

JDES BOARD MEETING MINUTES

11/16/10
6:00pm, JDES

PTA MISSION STATEMENT

- A powerful voice for all children,
- A relevant resource for families and communities, and
- A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

NEW DISCUSSION POINTS:

CALL TO ORDER - 6:00pm

Attendees: Beth Chancy, Brian Almasian, Becky Hansell, Caroline Elliott, Catherine Potter, Chris Mowery, Chris Stallings, Cindy Horstman, Mary Smith, Michelle McBane, Ruth Wicks

INTRODUCTIONS

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE-

Brian Almasian-He is working on developing business partnerships with area businesses. If you know of any companies that would like to participate let him know.

There will possibly be a staff variety show the end of January to support Ms. Long's idea regarding the book room.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER- see report

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Susan Markel

Susan has received maybe 25 volunteer request forms and is collating them into a spreadsheet to send to committee chairs. She gave the ESL teacher several names of helpers. The rest of the committee chairs should get them this week.

SOCIALS: Julie Coriarty

The first 2 Grade Level Socials went very well. The 3rd/4th Grade Social will be on Friday, December 3rd from 5:30-7:00. Notes with information and asking for assistance will go home this week. If anyone is willing to make desserts to donate, that would be appreciated. Thanks!

REFLECTIONS: Terri Lancaster/Cynthia Hess

We had 131 Reflections entries this year. Terri has 3 or 4 judges willing to judge again next year for whoever takes this over. The program is up and running well so hopefully next year will be bigger and better. Terri will meet with the new chair and walk them through this very simple process.

DOLPHIN FUND: Fall Fundraiser: Joanna Dore

Outside of totals because of my recent computer crash, Joanna and her husband were able to get out all of the Dolphin Branded items to everyone who participated in addition to receipt (except those who put donations in envelopes where we were unable to identify the sender/student). Each household that participated received 1 JDES cup + a pencil for each child in the house (example - if a house hold has 2 kids, they would receive 1 cup and 2 pencils). If anyone hears anything about a family that didn't receive their items or received an incorrect receipt, please direct them back to me - joannadore@verizon.net OR call/text 804-334-6573.

HOSPITALITY UPDATE: Joanna Dore/Cynthia Hess

In November, Joanna and Cynthia don't have too much to solicit volunteers for. Hospitality is purchasing items in celebration of Mr. Almasian and Mrs. Stallings Bdays. We could not work out a date for a Thanksgiving Feast - so, Hospitality will be hosting a Holiday/Winter themed luncheon on December 9 - we will send a solicitation to our Hospitality volunteers for this. In addition, we have approached Mr. Almasian about using some of our Hospitality funds to purchase wish list items for the teacher's lounge in lieu of the offsite holiday party. We are putting together some wish list ideas to present to him and will hopefully purchase those prior to Winter Break.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me directly! joannadore@verizon.net OR call/text 804-334-6573.

SPIRITWEAR: Amy Swartz

We have spirit wear sales of just over \$1400 for the new items that we are carrying this year, such as the apparel with 2010/2011 designs and the accessories. This will bring us approximately \$300 of PTA profit (or donations if you would prefer that term). We added \$1-2 per item onto the cost. Additionally, we have made about \$700 on sales of items (mostly from previous years) at events this fall such as back to school night, and the grade level socials. The spirit wear is arriving on Wednesday and will be sorted and distributed to teachers by Monday of next week, at the latest.

BINGO: Kathy Seim

Bingo is set for Feb. 18th. She is still looking for volunteers, please contact Kathy if you are interested.
k_seim@yahoo.com

WEBSITE UPDATE: Kathy Seim/Joanna Dore

FALL BOOK FAIR: Mary Smith-The Fall Book Fair brought in \$6,728.58. The JD library will receive \$336.00 in new books.

MEMBERSHIP: Sutessa Ukrop- The current enrollment is 74%. Miss Nancy's class is the only class to get 100% thus far.

ORIGINAL ART WORKS-Margaret Walker/Becky Hansell – All artwork distributed on 11-16. If there is money left over in the budget, PTA members think it would be great to give Mr. Wagoner some funds to thank him for his support with this program.

ASSEMBLIES: Caroline Elliott

DOLPHIN NIGHT OUT-Please see our PTA website for dates and times. There is still a possibility that the Barnes and Noble DNO will still take place this year(tba later).

AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT: Lindsay Holtz

Our Fall session of ASE has gone great!!! Any feedback is welcome!

DIRECTORY: Laura Manning/Catherine Potter- The directory will go to the printers on 11-17. It cost \$700.00 to make, but \$550.00 was made in ad sales to help offset the cost.

YEARBOOK: Caroline Elliott- The yearbooks are almost sold out. An additional letter will be sent to announce final sales. It is possible that 5th grade ads will be sold for \$5.00. This way parents can have a special message to their child printed in the book.

LAY ADVISORY: Latha

MATH CURRICULUM UPDATE:

Ann Slough and Nancy Godfrey provided the LAC the history and an update of new Math Curriculum. Members discussed the role of LAC was to inform parents of new curriculum at all school levels. It was discussed that members could ask math chairs at their schools to talk about implementation at their schools. A discussion was held and it was decided that Paula Beran will contact Central Office to see if someone from the administration would come to January meeting to discuss implementation. Questions to be asked will be submitted before the meeting. Please submit any questions to Paul Beran 7-10 days before meeting. Meeting will be announced to community and hope to have teachers and parents attend.

P.S: Please fill out the below survey, so we can represent our school.

Send response to: Latha Reddy vodurul@hotmail.com

1. What topics/subject/items would you like be communicated to the county? List at the least three.

2. Questions to be asked regarding the Math curriculum

SCIENCE WEEK: Nancy Long- She is working with Mrs. White on planning experiments that will be done in each class(poss. Jan/Feb).

NEWSLETTER: Stacy Foster—no updates

PARENT EDUCATION/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Cindy Horstman—no updates

SILENT AUCTION: Hanan Rutherford- welcome

TEACHER APPRECIATION COORDINATOR: Sherry Parker—no updates

NEW BUSINESS

1. BJ's- They have a special membership offer for JD. In addition to a discounted membership with them, BJ's will donate \$5.00 of each membership to our school. See the PTA website for more details or speak with a PTA member.
2. From Rachel Sleeth, school psychologist at Davis.
I wanted to get in contact with you to tell you about a parent program that I am hoping to implement this February along with another Henrico County school psychologist. We are hoping to hold a 4-5 session evening program based on the book "The Explosive Child" which helps parents gain an understanding of children with behavioral challenges and provides new ways of interacting with them in a more positive way. The book is written by Dr. Ross Greene, who also authored a teacher-friendly version of "The Explosive Child," which is called "Lost at School." Currently at Davis, ten teachers and staff members are going through a book study of "Lost at School" to learn new ways of intervening with children with behavior problems.

We are currently in the process of collaborating with the Tuckahoe YMCA in order to use their facilities for the program. We are hoping to provide free dinner and childcare for participants. I wanted to let you know about the program for a couple reasons. First, I am hoping you can help me advertise for the program through your newsletter and/or website. Also, I was wondering if I could submit a request for funds proposal to help defray the cost of the childcare and meals. Just like everyone else, I'm sure the PTA has been hurt by the economy, but any sized donation will help!

UPCOMING DEADLINES AND EVENTS:

The 3rd/4th Grade Social will be on Friday, December 3rd from 5:30-7:00.

BULLPEN/PARKING LOT:

- Mrs. Long's request- She is seeking financial support of possibly \$2500 to \$3,000 to start up a book room for the school. By showing our financial support, she has a better chance for the grant request to be approved. This is new to our school, but is established in many Henrico schools already. The PTA will be reviewing the budget to see if this request is possible.
- Website Request (Jimmy)

NEXT STAFF MEETING:

- There will be no meeting December. I will put out a call for updates to send to everyone.
- Tuesday, January 18, 2011 6pm

Meeting adjourned 6:55pm

2011 PTA Take Your Family to School Week Grant Application Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. EDT, Friday, November 5, 2010. [Apply Online](#)

PTA Take Your Family to School Week
February 13-19, 2011

Grant Overview

PTA's Take Your Family to School Week is celebrated each February—during the week leading up to PTA Founders Day (February 17)—to pay tribute to PTA's legacy of building family-school partnerships. This year, PTA will celebrate Take Your Family to School Week during February 13-19, 2011 with the purpose of expanding and enhancing family engagement in schools across the country.

Thanks to the generosity of the [AXA Foundation](#), PTA offers grants of \$1,897 for PTAs to plan programs, host events, and implement activities that welcome and engage families into the school community. These grants should be used to build positive partnerships with teachers and families, connect parents to their children's school experiences, and give children fun ways to share what they are learning and doing in class.

AXA Foundation, the sponsor of PTA's Take Your Family to School Week, provides more than \$1.3 million a year in scholarships to make college a reality for students across the country. AXA also offers free seminars to PTA units on how to apply for college and on other financial issues facing families. Learn more at www.axa-achievement.com/PTA.

Family Engagement/Parent Involvement

Family engagement and parent involvement are at the heart of PTA's core mission. PTA defines family engagement as: A shared responsibility of families and schools for student success, in which schools and community-based organizations are committed to reaching out to engage families in meaningful ways and families are committed to actively supporting their children's learning and development. This shared responsibility is continuous from birth through young adulthood and reinforces learning that takes place in the home, school and community.

To assist PTAs and schools in improving their family engagement efforts, PTA has created the six National Standards for Family-School Partnerships, which give a framework of things that can be done to increase family engagement at your school. Successful applicants will effectively demonstrate how they are implementing practices that are aligned with the Standards and with PTA's definition of family engagement, as best as possible.

- **Standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community**—Families are active participants in the life of the school, and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class.
- **Standard 2: Communicating effectively**—Families and school staff engage in regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.
- **Standard 3: Supporting student success**—Families and school staff continuously collaborate to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.
- **Standard 4: Speaking up for every child**—Families are empowered to be advocates for their own and other children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success.
- **Standard 5: Sharing power**—Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.
- **Standard 6: Collaborating with community**—Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

Why Family Engagement/Parent Involvement Is Important

The research is overwhelmingly clear: when parents play a positive role in their children's education, students do better in school. This is true regardless of family income or background. Research shows that when parents are involved, students have better test scores and higher grades, enroll in higher level classes, attend school and pass their classes, develop better social skills, graduate from high school, attend college, and find productive work. In a recent study, elementary schools with strong parental involvement were ten times more likely to improve in math and four times more likely to improve in

reading than schools weak on this measure. Parent involvement is so significant that it has been shown to be equivalent to an extra \$1,000 in additional per-pupil spending, which can make a difference especially in underserved communities.

Eligibility

The applicant must be a PTA in good standing.

Timeline

Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. EDT, Friday, November 5, 2010. Funding decisions are expected to be made by the end of December 2010. Grant recipients will be notified by phone or e-mail.

Grantees will be expected to hold their activities during Take Your Family to School Week, February 13-19, 2011. All funding must be expended by March 18, 2011

Reporting

Grantees must complete and submit the PTA Grant Report by **March 18, 2011**. A [sample grant report](#) is available for reference online. Failure to submit a complete report in a timely manner may affect the grantee's future grant funding eligibility with National PTA.

Criteria for Selection

Applications must be complete and submitted on time. Incomplete or late applications will not be reviewed. Consideration may be given to ensure geographic distribution of awards.

Judges will evaluate each application using the criteria below. Successful applications should:

- Take place during Take Your Family to School Week 2011.
- Thoroughly describe the program, events, or activities that will be implemented.
- Make a clear link to PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships.
- Further family engagement and parent involvement.
- Describe the need to improve family engagement in the community.
- Discuss partners involved, the geographic areas served, and new/innovative approaches that will be used.
- Support student success.
- Include a budget, budget narrative, and timeline.
- Articulate the goals, outcomes of the programs, events or activities proposed and how success will be measured.

Grant Application Deadline

All applications must be completed and submitted by **5:00 p.m. EDT, Friday, November 5, 2010**. Applications must be [submitted online](#).

Grant Application Tips

We recommend that you click on the link below, read all of the application questions, type all of your responses into a word document, save the document and cut and paste all of your responses into the online form and click on submit. **You cannot save and return to the application, so please plan to have all of your information readily available when you apply.**

Contact

Questions about the grant, the application, or funding decisions should be directed to Rosa Vivanco, at (800) 307-4PTA (4782).