

Louise Archer PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes
DRAFT
LAES Library – September 11, 2013, 9:30am

I. Attendees:

Katherine Yagle, Bonnie Salzberg, Janice Gould Alodan, Emily Korff, Laura Beth Vietor, Kerry Crum, Katherine Welch, Robyn Nguyen, Linda Kerr, Cassie Jackson, Clara Kim Lockett, Briar McIntyre, Danielle Somers, Elizabeth Klamut, Stephanie Laubner, Christine Radomsky, Ceci Campbell, Cathy Hardman, Eileen Scuito, Tunelle Davies, Elizabeth Toledo, Kelly Hendersonhagen, Kerry Blankenship, Mary Franceschini, Leah McRau, Christine Booziak, Payal Ghala, Nene Spivy, Elaine Cudney, Courtney Johnston, Trisha Dunne, Erin Coleman, Tulika Meheotre, Jodi Pilgrim Stephanie Bollini, Elena Golub, Michelle Makrigiorgos, Jennifer Condra, Karen Landwehr,

II. Principal's Report:

We had a smooth school opening and have 752 students.

Principal Coffee/Meet & Greet for new families in the Library after PTA meeting at 10:30 am. Louise Archer ES is getting ready to celebrate 75th Anniversary, Please, join the LAES Preparation Committee.

We have most of the classes size under 26 students,

This year LAES has one multipurpose classroom that PTA can use for before and after school activities.

New format of Back to School Night (Sep. 18th) - one day for the whole school..

III. President's Report:

PTA has new discipline policy. Each event should have hall monitors. Each child should be supervised at the PTA events.

PTA biggest fundraising program this year is Sunshine 5K & Fun Run. We would like to encourage everybody to participate

IV. Treasurer's Report:

We already raised about \$3K.

PTA has about \$60 K in the Bank.

All PTA programs are supported.

PTA is going to support 75th LAES Anniversary and PTA budget has \$5K projected loss.

V. Old business:

Notion to approve May 2013 PTA meeting minutes seconded and voted for, May 2013 PTA meeting minutes approved;

Notion to approve Special June 2013 PTA meeting minutes seconded and voted for, Special June 2013 PTA meeting minutes approved.

VI. New business:

Motion to approve PTA Budget seconded and voted for, PTA budget approved.

Member of the Nominating Committee Kerry Crum proposed Kerry Blankenship for a PTA VP. Seconded by Stephanie Bollini. Voted and approved.

VII. Program Announcements:

Paperwork for Spanish, Art and MadScience has been filed. We are working to bring Spanish back.

Community Arts – The Vienna Post Office is about to undergo construction on the front lobby and will not be hanging any community art until early next year.

Box Tops – Class Competition is underway to win a Popsicle party. Box Tops are Due by October 15th.

Reflections Program update: The PTA Reflections program is a national program that asks participating students to interpret a theme into works of art. The theme this year selected by the National PTA is, "Believe, Dream, Inspire." We have requested that the webmaster update the website, hung posters, have asked the kindergarten teachers to advertise the program when they send home notes to the parents, and are starting to work with the art teachers on making announcements to the older students. We have also started with announcements during the morning announcements and have asked the front office if we can put a notice on the school's front marquis about 1.5 weeks before the submission deadline. The box for the placement of students' submissions will be available starting today (September 11th) in the library through October 16th. The Reflections reception is going to be in the cafeteria on November 25th. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the awards presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. Both the principal and assistant principal have been invited, as they have attended in prior years.

Chess Club update: The Chess Club will have a new instructor. His name is Paul Swaney. He comes to Louise Archer with a vast amount of experience -- he has been teaching chess professionally for over 10 years. He has been awarded "chess coach of the year" for K-3 and K-5 for the last three years in the State of Virginia, and has other similar accolades including a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. He is currently the chess coach at several other Fairfax County schools, including Greenbriar West Elementary, Mosby Woods Elementary, Freedom Hill Elementary, and Canterbury Woods. Under Paul Swaney's coaching, Greenbriar West won the 2012 K-5 national championship, and 2013 K-3, K-5 Virginia Scholastic & Collegiate Championships. Mr. Swaney's plans to introduce some of the benefits of technology, by using projectors to engage the students in prepared lessons and by starting a blog based on the school chess club which will keep track of the weekly lessons and important announcements. If a student is absent one week they can visit the blog with their parents to see what was covered in class. Because he is the coach with the other schools, he plans to start a Fairfax County Elementary Chess League where the students from his various schools can compete (in a friendly manner) in team matches 4-5 times a year against each other. He is very open to comments and suggestions, and welcomes parent and family input of ideas in order to build a strong community around the Louise Archer Chess Club.

Garden Club update:

Meets every Friday morning at 10 am in front of school;

Every Thursday a reminder is sent to members;

Looking for volunteers to join.

Nutrition Program is announced by Clara Kim Lockett. The Program is designed to promote healthy choices for children

Pizza Bingo program is looking for volunteers to make it a success.

Yearbook update: Laura Beth Vietor introduced herself and Emily Korff at the new yearbook co-chairs. They are planning to have a team of parents working on the yearbook and will divide the work by grades and then by a few other pieces. They are still looking for a parent from Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 5th grade to help cover those grades, and also for a 6th grade parent who can help collect and manage the booster ads and related finances. They will also be asking for help for parents who are willing to photograph events throughout the year.

VII. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.