

Hearst Elementary School PTA Meeting

March 13, 2019

6pm

Agenda:

**- 2nd Grade Teachers Ms. Burleigh and Ms. Schultz** - just finished a unit on poetry. Some of the kids read on video their favorite line of any poem.

**-Presentation from - Music Teacher Ms. Baker** - showcased teaching kids singing, hand motions and how to get kids involved. Tambourines, sticks and shakey eggs handed out to parents to give a try at what kids are doing. Kids also learning to follow the cues of the conductor.

**-Principal Thomas and the DCPS Budget for Hearst for 2019-2020**

The submitted budget is good. Not a ton of changes.

Positions on staff - principal, two classroom teachers PK-5, fulltime partner in all PK-1 classes and one shared for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes.

Stem teacher returning.

Now half math specialist and only 3rd-5th grades. Going FT and all grades.

Three CES classes and all partner teachers. All special ed returning.

One big change is related to last month's discussion from Mr. Ibrahim and Mr. Garfield about the growing ELL population - DCPS allocated us four ELL positions for next year. To maximize funding and people in those positions - we are going to try to find someone who is certified to teach Spanish and ELL. PK-5 will have Spanish next year.

Staff want more resource and people for special needs - we are going to try to find a dual-certified ELL and SPED teaching.

Meet needs of different learners. Try to be creative in how we're using the positions themselves.

Art, music PE full time.

FT librarian.

Two instruction coaches FT again.

Reading specialist PK-5

FT psychologist and social worker.

Office positions the same.

One position is being cut - DC is now mandating a custodial foreman. We currently have a team of 5 custodians, one foreman

and four building custodians. Next year, we'll have one foreman and 3 building custodians for a total of 4 custodians. People in those positions know this is happening.

We have a little bit of money in custodial OT and OT for teachers.

Questions - still 45-min of Spanish per week. Expansion is to include PK in Spanish instruction.

DCPS put out scheduling requirements for next year.

Need to offer 90-min of PE per week. Doubling up on PE for K-5.

Upper grades - might remove library as a special to meet the requirements.

Instruction must start at 8:45am. Morning meeting starts then.

We are teaching until 3:15. Dismissal will probably be closer to 3:30.

Ms. Schiers - FT Spanish teacher means they will be in this building all the time, allows for greater planning and cross-curricular activities.

Principal Thomas - lots of ideas. Spanish teacher can push into homerooms and run some morning meetings in Spanish, lead social studies content in Spanish.

Unfunded mandates? - two coaches to suit the number of staff. Get funding for one.

Music, art, PE and world language and get funded for three.

One of the positives in the DCPS budget - they are going to pay for computers. We will have devices for every student in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and then they will be on rotating maintenance and replacement plan for other grades.

One challenge right now, DC does not yet have a clear plan to pay for teacher devices or smart boards and other technology in the schools.

Ms. Boyle - we are able to do a lot of this because of the PTA taking some things off of our budget like Lexia and iReady.

Principal Thomas - Mr. Coleman knows the PE requirement is changing. We have tweaked the specials schedule and we're trying to be equitable so he doesn't have things like lunch duty, etc. Mr. Coleman is a trooper.

Question about survey done by staff and parents where possible assistant principal raised:

Principal Thomas - To fund an assistant principal - classroom

teacher and partner needs to go. We are going to do training as an alternative.

Next year, classroom teachers without Responsive Training certification will go for that training. We are not being consistent in how we implement it across all spaces.

Principal Thomas- school's interaction with the budget is final. DC Government agencies have to send their budgets to the mayor and then off to the City Council, which will vote one way or the other.

Hearst got an increase on the whole but it's paying for an increase in salaries and those few positions that are growing. Because our enrollment numbers are going up., we are getting more money to staff our school.

345 is projected enrollment for next year. This year's enrollment depends on the day - 338 is about what we have.

464 kids is projected in 2025.

Skip Holmes - growing online movement to keep the Old Hardy School. One remaining public school in Ward 3 not used by DCPS. Lease is up in 2022.

Mayor pushing to essentially give it to Lab School.

Update on substitute for Mr. Munz (on parental leave). We've selected someone for hire. There's still a clearance process and onboarding.

Lunch going to 30 min. Recess going to 30 min. Maybe 25-35. 20 - 40 recess.

Required to have 30-min lunch.

We will have answers before we leave in June!

-Final countdown to the Auction! - The auction in March 23!

Christina Burnett and Kim Cooper

65 items were in the online auction and only 2 did not sell. They will be available on Saturday.

Tickets and online and cash donations and fund the need, etc - sold almost \$16K. We've covered our expenses. Sold 164 tix. Can buy them day of. Got confirmation today we have Ariana Grande tix from Silverman, Hugh Jackman from Cheh.

NCAA Tourney tix. March 29 or March 31 tix.

Come and bid.

Different auctioneer this year.

Washington Hebrew and same caterer. Bourbon tasting. Some cases of beer from local breweries.

Come hungry there's going to be a lot of food.

\$5 raffle but also do "heads or tails"

Still need volunteers for the day-of stuff.

Last year only sold 20 items on the online auction.

Q- can there be more chairs for the live auction part.

No band this year. Music on iPod.

Purim decorations will be up still. We are paying for a bit of that but it will be great.

-Hearst PTA Proposed Budget for discussion

Process: Budget meeting is April 3. PTA meeting is April 10 and we'll vote at the May meeting.

Email Susan Chun if you want to meet for a separate meeting.

Next year's budget - draft. Transfer of current budget and then the E-Board sat around and studied it and made adjustments.

Auction is \$55K b/c that's what it was for this year. Perhaps we correct it later this year.

\$85K for Owl Fund. Last year it was \$65K and we raised mid-\$80K.

This is a reflection of what was raised this year.

Amount of fees taken in for enrichment (reflects \$50 fee for enrichment classes)

Question - seems odd that the enrichment fee was increased and we have a lot in reserves.

Amanda Provost - Owl Fund covers enrichment staff and management. We discovered and didn't realize that we weren't even covering cost.

Keri Sikich - I don't think it was ever intended that enrichment was 1:1 self-sustaining.

Susan Chun - look at the numbers. Most people have been used to the direct support part. We pay teachers and drama club.

Estimate for management fee of Kaizen, onsite coordinator and data plan and technology. Increase was to capture this increase in cost. Still doesn't entirely cover it.

Mindy Farrell - it's great and we have more teacher involvement

in the past but the price has to go up for that. We have less parent involvement. We have to rely on teacher classes. Hourly rate for teachers went up b/c it's based on their contract.

Keri - enrichment was never self-sustaining. It was an estimate of what we thought we would spend.

Emily Olesh- We have all of these reserves.  
Why decision was made to increase mid-year when we have this reserve that we've all contributed to?

Susan - some of this might change now that we have the school budget.

Classroom program expenses.

Insurance, all that good stuff.

Negative 14K net income for next budget.

Student and teacher computers came up a lot at the E-Board.

Basic operational and annual expenses are included in here.

Keri - budget meeting - would be good to know if classroom funds are sufficient and training is sufficient.

-Vote on Soccer Goal PTA spending item

Skip Holmes -

US Soccer Federation - cost for us would be \$2253.80. we got \$500 from Stoddert and \$500 from PPA.

1253.80 for PTA. Purchase us two brand new goals.

Pay whole amount- motion to vote for \$2500 and we'll get refunded.

Merrie Dodson is first. And Kim Cooper is second. Motion to vote on spending the money for the soccer goals.

Motion adopted.