



Lafayette Home and School Association(HSA)

General Meeting Minutes – November 20th, 2014

17 signed in attendees including Board members, the Principal and teachers – please note a quorum was not reached and therefore, no approval or votes were able to move forwarded

1. Meeting opened at 7:05 by Hope Scheller and Laurie Lindsley. Agenda attached. Minutes from the June 6th, 2014 and October 2nd, 2014 were distributed. Approval was not able to be recorded due to the quorum delinquency.

Important dates on the calendar – attached on the agenda. Please make note of the December 1st pep rally; have children wear Lafayette Spirit Wear to school.

Coats and Cocktails donation drive – reported by Chris Lisi: the donation drive is going well with 100 coats collected - however, larger boy coat sizes are needed – Size 8, 10, 12. Chris also reminded parents that the collection is for mittens, gloves, hats and scarves.

There will be a holiday concert on December 17th with two performances 9:30am and 6:00pm. Mr. Holms is planning for the bands, drumline and maybe the 3rd grade recorders perform. More information to follow.

HSA Donation Drive update – a huge thank you to Jenny Backus for all her work with the donation drive. The drive brought in over budget of \$14,000. Donation letters are being sent out to families. Please contact Jenny Backus if you do not receive yours.

Nominating Committee – According to the bylaws, a nomination committee must be formed of no less than three members to facilitate parents willing to run for Board positions in the Spring. The three members presented to the general membership are Ellen Shurman, Nadia Gold-Moritz and Angela Anderson. Please forward names to them or speak to them if you are interested in running for a Board position for the next school year. A vote was not able to be taken due to the quorum delinquency.

LEP Winter session will begin on January 5th. Please look for sign ups in the next few weeks.

2. Eddie Hall, crossing guard presented concerns with morning drop off and afternoon pickup RE: cross walk safety. Mr. Hall began by thanking Lafayette for the blue cones placed in front of the school but he notices daily that driving parents disregard the cones, park and drop off children. This is unsafe for the children as Broad Branch Road has continuous traffic and is a Metro bus route. He reported that in the future, warning and moving violations will be given to drivers for the following:
 - a. Not stopping behind the line
 - b. Not using turn signals

Question: What are the standardized tests and what is the difference from last year?

Answer: Dr. Broquard discussed the three standardized tests Lafayette is using – UA – Unit Assessments, iReady and PARCC. UA mirrors the new PARCC and replaces the PIAs. iReady for math and English/language arts was used last year and the HSA had purchased the English/Language arts component. The iReady math is thru DCPS. iReady has two parts – instructional and diagnostic. PARCC replaces DC-CAS and is a nationwide test. There are 5 instructional windows and 4 testing periods.

Discussion from the parent body ensued regarding the amount of seat time the children are logging for testing. Parents raised concerns about the length of time and the relationship to classroom time.

During the discussion other concerns were raised regarding the current use and testing of the iReady program from last school year to this school year. The questions then moved to local comparable schools and their testing. Is Lafayette testing more or less than local schools?

Janine Finck-Boyle asked that the HSA representatives on the LSAT forward to the LSAT the following questions/requests:

- a. Evaluate/assess how many hours our children are sitting for testing as well as preparing
- b. Monitor local schools: Janney, Murch, Horace Mann and Hearst for their respective testing programs. – are they more or less than Lafayette and what are the tests?

The results/answers will be presented in January 2015.

7. Building Renovation Update(SIT – school improvement team)

Gayle Moseley reported a community meeting was held last week. The proposed school renovations were presented with all students being paced into trailers on the baseball field, with inside bathrooms and covered walkways connecting trailers. Each trailer set will hold multi-classroom and a tent will be constructed to house the gym and cafeteria. The renovation presentation slideshow is on the website for more information.

8. Principal Update

Dr. Broquard reported the happenings of Lafayette in the last few weeks and the next weeks to come: Performances by the 1st grade, Patriotic and the 2nd grade, Native American. On Tuesday, November 25th, Kindergarten will hold their Thanksgiving Feast.

Lastly, Dr. Broquard will hold morning parent coffee talks starting prior to Winter Break. More information in the Tuesday Bulletin.

9. Ways and Means Update

Shannon Behm reported the Fall Festival was a success and the net revenue was approximately \$6500. In addition, a new event held the morning of the Fall Festival – a community Yard Sale was spearheaded by Jenny Backus and Chris Lisi. This event was also widely successful and raised about \$1100.00. A big thank you to Amy Harper, Jenny and Chris!

Shannon also stated that we are thinking ahead to our biggest fundraiser of the year – Auction 2015 in March. Please spread the word that we are looking for parents to join the Auction committee to help with planning and executing the event.

There were no miscellaneous items for the agenda. Therefore, the meeting ended at 8:10pm. Gayle Moseley motioned to adjourn and Brian Oliver seconded.

Meeting adjourned. ##

Respectfully submitted,

Janine Finck-Boyle, Secretary