

DeKalb School of the Arts

PTSA General Meeting – April 16, 2019

Minutes

Called to order 6:32 pm

Officers in attendance: Stacey Lucas, Katrina Mallory, Lane Holman, Cherry Wongtrakool

Administration in attendance: Susan McCauley, JoAnne Branch

Teachers in attendance: Dunn, Diamond, Yeung, Martinez-Schaffer, Henner, Mongo, Pottinger, Wargowsky

President's Report – Stacey Lucas: volunteer update and thanks for signing up. Mention of upcoming events that will need volunteers (SPA banquet, Fringe Festival, New Student Welcome Brunch, Teacher Appreciation Week, etc.).

Approval of Minutes ([Feb5 DSA PTSA Minutes](#))

Treasurer's Report – Cherry Wongtrakool ([April 16 2019 Meeting Treasurer's Report](#))

Overview and discussion of 2019-2020 Budget

How should PTSA invest? Discussion among attendees.

question: do you have line items for each department?

answer: we do not have specific allocations for each department, when we do the department grants, we ask that you submit what you need and then we determine what will work with the budget we have. It is not budgeted ahead of time because it depends on how much we collect from the Enrichment Fund.

question: what percent of families donate to the enrichment fund?

off the top of my head, around 40 – 50%; that is a rough guess based on last year. However, we did collect more this year than we did last year, so it could be that participation could be going up.

question: it sounds like about \$5000 will be left over? is that typical?

answer: probably about \$4000 or so. We try not to carry over that much; this year there were a couple of items – printing costs -- that ended up not spent. Ideally, we like to run even although we need a bit of carryover to pay for the welcome back picnic.

question: can left over funds be used to help the school, for example deferred maintenance of the building?

answer: we could certainly go back and revisit.

answer: Ms. McCauley mentioned the possibility of a survey during the summer to gather information that could inform the budget.

comment: mention of creating a Google document survey that could go out with the newsletter to collect information before the first PTSA meeting in the fall, when the budget must be approved.

Principal's Report – Ms. McCauley

Thanks to staff in attendance, thanks to PTSA Executive Board. Mention of Parent Teacher Conferences tomorrow; kudos to SPA Board and students for their auction night, they raised \$1,800. Mention of On the Scene with Dr. Green, town hall meeting in late April. Mention of upcoming events and dates, including graduation May 27 at the GWCC. Mention of many forms of communication for school. Mention of course verification forms, which should already be turned in. Another round of applause for these amazing teachers and Ms. Branch. Ms. McCauley then responded to several questions from attendees about course verifications, and Ms. Branch added information as well. There was also a question about AP orientation, more information will be forthcoming, and to watch the calendar.

Testing Overview – Ms. Branch

Currently they are doing the End of Grade (EOG) testing for the 8th grade; the rest of the students start the 23rd, for EOG and End of Course testing simultaneously. She asked that families make sure students come to school well-rested and well-fed, with Chromebooks charged. So far, testing has gone smoothly, she said.

Nomination of 2019 – 2020 Board Slate. Lane Holman presented the slate, asked for nomination from the floor. Nomination was received and seconded, and the slate was approved on a voice vote.

Stacey Lucas – President

Jennifer Boyanton – Vice President

Cherry Wongtrakool – Treasurer

Lane Holman – Secretary

Arts Advocacy Presentation – DSA Students presented their PowerPoint presentation on arts advocacy, which included information about and photos of their trip to Washington, D.C., to visit lawmakers and meet with other stakeholders and arts advocates.

Meeting adjourned 7:10 PM