



Attendees

- Lisa Mack, BCPS Board Member
- PTA Board Members: Carrie Differ, Marie Grant, Olga Mason, Laia Tideman
- Members: 9 general members

Q&A and Listening Session with Lisa Mack

- Background on her position on the BCPS Board
 - “Board is the what. The superintendent is the how.”
- Actions of the Board on pandemic
- Resources available to families
- Comments from members:
 - One parent’s express concerns with middle school. Especially the transition from elementary to middle school.
 - One parent’s experience with YMCA pod. Concerns with distractions at the Y with different students working on different schedules.
 - Lisa - Q on parents access to childcare? Discussion that families are not accessing available resources due to money concerns.
 - Ms. Thuro shares her experience as a teacher. Expressed concerns about communication between central office-schools-teachers-families. Concern that meeting the basic needs of families is the priority. Teaching is secondary to that.
 - Feedback on kindergarten experiences from PTA parents.
 - Comment from parents about outside well-being activities. Options to use the school grounds for non-educational/informal opportunities.
 - Suggestions for families to exchange contact information for informal connections (email, phone number, usernames for Switch/Minecraft , etc...)
- Lisa - What is it that you (PTA) would want the BCPS Board/Dr. Williams to know?
 - Parent concerns: What are we doing now to prepare for the next school year? Thinking innovatively about what options are available?
 - Parent concern about the principal having some autonomy in determining what is appropriate for each school/community.
 - Concern regarding the hybrid options - parents opting into virtual only for the consistency.
- Lisa encouraged parents to attend the BCPS committee meetings. Lisa stated that much more of the work happens in the committee meetings.
 - Open to the public
 - Next Equity meeting: Dec. 10, 4-530
- Advisory Committees
 - SECAC

Westowne Elementary School PTA Listening and Q&A Session with Lisa Mack

November 17, 2020

Virtual Meeting - Google Meet



- GTCAC
- Southwest Advisory Committee
 - Presents to the Board quarterly
- Decoding Dyslexia
- Sharing information on childcare subsidies
 - Check with Quirk's office for subsidies