

Arnold Elementary PTA General Membership Meeting

March 13, 2018

6:00pm

Arnold Elementary at Severn River Middle School Media Center

MINUTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome & Introductions - Meeting began at 6:04pm

II. Meeting minutes approved

III. Officer Reports:

a. President:

1. We plan on improving the process to gather new committee chairs for next year and the future. Stay tuned for openings to be posted.

2. Two upcoming county budget hearings that everyone is welcome to attend:

May 10th at Calvert St location

May 14th at North County High School

3. A year-in-review will be compiled from chairs to show PTA progress and initiatives throughout the year.

b. Vice President:

1. No report.

c. Treasurer:

1. Current balance is \$20,811.15

d. Secretary: No communications to report.

IV. Principal's Report:

a. Math information night discussed re-alignment with math courses in middle and high school.

b. Staffing information for next year: we were able to add an additional teacher for the 5th grade next year, so we will have 3 teachers total.

c. It's very important to attend the county budget meetings that Bonnie mentioned above, because we are petitioning for more teachers to lower class sizes.

d. Even though we are housed in the middle school, we are 2 separate schools with separate leadership. We are working on communication between the 2 schools, especially regarding school security and will strive to improve communication to parents.

V. Committee Reports:

a. Membership- No report

b. Family Fun-

1. Working on a fun run

2. Also working on a possible parent night out

c. Dad's Club- no report

d. Teacher Appreciation- no report

e. Unity Garden- no report

f. Instructional Volunteers- no report

g. Fall Festival- no report

f. Citizens Advisory Council- no report

h. Guest Artist program- no report

i. Assemblies and Artist in residence-

1. No more for this year but looking for ideas for next year, email Mrs. Kauffman if you have any ideas.

j. Arnold Cares- no report

k. Box Tops-

1. We just received a check for \$817!

l. Mids for Kids-

m. Snowflake Dance-

1. Was a huge success! Thank you Denise!

n. Mother/Son-

1. Scheduled for Sunday, March 25th at Severna Park Lanes, 3-5pm

2. We have a record-setting number of moms/sons who signed up!

o. International Night-

1. Scheduled for Friday, April 6th

2. Volunteers needed to help country ambassadors, sign-up genius will be updated soon

3. Photos of in-class guest artist projects needed, please send to Jen Hickey

jennifer_hickey@symantec.com

4. Photos need for yearbook, please submit online

p. 5th Grade Promotion-

1. To be held the evening before the last day of school.

2. Current last day of school is June 14th (unless there is another snow day)

q. Yearbook-

1. Photos needed, please submit online

VI. Old Business: None

VII. New Business:

1. New committee called BAE (Believe Achieve Excel) has been formed to create a structure to gather information from parents, collect feedback, share information, and gauge school climate. Jessica Snell-Johns and Jen Hickey are currently leading the committee, but more parents encouraged to get involved. Mrs. Smith (3rd grade teacher) will most likely join the committee as well to have teacher representation. More information and survey will be sent out to all parents soon.

IX. Announcements:

1. A big thank you from Mrs. Smith to PTA for the Chrome Books, and especially Renee Sherwood for all of the teacher appreciation efforts!

2. Intermediate grades move from teacher to teacher and we could really use drawstring bags for students to carry supplies in the hallway.

3. Grandfriends Day has been cancelled and was an area-wide decision among elementary school principals due to the amount of time it takes to scan every visitor into the school with the Raptor system. Grandparents are welcome to come have lunch with students individually, and we are looking at options for an easier way to have grandparents visit the school, perhaps one grade at a time next year.

X. Adjournment: 7:13 pm