

March 15, 2021 Louise Archer PTA Meeting Minutes

Call to Order 8:02 pm

Principal's Report

- All smiles thanks to an amazing virtual Pizza Bingo event and to welcoming all of the staff back in the building, and thanks to the PTA for the pots of gold for the staff.
- Welcoming grades 3-6 back this week.
 - Kindergarteners, first graders, and second graders back in-person in the past month.
 - Teachers are reenergized; working through challenges, but everyone has been working really hard. Parents' patience is greatly appreciated.
 - This week, there will be 150 to 175 students in-person each day.
 - March 26 is last day of third quarter. The fourth quarter starts after spring break.
- Covid health reports
 - Any time there is a student who is enrolled at LAES, and they are notified of a positive COVID test, then if the student has been in the building in any capacity for any reason during the 14-day period, then LAES is required to send out a COVID health report communication.
 - The language comes from the health department. LAES sends notifications if the student has any contact with the school, including being in the building for testing.
 - Just because there is a communication that goes out, it does not mean that it must be an in-person student.
 - The school cannot share the situation with the public or the specific class or other details as to what may be involved.
- Return to school
 - Grades 3-6 returning tomorrow (March 16)
 - Arrival and dismissal procedures
 - Morning arrivals
 - Bus or anyone entering the front of the building – busses will pull up in front. There are markers for each grade level and chalked sunshines that are 6 feet apart. Adults will walk the students to their class.

- Kiss and Ride – opens at 9:30 am, there are chalked sunshines on the sidewalks to direct students once they are out of their cars. One staff member will direct them to the sunshines and another staff member will bring them inside.
- Afternoon dismissal
 - Busses are dismissed from the gym. Students are lined up in order appropriate for
 - Kiss and ride – there are times assigned and the students are dismissed at 4:15 pm

Treasurer's Report

- Our fundraising income increased by \$1,773 for a total of almost \$20,000 for the fiscal year.
 - The income in February includes:
 - \$427 from Dining for dollars (Elevation Burger, MOD Pizza),
 - \$274 Amazon Rewards,
 - \$27 Scrip Rebate,
 - \$120 Pizza bingo donations (this does not include about \$700 received in March), and
 - an additional \$925 from Yearbook booster ad sales for total of \$1,400.
- As for expenses, the PTA paid
 - an additional \$378 for Mathcounts,
 - \$536 related to reflections ceremony, and
 - about \$280 in staff support (classroom funds and mini grants).
- Our total student and teacher support comes to almost \$13,000 so far this year.

President's Report & Program Announcements

- **Reminders**
 - **President and Vice-President positions for 2021-2022** – Nominations are needed at the April PTA meeting
 - President – LAES PTA President is a great way to get involved with the school really quickly and to meet people.

- Vice-president – LAES PTA VP serves as room parent coordinator and helps plan/put on Teacher Appreciation Week and occasional stock the fridge events for staff. Also, signs checks and approves invoices.
- **St. Patrick's Day and Welcome Back** – PTA provided a surprise for teachers today (March 15); little pots of gold “chocolate” in each of the teachers' mailboxes
- **School Picture Day** – Additional Picture day is Monday, March 22 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. There is a sign-up genius to sign-up for a spot. Also, we need one more parent volunteer for March 22.
 - Additional option to take your student's portrait at home:
 - Download the Shutterfly app on your phone.
 - Take your student's photo with Lifetouch's Snaps@Home and choose the free background.
 - Save to your camera roll.
 - Email yearbook@louisearcherpta.org for a Google Form where you will upload your Snaps@Home portrait.
 - ***DEADLINE for Snaps@Home portraits are APRIL 2nd***
 - If portraits of your student are not taken or submitted, your student's name will still appear in the yearbook but with a "sun" in place of the missing photo.
- **Spirit Wear** –
 - Free shipping details
 - New chair needed for next year; Lynn is happy to help train and help the new chair
- **Dining for Dollars** –
 - April 19 – Chick Fil A dining for dollars
 - March dining for dollars results from Lombardi's Pizza - over 500 pizzas sold in two hours.
- **Pizza Bingo** –
 - Wrap up from Virtual PTA Pizza Bingo event was held on Friday, March 12, from 5:30-6:30pm
 - For fundraising aspect, there was a suggested donation, and it is around \$800 in donations
 - At one point, there were over 70 computers on the Google Meet; and there were over 90 game cards sent out

- Any raffle winners can email Jackie to arrange a time to pick up the gift certificate
- Also looking for additional help for Pizza Bingo committee
- **Mini Grants –**
 - Five more mini-grants were approved; currently using 50% of the yearly budget
 - Currently using a rolling system for submissions, but there will be a deadline at the end of spring break. There will be options for special submissions where there is a great need that did not previously arise after the deadline.
 - Recent submissions have been for materials to help adjustment for return to school.

Additional Question and Answer Time

- Calendar options
 - There are three options with different options for holidays and adding in religious holidays. The start dates are all about the same.
- Bus dismissals
 - Busses are streamlined thanks to the gym lineups, and students are lined up ready to be walked to the busses by the time the bell rings.
 - The busses were ready to leave right on time, or even earlier than last year
- Recess
 - Most teachers have included offers for students to bring something from home to play with, and majority of teachers have ordered individual play items, such as hacky sacks or chalk.
 - Some classes have been having races; but other classes have used zones to help teach the kids to keep space from each other
 - Also, for 100% virtual teachers, there are options built in during the extended lunch now for homework or for lunch bunch so the kids can have time together or with their teacher.
- Times for drop-off and dismissal
 - Students can arrive between 9:30 and 9:45 am each morning. The tardy bell rings at 9:45 am. The end of school bell rings at 4:15 pm. The school is starting to send students out around 4:10 to get the kiss and ride line moving.

- Next fall – FCPS is looking to have a 5 day a week option, but there is no concrete plan yet
- Playground use – there are 8 zones; each class gets the zone for one week. So every class gets one zone for two days. The playground is split in half, so there are two classes per week that will get to use the playground. By the end of the year, everyone will get to use the playground.
- Google meet – it is not being rolled out as a school, but individual teachers can use it as needed.
- Pictures – Maybe check with Wendy or lifetouch as to whether you can see the photo before purchasing

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm