



Garrett Park Elementary School PTA, Inc.

PTA General Meeting
Tuesday, September 28, 2021, 6:30-8:00pm (via Zoom)

Agenda

1. Welcome - 33 participants

2. PTA Board Updates

Membership- **Leigh Bacon Sechi**, VP Membership

- 89 Current Members (paying dues/made a membership contribution)
A to Z directory <https://gpspta.membershiptoolkit.com/>

Treasurer's Report- **Ryan Fogarty**, Treasurer

- October – expenses Mailchimp (Communications)
- Not many fundraisers but, direct donations are coming in
- Hoping to begin in-person events in 2022
Spent \$3K to support classrooms, under budget
- 2 new items – outdoor lunch cushions (\$1200), raised bed project (\$860)
- Ms. Lucas submitted a grant for wooden boxes and are ready for – lumber costs no longer required
- Garden Event – Nov 6 at 10am looking for volunteers
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E084CA4A822A4FB6-gpes>

Diversity & Inclusion- **Dana Goodson and Eddine Mureke**, Committee
Co-Chairs

- Hispanic Heritage Month (October) – provided information on the history of the month and students shared stories about their culture during the morning announcements, PJ Read Aloud Committee also shared books
- Upcoming Events –Native American Month (November)
- December - parent and committee member, Amber, to provide workshop on Anti-Racism (more information to come) and planning Special Education Workshop (more information to come)



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Communications- **Jennifer Olivares**, VP Communications

- New email template – more text based and mobile friendly
- Please send any updates (newsletter sent 1x per week)

Events- **Carrie Seidman and Michelle Maslov Forman**

- Community Scavenger Hunt Nov 8 – 19, students will receive a flyer to participate, prize winners chosen randomly from each grade (thank you Scholastic Book Fair for the prize pack)
- No in-person events currently scheduled
- 1st Restaurant Week Promotion – Java Nation Nov 9, 4:00PM-7:00PM
<https://mcusercontent.com/2f08b49793051df819ae1f050/files/696845ac-0217-03fe-8719-206644db4165/Java.pdf>
- Next Jan 11 - Chipotle at Pike and Rose
- Teacher/Staff Appreciation planning for the holiday season to begin, be on the lookout for information as we will need donations/volunteers

Book Fair- **Laura Basford** and Hanita Natelson, Committee Co-Chair

- Successful Online Fall Fair completed, final numbers/accounts pending; Thanks for the support!

MCCPTA- **Stephanie Busse**, MCCPTA Representative

- Looking for a new Superintendent – information on upcoming calls seeking community input
<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/superintendent-search/>
- Woodward construction continues – seeking community input on designs
- Holy Cross/Strathmore development – meeting tomorrow to discuss community needs e.g. to have a new access road to GPES; footpath from Tuckerman Lane
- Need a Special Education rep - Stephanie Busse has been filling in and committee needs to vote and Erin will call for volunteers (Note: former PTA President Gail is heading up the committee)

WJ Cluster- Christen Derby and **Michael Oliveira**, Cluster Reps.

- MCC PTA Technology Committee – looking for a rep



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3. Principal's Report- **Daniel Tucci**, GPES Principal, followed by Q&A

- Thank you for the support of the Board and Community
- Ending 1st marking period, thank you teachers!
- Spirit Week went well, thanks for the support

Updates

- Continuing to mitigate the spread of Covid
- 160-180 students tested each week (Thursdays), results are emailed to parents, most recent case was detected via the Thursday testing
- Staffing – new Building Service Manager joining Nov 11; Music Teacher – welcome
- Ms. Zador and Ms. Barnett had their babies and there are substitutes in place – congrats to them
- November - Parent Conferences
- 2nd Marking Period starts Friday, Nov 5
- Second grade will have a virtual presentation from Strathmore Music Center
- Thanksgiving early release (1:20 M/T/W) and days off (Th/F)

Questions

- Was there only that one case so far in 4th grade? – *Yes*
- any updates on vaccine clinic plans at the school? – *Survey from system to gauge where the needs are and where to set up county sites - Say Yes to the Test link*
<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/coronavirus/random-testing.aspx>
Vaccination Interest Form (5-11 years old)
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc9m0PREI_j18nfpUms6_uA_uwnlFX7y_B-WMv52zz_IgA2djA/viewform
- Email Mr. Tucci with any additional questions

4. Digital Citizenship- **Ms. Bickford**, GPES Media Specialist

- Presentation will be posted on the GPES website

5. President Updates- **Erin Kelly**, GPES PTA President

- Trick or Treat for UNICEF – goal \$500



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- Health Room needs shirt and pants donations – send in a labeled bag with student (used is ok, but please wash)
- Erin is stepping down as PTA President, Hanita Natelson has agreed to take over – thank you Erin, welcome Hanita!

vote #1 – New PTA President – Hanita Natelson

Motion 1 - Stephanie

Second – Jennifer

In Favor – All (33)

Opposed – 0

Motion passes

vote #2 – MCCA PTA Special Education Rep - Stephanie Busse

Motion 1 - Erin

Second – Jennifer

In Favor – All (33)

Opposed – 0

Motion passes

6. Open Forum - We welcome your comments and questions!
 - Ryan (Treasurer) – chart on decrease in funds balance, continual drop in funding through July 2022, need marquis fundraising events by 2022 or will have to change spending (Silent Auction usually raises about \$10K)
 - Future activities – adopt a teacher, list of favorite things to acknowledge work of teachers, send ideas to **Jessica Lieberson**, keep an eye on the list serve for volunteers and contribute to room parents!
7. Adjourn - Remember no school for students Nov. 4th

**Have questions? Contact us at GarrettParkESPTA@gmail.com
THANK YOU for supporting your PTA! www.GPESPTA.org**