

Janney PTA Executive Board Meeting Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Present at the meeting were: Rennie Anderson, Scott Cheney, Dr. Karen Crews, Gerry Gretschel, Karen Kalat, Elizabeth Levenson, Maureen Leventhal, Sharon Masling, Jonathan McHugh, Sczerina Perot, Dan Rosenthal, Lucy Smiles

Approval of September 2, 2008 executive board meeting minutes.

A motion was made and seconded to approve these minutes without changes.

Principal's Report

Dr. Crews reported:

- Staffing issues: Special ed teacher Allison Potocki and half-time art teacher Emily Strulson have been hired. Still working on filling the PE position; an offer has been made. Security officer Hinton has been given active assignments.
- A shed for PTA use, donated by a parent, is now located near the multipurpose room.
- '09 funds per student have been loaded into our budget.
- The front office could use some beautification to make it more welcoming for visitors. Possible additions: display case for awards, mums, framed pictures, rug. Could parent volunteers be recruited for decorating, and also to help out behind counter in the morning and at pickup? Could the PTA in-boxes be made more accessible but still remain secure for money/checks?

Treasurers' Report

- Student Support Fees: \$145,000 has been pledged from 261 families. Stats on SSF by grade level presented.
- Janney will not receive grant to high-achieving schools this year (approx \$100,000). In the past, this money was used for textbooks, computers. Did any high-performing DCPS schools receive this money? Dr. Crews to ask at Budget Roundtable with assistant superintendent. Lucy to email Deborah Gist, State Superintendent. Is SIT working on this too? [See update in minutes from November general PTA meeting.]
- Leftover funds from last year's room parents have been given back to the PTA.
- Audit Committee report coming soon.

New Business

- Jelena Kecmanovic has agreed to chair the Community Night in March.
- The PTA calendar is now on the Janney web site.
- Another Coffee for the Principals to be held Oct 17.
- Next board meeting to be held in December.
- Next PTA meeting to be held November 18, 7:30.
- A Janney parent and teacher have made proposals to the PTA re: classes/fundraising ideas. What should the general policy be for parents/teachers who want to offer a service

to the Janney community? Sczerina and Karen to draft what we can accept in terms of fundraising, i.e., how much money can they spend to raise money?

- Requests for PTA Funding: Do we need a system in place for how people can apply?
- Audit Committee report deadline originally to be Oct 15—okay to extend to Nov 1? Motion made and seconded to change bylaws to say Oct 15.
- PA system purchased, cost to go under line item 704, Furniture and Fixtures. Motion made and seconded.
- Malin would like a PTA laptop. Try to find donated one? Needs to be able to use Quickbooks and Excel. Buy a back-up drive or back up online?
- SIT is forming a Safety Committee. Issues: cut-through commuters at 42nd and Yuma—try to get crossing guard?; fences, cameras; “No turn 7-9:30” signs on 42nd and 43rd? Dr. Crews asked DCPS if they had preprinted signs; they do not—we can make up our own language and send it to legal for review.
- Partnering with Webb-Wheatley. Have Scott come to a PTA meeting? Dr. Crews sees him every other week at meetings of the Collaborative.
- Janney’s Wild invitations out today. Have \$7,000 in sponsorships; need \$3,000-4,000 more. Three families have had their place of work contribute.
- Open House to be held November 7.
- Former Janney father wants to start program for alcohol addiction. Janney nurse already addresses drugs, smoking, alcohol with kids. Have as guest speaker at PTA meeting? Suggest to Speakers Committee as one of the three speakers for the year? Another suggestion for Speakers Committee: internet safety.
- How do we inform parents about what the PTA pays for? Articles in newsletter, article about Calleva outing.
- Items discussed at meeting with Mary Cheh. MFP includes Janney renovation in 2013. PPP—leaning on LCOR to provide better proposal. Proposal needs to have Mary Cheh’s approval.

Action Items

- Front office changes: all e-board members send ideas to yahoo group.
- Sczerina and Karen to draft language re: what PTA will accept in terms of fundraising.
- At general PTA meeting in November, put to vote Audit Committee deadline changing to October 15.
- Treasurers to meet with Malin re: laptop.
- Sczerina to give security guard copy of draft security language; Jonathan to share draft security language with JED.
- Lucy to check with Scott Cartland re: events through December to see if he needs help.