Date: February 29, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm
Facilitator: Sujata Mitra, Vice President

In attendance

Vice President: Sujata Mitra

Secretary: Larkin Harris

DEI Chair: Ashely Buscetta

Events Chair: Michelle Schell

Teacher Appreciation Chair, Field Day Lead: Jen Palute

Room Parent Chair: Alison Johnson

Alexandria City PTA Council (PTAC):

Meta Viers, President

17 School Units

Each PTA President or Authorized rep is a voting member

Guide PTA leadesr through laws/bylaws

PTAC publishes summer camp directors

Fundraises to support:

o Reflection Awards
o Scholarship Fund of Alexandria
o PTAC Equity Fund: Unit Support, Teacher Appreciation, Membership Dues
o All Night Grad Party

Advocacy:

<u>School Budget</u>

o Watch Process

- o   Letter writing and testimony at city council
- o   Education abvout how funding works (social media)

<u>Special Education</u>

- o   Communication to parents
- o   Information (Website)
- o   Inclusion

<u>Playgrounds</u>

- o   Maintenance and replacement

To contact Meta Viers please reach out via email at President@AlexVAPTAC.org

www.alexvaptac.org

Admin Updates

Dr. John McCain

Rising Kindergarten orientation went well with approx. 50 famillies in attendance.

<u>Spelling Bee</u>

All spellers did an excellent job!

Leo Patterson, a fifth grad scholar, is the school-wide winner and will represent JH in the Fairfax Regional Competition

Ms. Fernandez

<u>Curriculum Night</u>

March 14th from 5—6:30 with Math and Reading activities for interested families/students

Ms. Brown-Dunn

<u>Absenteeism</u>

All numbers are low from 27% to 17% absent (including Pre-K) currently at 15%

Several factors contribute: Attendance team led by SW Mr. Patterson, Counselors, Registrar, and other parents focusing on students absent 11 days or more.

Focused meetings with students and families, celebrating students and classes with most improved attendance.

ACPS Policy does not consider a difference between excused/unexcused absence.

10 or more days is considered chronically absent. The attendance team reviews all students with over 5 days absent.

Ms. Young

<u>All In Tutoring</u>

Feb 12 kicked off All In Tutoring (M-Th and Saturday)

Super Mad Science Saturday's for students wishing to grow in science and technology.

Tutoring is available for students in grades 3-8.

https://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching-learning-assessment/all-in-va

Ms. Donaue

Upcoming Events

March 5 No school – professional development

March 11th Read-A-Thon, ends on March 21st

March 14th Curriculum night, 5-6:30

March 15th Career Fair (During School)

March 19th Spring Picture Day (Class and Staff)

Maqrhc 21st Parent Coffee at 9a

March 22nd Teacher Work Day

March 25th – 29th Spring Break

April 1st No school, Teacher work day

Mr. Roth

Orchestra & Band Update

Last week was the annual band and orchestra concert – they played very strongly especially given it was Mr. Roth's first time conducting orchestra.

Instrumental Music Testing will take place in the near future.

Last year JH Band & Orchestra swept awards at th

Cookie dough fundraiser raised $2.7k, $1k donation from PTA

Music in the parks costs around $7.5k with about $3.2k left to raise. Looking at Title IV funds for assistance. Working on a backup plan to support this event.

Secretary

Motion to Approve:

Ashely Buscetta – Motion

Allison Johnson - Second

Clubs Update

Winter Clubs are wrapping up. If you haven't paid, please ensure to do so.

Allison Johnson will take over clubs in SY 24-25.

PTA will support breakfast for those participating in the career fair.

Rejuvinator cart may also take place on the same day.

Beginning to plan for Teacher Appreciation week in May.

Save the date for Field Day 2024 on June 7. Looking for extra support in terms of volunteers. Bounce castle will be in gym again for this year.

Finance Update

Will take place at the March meeting.

DEI Update

Family engagement open house on March 4 from 6:30-8:00pm.

Dinner, transportation, and child care provided please register via Parent Square.

Events Update

Will take place at the March meeting

Next PTA Meeting

TBD, 7:00pm

Zoom