

**PTA Meeting**  
**November 18, 2020 via Zoom**

1. Principal Geoffroy's Report
  - a. Term 2 learning
    - i. At least 1 CARES classroom will open December 9 in the 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade band, additional classrooms (1-2) will open on January 4
    - ii. Classroom openings are dependent on public health conditions, available staff, and desire by families.
  - b. Term 3
    - i. Reopening plans discussed at LSAT meeting for in-person learning
    - ii. Survey will be sent out to families the week of November 23 to get feedback on in-person learning
2. PTA Budget and Fundraising
  - a. Owl Fund
    - i. Many thanks to all who donated to the Owl Fund!
    - ii. Approximately \$45,000 was raised, hoping to get to \$50,000 with a last push effort
    - iii. Thanks to Elham Dehbozorgi and Hannah McDonald for leading the Owl Fund fundraising efforts this year!
  - b. Budget update
    - i. Overall spending is down this year
    - ii. Teacher laptops were purchased for \$25,000
    - iii. One more round of funds are available for disbursement to families in need from Mr. Levin's spring run fundraiser.
3. Local School Advisory Team (LSAT) Introductions
  - a. Parents, teachers, and community representatives help advise the principal on decisions regarding allocation of school resources from the DCPS budget.
  - b. Serve as liaisons between parents and school staff
  - c. Current list of LSAT members can be found at <https://www.hearstes.org/lsat>
  - d. Ward3 EdNet addresses broader DCPS issues
4. Family Survey Results
  - a. PTA surveyed Hearst families to help determine what kind of engagement was needed this school year due to the pandemic
  - b. 92 household responded to survey (1/3 of school), results of questions below:

- i. Most respondents were families of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> graders and most families were in close proximity of the school and have lived in DC for more than 1 year
  - ii. Over 68% did not have child care over the summer
  - iii. Over 80% of virtual learning has been supported by parents, some help with sitters and tutors
  - iv. Contact with other families
    - 1. 15% had no contact and were mostly new families
    - 2. 47% had occasional contact
    - 3. 37% had regular contact
  - v. Connection with Hearst community
    - 1. 4% felt no connection
    - 2. 54% felt somewhat connected
    - 3. 33% felt connected
    - 4. 8% felt very connected
  - vi. Approximately 25% felt somewhat or not at all informed on school news, but this may have improved since the beginning for the school year
  - vii. Most used communication platforms were Bloomz and teacher emails
  - viii. Preferred connections through grade children were enrolled
  - ix. Concerns and priorities
    - 1. Social opportunities for children
    - 2. Academic progress
    - 3. Social-emotional health of community
    - 4. Health of family
  - x. PTA prioritization for funding
    - 1. Resources for financially insecure families and teachers
    - 2. Preparations for return to in-person school
  - xi. Useful activities for community building
    - 1. Small group outings
    - 2. Points of contact
    - 3. Refresh of PTA communications pages
- c. Key take-aways
- i. Most parents carried load of education from spring 2020 to fall 2020
  - ii. Kids come first in academics and social opportunities
  - iii. Target new families for additional community building

## 5. Community Events

- a. Thank an Owl

- i. Recognize any member of the Hearst community (kids, staff, community member)
    - ii. Runs through December 18
  - b. Toys for Tots Toy Drive Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 13
    - i. Drive-thru new toy and new or gently used book drop-off
    - ii. Need volunteers
    - iii. Will look into adding gear sales (new CustomInk shirts?) and a student give-away

#### 6. Upcoming Events

- a. Little Beast Dining Night – November 19 from 5-8 PM
- b. Silver – December TBD
- c. Minted – ongoing until the end of December
- d. CustomInk shirt sales
- e. December PTA meeting December 9 at 5 PM, with flexibility