



## **PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

**P.S. 56 The Lewis H. Latimer School**

**“A Community of Learners, A Community of Leaders”**

Eric Grande, Principal

Tina Fleming, P.T.A. President

Shaila Dewan, P.T.A. Vice-President

Aja Stephens, P.T.A. Secretary

Melissa Forrest, Historian

### **P.T.A. MEETING**

Monday, September 24, 2018, 6:00 pm

P.S. 56 Cafeteria

### **MINUTES**

**Officers Present: Tina Fleming, Shaila Dewan, Melissa Forrest, Aja Stephens**

**Committee Chairs Present: Kisha Anderer, Elisa Casado, Nirah Johnson, Shanel Johnson**

**Number of Parents and Teachers present: 34**

President Tina Fleming called the meeting to order at 6:11pm. Ms. Fleming welcomed all the parents and teachers, and invited Principal Grande to give his report.

Mr. Grande welcomed everyone and remarked on the excellent attendance. He reported that the school's enrollment is at 266, and the goal is 270. He thanked parents and administrators for being cheerleaders for the school. This year, the school added 4 additional classes, expanded the G&T and World language programs; there are two 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes, allowing for a lower average class size throughout the school. There is some discussion about having 2 lunch periods because of the increased school population. 3 Capital projects will begin this year: expansion of the Library to add a media library (December/January); Playground expansion (to begin June 2019); Dance Room remodel.

Mr. Williams welcomed the parents, introduced himself and his role in the school. He share his cell phone number. He then apprised the parents of several upcoming dates, and reminded parents to check for back pack flyers and the phone blasts.

The PTA Officers introduced themselves to the parents and explained their roles.

Vice President Shaila Dewan talked about some of the annual events the PTA currently runs, and encouraged parents to get involved in these activities and committees. These include but are not limited to graduation, Career Day, Dino Dig, and the Reading Campground. She informed the parents about the various ways we communicate with parents: Remind, Facebook page. The Communications Committee chair has been working on a new school and PTA website, which will be live soon. We are looking for Class Parents to be liaisons between the PTA and the classrooms.

The Committee Chairs who were present introduced themselves and gave an overview of their committee work. All parents are encouraged to join any committee they find of interest.

Kisha Anderer, Fundraising Committee Chair

The Fundraising Committee has been hard at work. Now that the PTA is a 501c3, we have an AmazonSmile account, an online giving portal, we are planning a direct appeal campaign in time for Giving Tuesday, and a Spring Fundraising Event. A grant writing subcommittee is also working with the school on specific funding initiatives. All interested parents are welcome to join.

Elisa Casado, Title I Committee Chair

Title I schools receive a certain amount of funding for parent programming. This committee will plan the programs.

Shanel Johnson, Nominating Committee Chair

The nominating committee runs the PTA elections. There are 3 open positions for a special election in October – PTA Treasurer, and 2 SLT positions.

Nirah Johnson, Communications Committee Chair

A new school and PTA website is close to launching. The committee will be reviewing the current parent communication channels.

Lailona Rhodes, Hospitality Committee Chair

Noble Cummings was presented with a certificate by the District.

The PTA Treasurer and 2 SLT positions will have a special election at the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are interested in running for one of the positions, please return the self-nomination sheet that was distributed on Friday, September 21. There is no campaigning for PTA positions.

The revised PTA By-laws will be presented at the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, and voted on at the November PTA meeting.

It was suggested that we ask parents what their skillsets are with a returnable backpack notice.

Mrs. Fleming adjourned the meeting at 7pm.

Submitted by:

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Aja Grosvenor-Stephens

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Date