place of Ms. Houston.

- 2. MKES:
 - a) Mr. G reports ESOL night and Reading night were huge successes where both schools participated well. Great turnout!
 - b) Linkages to Learning Giving Campaign starts today. MKES has a "Giving" Tree in the Staff Lounge. Parents and Staff are invited to help a local child in need from the tree and purchase a gift for the child
 - c) Principal's newsletter comes home tomorrow
 - d) School improvement meeting rescheduled for Monday Dec. 7 at 3:45-4:45pm. Agenda is to review school goals and assess meeting their targets
 - e) Our schools were not part of the high radon level schools. Yay!
- V. Reports of Committees: Please see handout
- VI. Announcements and Closing
 - A. Date of next PTA Meeting, Wednesday, February 3, 2016
 - 1. Topic: Testing
 - B. Minutes of October 5, 2015 General Meeting approved unanimously
 - C. Linkages to Learning
 - 1. "Giving Tree" currently with descriptions of gifts for children in need
 - D. PC Book Fair is Dec 14-18 and Ms. Moore would love parent volunteers to help with sales
 - E. Bus overcrowding issue has been addressed by the Transportation Department
 - F. Winter Shopping Bazaar Cancelled, hopefully will happen next year
 - G. Committee for Expansion Project
 - 1. Need volunteers. Get in touch with Madeleine for more information
 - H. Kindergarten Snacks program is going well
 - I. M.O.R.E. (Men Organized to Raise Engagement) Activities:
 - 1. Tuesday 12/15 "Men Take Your Children to School"
 - 2. M.O.R.E. committee meeting will be held in January
 - J. Lunch/Recess Volunteering at MKES/PCES
 - 1. Volunteers are always needed
 - K. Pizza Bingo coming up on Friday, January 29, held at Eastern MS
 - L. New copy color: cream!
 - M. Saturday PTA Meeting at BLAIR 12/5/15
 - N. Volunteers for Zina's "Santa Paws Book Give Away" at MKES the weeks of Dec. 14 and 20
 - 1. Zina is also selling book bundles to continue to raise money for the book swap and the pta

Meeting was adjourned at at 8:10pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
 Jean Foster, MKPC PTA Recording Secretary

PTA General Meeting Agenda

Montgomery Knolls-Pine Crest PTA

December 2, 2015

6:30-8:00pm

Montgomery Knolls Elementary School APR

- I. Call Meeting to Order 7:00-7:05pm
- II. Program: Enrichment, Acceleration and Technology 7:05-7:50pm
 - A. Lauren Simpson, Audubon GreenKids Specialist
 - B. Lisa Pfeifer, Book Swap
 - C. Rosemary DePietro: Acceleration Overview
 - D. Ms. Elizabeth Sadqui, PCES Focus Teacher
 - 1. Math Enrichment PCES
 - 2. Curriculum 2.0 acceleration
 - E. Ms. KT Moore: Media Specialist PCES
 - 1. Enrichment resources at PCES
 - 2. Chromebooks and electronic resources
- III. Approval of the Minutes, Announce next meeting date: 2/3/16 7:50-7:52
- IV. Reports of Officers 7:52-7:57
 - A. Treasurer's Report – please see handout
 - B. President's Report – please see handout
 - C. Membership Report
 - D. Principal's Report
- V. Reports of Committees: Please see handout
- VI. Announcements and Closing 7:55-8:00
 - A. Date of next PTA Meeting, Wednesday, February 3, 2016
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 - C. Committee for Expansion Project
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