

PTA Executive Board Meeting Minutes March 3, 2009

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

The minutes from last month's meeting were approved with changes.

Treasurer's Report

- A huge number of matching grants came in last week (\$6000).
- Expenses under the Student Support Fee need to be moved.

Principal's Report

- DCPS agreed to Janney having a .5 reading specialist and a .5 literacy coach next year.
- DCPS agreed to make all Janney paraprofessional positions DCPS employee positions (rather than some being PTA employee positions, which is currently the case).
 - E-Board discussion: This affects the PTA budget – only need to budget for the librarian position and Spanish in our staff budget. There's also a possibility that we will contract out the Spanish program.
- GW students have received a grant to do an environmental enrichment program and will present a proposal to Dr. Crews. Dr. Crews is also talking to NASA about an enrichment program.
- There will be 3 classes per grade next year (except for pre-K, which will have 2 full classes.) Dr. Crews has not yet decided which teachers will be teaching which classes.

President's Report

- The teachers appreciated the snacks that the E-Board provided for them for conference day.
- Janney families donated over 300 cupcakes to Webb-Wheatley for Read Across America Day. Webb-Wheatley staff and students were very appreciative.
- We will try to have monthly PTA coffees the rest of the school year. E-Board members will take turns volunteering to pick up the coffee.
- We will be starting a newsletter article entitled "your PTA dollars at work." The article will highlight different events and activities that the PTA pays for -- eg, CPR certification for staff, sending teachers to a special conference, the ropes course for 5th graders at the beginning of the school year, etc.
- International night is scheduled for March 10.

- The Peter Branson Memorial will be installed this spring. We hope to have a small ceremony.

New Business

- All new DCPS principals were designated “interim” for the 2008-2009 school year and are currently being reviewed. By March 16th, Janney needs to form a principal review committee. The committee will recommend whether the interim principal should be retained. If not, the committee would then become the principal selection committee.
- Playground signage will cost approximately \$1000 (\$200 over what was originally approved). The SIT safety and security committee drafted the signage and will publicize it in the Janney newsletter.
- Sharon Masling will help coordinate Janney parents who wish to volunteer at or for Webb-Wheatley.
- There will be no fruit sale fundraiser after all. The PTA had budgeted \$7000 to come from that. As a result we need to do another fundraiser. Possible ideas include a community garage sale, an extra push at PTA meetings to get people to sign up for grocery cards, and updating “Janney Days” and selling it as fundraiser.
- The developers from the Babe’s building (Doug Jemal) got a variance and they need to give back to the community. Dr. Crews received an e-mail asking what Janney needs. There should be a SIT list. If not, the SIT should generate a new list based on Dr. Crews’ and the SIT’s recommendations. This list should be maintained by the SIT and the PTA and be continuously updated.

The meeting was adjourned.