



Meeting Minutes
MVCS PTA April Member Meeting
April 20, 2021
6:30-7:30 PM via Zoom

- I. Welcome from PTA President, Kelly Chmielewski
- II. School Board Update from Chris Suarez, ACPS School Board Member
 - A. The district is moving to 3 ft. spacing per guidance from the CDC. They are trying to move swiftly but do so with fidelity to make sure they are taking in to account the ventilation issues and other concerns they hear from the community. The school board sets policy for the district. In the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic there was a fluid process between school board and superintendent where the board received weekly updates on planning. Chris believes that broke down a bit before spring break, so at this juncture there have been efforts to make sure the board and the central office are on the same page. The board wants to make sure they are getting as many kids back in school as possible. They plan to get everyone back in person 5 days a week in the fall.
 - B. There will be a school board meeting on Thursday where he hopes to hear more of the next steps on plans to get more kids in school this year and plans to have schools open 5 days a week in the fall.
 - C. Questions from the attendees:
 1. How is the board considering alternative spacing to get more kids back -- example outdoor tents?
 - a) There have been communications between Dr. Hutchings and the city about how we can utilize other spaces in the fall. Chris hopes to get more details on this during the Thursday board meeting.
 2. What is the process the district will use to develop spending priorities for the \$34 million they are receiving from the American Rescue Plan? How will the district work with schools to identify their needs? Will there be an opportunity for community input?
 - a) Chris is going to get more information on this and circle back with Kelly and the PTA

3. Questions on ventilation and how to best advocate for better ventilation in our school.
 - a) Chris agrees with the parents that there is no one-size fits all solution and that we need to keep advocating for better ventilation. He wants to see more air quality testing in our buildings to address not only COVID, but issues that have predated COVID. He is advocating for filters in classrooms, and wants to make sure that we get the right HEPA systems.
4. How can we move from a one-size fits all district approach to giving principals more power to execute solutions for their own schools?
 - a) The district has worked hard to promote equity and sometimes that leads to a desire for consistency across all schools, but he recognizes schools have different needs. He wants to find the balance between equity and flexibility.
5. What is being done to get more teachers to return in person? Who oversees the process, what documentations and exceptions are available?
 - a) Much of this will be presented on Thursday. A teacher survey went to teachers around spring break. The board should see data on Thursday. So far the main factors preventing teachers from coming back are health issues and child care issues.
6. Comments about the need to do more for kids who receive special education services
 - a) This is an area where Chris says he really understands the frustration. He wants to make sure these kids get back in the classroom as soon as possible.

III. Updates from Principal Burrell

- A. There will be 5 days of in person learning in the fall, with an option for virtual for those families that want it
- B. Beginning April 27, some students will be coming to school for SEAL Mondays for additional supports
- C. Last week MVCS had 406 kids in person. This week they had 521 in person. By May there will be 600 kids in person.
- D. The school is calling families about their return options based on the prioritization matrix and classroom capacity
- E. More teachers and staff will be returning May 3
- F. The school is getting HEPA filters thanks to community advocacy
- G. Summer learning academy information will be going out soon. Ms. Burkhart will be one of the lead administrators in addition to a John Adams Assistant Principal

IV. Treasurer's Report from Patrick Smith

- A. Recent Spending
 1. Teacher Supplies -- \$8501.59
 2. Dual Language support -- \$1054.39
 3. Valentine's Dance -- \$829.71
 4. Teacher Raffle -- \$400
 5. Flowers for Principals -- \$340
 6. Vision services -- \$49

- B. Recent Receipts
 - 1. Get Movin' -- \$405
 - 2. Donation -- \$50
 - 3. Flocking -- \$100
 - 4. Dues -- \$10
- C. Votes needed -- all adopted
 - 1. Reprogram \$4600 from field trip budget to spring break activities (from last month)
 - 2. Increase budget for PTAC donations from \$500 to \$1000 & approve expense (from last month)
 - 3. Use pumpkin patch line (not used) for teacher breakfast
- V. Adopted Minutes from February Meeting
- VI. Other updates
 - A. MVCS PTA will be participating in the Spring to Action Fundraiser. More information on that is coming
 - B. We are going to try to gather outside for our last meeting of the year