

Minutes—CW Henry PTA
October 15th, 2019

Review/Approval of August Meeting Minutes—approved, no opposition or abstentions

Welcome (Leah Corsover, PTA President)

Principal's Message (Ms. Davis)

- Ms. Davis is working on school goals. Data points are adjusted based on previous school year. Parents will be invited to give input when new goals are set in the spring.
- School enrollment is 520 students, an increase of 10 students compared to last year.
- 1st grade has gained a new teacher, Ms. Mullin, b/c of enrollment of >30 kids per classroom. Ms. Davis and 1st grade staff are still assessing how she can best assist them and should have more info. by next week.
 - Response to question about splitting into a 3rd classroom: Two barriers are that there isn't a room available without taking a room away from support staff, and that we were given an additional teacher but not funds for additional furnishings, materials and curriculum.
 - Response to questions from parents about why 3rd teacher wasn't assigned before school started this year: It is determined by enrollment at the time budget is made in April. Office of School Support is who makes the decision.
- Other new staff: Occupational therapist, Ms. Johnson (1 day/wk); Climate staff, Ms. Smith; Artist Year Fellow, Mr. Desmone; Instrumental music teacher, Mr. Saidi (1.5 days/wk); Special ed. assistant, Ms. Frazier (5 days/wk)
- Teachers are completing baseline assessments in reading, writing and math. Interim reports will be sent home on Thursday, October 24th.
- Chess league and volleyball team have started this month. Playworks is running an afterschool flag football program. Information about additional afterschool clubs should be coming out soon.
- Ms. Davis responded to questions from parents about changes at recess this year. Staff is working to improve climate. One part of this is taking 2-3 minutes at the beginning of recess to go over expectations. This will not necessarily be done all year; will reassess after this month. There are also some parts of the upper schoolyard that are off limits, primarily to enforce safety rules and sometimes for organized team games.
- Budget highlights:
 - iReady license—used in school but kids can also log on at home
 - Smartboards purchased for last 4 classrooms so all now have it
- The school district limits sports teams—there is actually a waiting list to add a team. We can still do intramural or club teams for sports that do not have an interscholastic team.
- Parent asked a question about uniforms for sports teams. They are not currently in the budget. Coach could put in a proposal to the PTA for help, or the team could do fundraising.

Projects and Events (Meghan Medlock)

- Clean up day November 2nd. Show up whenever you can, we'll have some fall fun in addition to working
- Two grown-ups nights out this year--one in early January, one in spring
- November 6th is next Projects and Events Committee meeting—contact Meghan if you would like to join
- Anyone who would like to host a family fun night should let Meghan know
- MLK Day—a day of learning and volunteerism within our community. Orien Smith-Warren will be heading it up this year

Fundraising (Natasha Broadwater)

- Miss Chocolate—will take orders until Friday. Delivery is the morning of Nov. 7th—please volunteer if you can! Lots of help will be needed to unload, sort, and distribute orders. There is a Sign-up genius but even if you just show up your help will be welcome. We will also need volunteers for the DJ dance party, date TBD
- New fundraiser: Urban Air will host a Henry night where 30% of proceeds come back to the PTA. \$30 per jumper, November 11th from 5:30-7:30
- Box Tops will be collected Oct. 23rd, bring them in a bag to school. This brings in \$500-600 for the PTA. This is last year for clipping box tops as they are transitioning to a system where you scan your grocery receipts instead—you can start doing that now but next year it will be the only way to participate.

- Book Fair will be held Nov. 18-22nd, during report card conferences
- Flea Market is being planned for the spring

Membership (Bridget Morak)

- If you are not a member yet, please join. We currently have about 83 members—we are aiming for 100+

Upper School

- Upper School has a new parent rep, Mr. Watts
- Representatives from various high schools have been coming to speak to 7th and 8th grade students. Notes are being taken by PTA members to share with families; ask Mr. Brogan if you would like to get these.

Communications (Jenny Byiers, Rachel Sitkin Marks)

- Jesse Flood is maintaining the PTA's social media accounts. Contact him if you have any content you would like him to post (events, pictures, news, etc...).
- 411 people receive our PTA e-newsletter; we would love to see as many of those as possible take part in the PTA

Playground (Kristen Roth)

- Play area has been resurfaced and dropshot game installed this fall.
- Handmade benches have been donated by Phila. Salvage and should be installed within the next few weeks

Garden (Meredith Jacoby)

- Farmer Dave has been coming weekly for garden lessons
- Winter planning meeting will be scheduled soon; please ask if you would like to be added to the list for the garden committee so that you get details of meetings and announcements

Finance (Mark Graham)

- Budget report was distributed
- Teacher mini-grant application window has opened; 5 submissions have already been received

Upcoming Dates:

November 2nd: Fall Cleanup

November 11th: Urban Air Fundraiser

November 18th-22nd: Book Fair

November 19th: Next PTA Meeting

Visit the PTA website www.cwhenrypta.org for information on events, fundraisers, meeting minutes, volunteer opportunities, community news and to **join and donate to the PTA!**

Contact us: Cwhenrypta@gmail.com