

Approved as Written

**Poplar Tree Elementary  
PTA Meeting Minutes August 24, 2016**

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 10:00 AM

In Attendance: Wanda Radler, Patti Powers, Adrienne Nicholson, Heather Phillips, Stacy Casey, Rebekah McDonald, Allison Denenberg, Amy Swindell, Melanie Read, Kara Balzano, Scott Thimons, Vijay Paspuleti, Neil Slavin, Holly Walker, Sharon Williams, Jyothi Ahand, Lisa Payne, Karrie Delaney

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Review meeting minutes from May 18, 2016. Minutes were approved with two changes:

1. Correct spelling of Melanie Read's last name.
2. Correct spelling of "President's Report"

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

**FCPS ON**

- Theme for the year for students and teachers: "Innovate, Motivate and Create". This goes along with FCPS theme: "Ignite Innovation"
- FCPS ON is one small component (the technological piece) of "Ignite Innovation". All schools in the Chantilly Pyramid will be communicating, collaborating and learning from one other. Each PTA meeting will have update on the FCPS On movement.
- See notes below for report from Mr. Thimons and Ms. Wooden for more info.

**POPLAR TREE IN NUMBERS**

Staffing and Students as of August 24, 2016

- Still in need of cafeteria hostess. Still looking for one IA.

Total Students: 694 (preschool through grade 6)

Preschool (includes Head Start): 15 (at capacity)

K: 3 classes; average of 21 kids

Grade 1: 3 classes; average 23 kids

Grade 2: 3 classes; average 23 kids

Grade 3: 5 classes: 3 Gen Ed, 2 AAP; average 24 in Gen Ed, 25 in AAP

Grade 4: 5 classes: 3 Gen Ed, 2 AAP

Grade 5: 6 classes, 2 Gen Ed, 4 AAP; average 23 kids in each

Grade 6: 3 classes, average of 26 kids  
Cat B: Autism – 5-6 students average

Cat B Non-Autism: 10 kids

IDS class: 6 kids

### **REPORT FROM ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, Holly Walker**

Watchdogs Program will happen again this year.

#### **Safety Report:**

##### **Bus Loop**

- Bus Loop area is for buses only. Preschool and special needs buses come and go at different times. Buses are coming in and out all day long. When people are parked in spaces, lift buses cannot get in. Do not park in bus parking.
- During arrival and dismissal, you cannot drive through to park in bus loop.
- Police can ticket.

##### **Kiss N Ride**

- Please do not pass other people.
- Kiss N Ride was running very well at end of last year.
- Please do not be on your phone while in Kiss N Ride line.

### **SUMMARY/UPDATE OF FCPS ON, Mr. Thimons and Ms. Wooden**

#### **Key Points of FCPS On:**

- Innovative instructional transformation
- Will be providing computers for students to use.
- Mid-July – Poplar Tree received about 500 computers.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6 will receive HP Probook if parents agree with permissions slip. Issued at beginning of year, returned at end of school year.
- Plastic sleeves with ID cards will identify computer to student. Pictures will be on IDs.
- Weight: about 4 pounds, windows 10 operating system, comes with neoprene sleeve and charger
- K-2 will be provided devices to stay here at school.
- Kindergarten will have 3 students per 1 device. Will provide additional support and resources to kindergarten classroom.
- Will distribute 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school. But must have permission form from parents before distribution.
- FAQs will be on the website.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### **Survey Overview**

- Happy with the response rate.

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- Keeping no-fuss fundraiser.
- No Spring Fling.
- Keep Fall Festival.
- Keep Family Movie Nights.
- Work hard to improve communications.
- Will put a copy of survey on the website.

### **CLUBS**

Changes to FCPS Form 8424. Each club needs to be in line with other clubs regarding expenditures.

#### **Open Positions for Clubs**

- Publishing Center – was open last year and still open
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade celebration
- Beautification
- Safety Patrols
- PTA County Council
- Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement

#### **Lego League**

- Looking at possibly one or two teams, with up to 10 kids per team. PTA will take ownership of the hardware.
- There was discussion and voicing of concerns about cost. Will table discussion until next meeting. Will bring more info about Lego League budget.

#### **Treasurers Report**

Audit - Has been slow going due to vacations. Have not completed full draft of Budget due to Audit not being done.

Current Balance: \$18,473

Upcoming activities:

Approval of budget and audit report; new spirit wear; insurance renewal.

#### **No-Fuss Fundraiser**

Same goal as last year: \$15,000

Will run from start of school through October 6.

#### **Membership**

Based on accounting issue, we will ask teachers pay their state, Fairfax county and national dues of \$5. Not asking for any additional dues for Poplar Tree PTA.

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Membership will stay at \$20 per family.

Initial push for people to input form online.

This year, we are using A-Z Directory. Anyone who wants to opt out needs to turn in Fairfax County Public School opt-out form. Parents will be able to go in and confirm and update online what information is listed in directory. A-Z will print directory for PTA members. Advertisements pay for directory.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Audit Report: Allison Denenberg**

- Still in progress due to various vacation schedules
- Considering Moneyminder – budgeting tool for PTA. \$159 per year.
- Will have official audit paper at next meeting.

**Website, Lisa Payne**

We have a new PTA website on WordPress. New website is more user-friendly, easier to navigate  
New website URL: [Poplartreepta.org](http://Poplartreepta.org)

**Meeting Adjourned** – 11:19 AM