

Louise Archer PTA
General Membership Meeting
Minutes
April 9, 2014, 9:30am

I. Attendees:

II. **Principal's Report.** Provided by Principal Makrigiorgos.

1. School Sculpture is in place and looks wonderful. It is a great gift to the school from the PTA and the 6th grade class.
2. International Night was great and the various activities were enjoyed by all who attended.
3. Principal Makrigiorgos noted that the exact date of the last day of school has not been finalized, but will probably be on 6/25/14. FCPS was working on determining whether the days of school or the hours missed were to be used to determine the final day. 6/24/14 will be a full day of school.
4. The FCPS Budget process is still underway. Principal Makrigiorgos stated that if parents are concerned about class sizes or other issues, they should advocate with their County Supervisor to support the full amount requested by the School Board. It was noted by Kerry Blankenship that the LA PTA had sent letters to all County Supervisors as well as State Representative and the Governor supporting adequate funding for our schools. Principal Makrigiorgos stated that student ratios will increase by .5 students and this could lead to high class sizes.
5. The Summer Program dates are set. The program will run 7/14 -8/1/14. The numbers have been reduced by half from last year, so the program will host 36 students.
6. Staff Updates – Jill Gallagher had her baby on 4/9/14. The baby was 5 weeks early, but mother and baby are doing well. Laura Higgins has begun maternity leave. Vice Principal Condra is expecting her second child in July. There will be a substitute Assistant Principal for the months of August, September, and October of the 2014-2015 school year.
7. Principal Makrigiorgos invited all volunteers to the Volunteer Tea on April 30, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. The Tea will be held in the Library. Please come and let us show our appreciation for all that you do.
8. The SOL dates are set and will run through June 7, 2014. The online testing will utilize the gym, the Library, and the Computer Lab.

Catherine Yeagle, Cathy Hardman, Kerry Blankenship, Stephanie Bollini, Michelle Makrigiorgos, Priya Chenthil, Julie Nickols, Rebecca Huffman, Teralyn Carlson, Courtney Johnston, Reshma Eggleston, Ceci Campbell, Heather Buescher, Mary Franceschini, Elizabeth Toledo, Tinelle Davies.

The meeting was begun at 9:35 a.m. by President Stephanie Bollini

I. **President's Report.** Provided by President Stephanie Bollini

1. Thank you's and kudos were given by President Bollini for:

- Pizza Bingo – Thanks to Karen Landwehr, Whithers Hurley, and all volunteers.
- International Night – Thanks s Tulika Mehra and all volunteers.
- School Sculpture – Thanks to Cathy Hardman and Cheryl Cass
- Plaque from Last Year's 6th Grade Class

1. President Bollini noted that the PTA is preparing for the 2014-2015 school year. If chairpeople are returning, please let her know.
2. The PTA is still looking for Volunteers for the Budget Committee for the upcoming school year. If you are interested in participating, please contact President Bollini.
3. Teacher Appreciation Week will be the first full week in May. President Bollini opened up a discussion about streamlining the Teacher Appreciation Week process to make it easier for parents and provide more parity amongst gifts and recognition to teachers. The General Membership members in attendance were supportive of the idea of introducing more uniformity into Teacher Appreciation Week. Parents will

children at multiple elementary schools shared what was done at other Vienna schools. Rebecca Huffman noted that she will create a Sign Up Genius for the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon. Principal Makrigiorgos noted that the flowers that are given to the teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation week are collected at the end of the week. After they are collected, they are taken to Arlington Cemetery and place on Louise Archer's grave.

4. Walk to School Week will also be the first full week of May. Louise Archer will participate in the Walk, Bike, Shop Vienna Campaign. During the week of May 4th, if you tell participating Vienna Merchants that you walk or bike to Louise Archer, they will donate money to the school.

V. **IV. Treasurer's Report.**

1. Treasurer's report was provided on tables for review. The report was reviewed with no additional questions.

VI. **V. Old business**

1. Motion was made to approve the March 2014 General Meeting Minute; the motion carried.
2. The Nominating Committee presented the slate of candidates for the 2014-2015 school year.
 - i. President – Kerry Blankenship
 - ii. Vice President – Heather Buescher
 - iii. Secretary – Tinelle Davies

I. **New Business**

1. President Bollini noted that the Spring Blood Drive has been cancelled by INOVA due to lack of participation in our fall blood drive. IT was noted that a mention of this should be placed on the website with a link to blood donation opportunities for those that would like to donate.
2. Louise Archer PTA was asked to support the James Madison High School All Night Grad Party. A motion was made to donate \$25 to the Madison All Night Grad Party. The motion was approved by the members present.
3. Heather Buescher brought up a new program idea relating to books for students. She is interested in creating a program that enables the Free and Reduced Lunch population or Students – In –Need to receive books from the Scholastic Books program. The PTA will work with the counselors and Principal Makrigiorgos to determine how such a program would work.
4. A question was asked about the PTA or School's policy about promoting groups or drives that students are involved in (i.e., girl scout troops). It was mentioned that another local elementary school has a community page on their website where such items can be listed. This will be looked at by the PTA.

II. **Program Announcements:**

1. Walking Wednesdays continue, please support and help out if you can.

Next meeting: May 14, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in LAES Library