



Attendees

- Board Members: Carrie Differ, Marie Grant, Olga Mason, Laia Tideman
- Administration and Staff: Mr. Palmer, Mr. Schultz, Ms. Singer, Ms. McKnight, Ms. Thuro, Ms. Massie
- Members: general members
- Total participants: 19

Welcome

- Google Meet Etiquette and Tips
- Nominating Committee
 - Westowne PTA bylaws require at least 3 members from membership to be on the nominating committee
- Elections
 - At the start of the pandemic, we were supposed to have elections. MD PTA was not allowing official business virtually.
 - Elections for a one-year term for the 2021-2022 school year
- Current/Upcoming Events
 - Restaurant Night @State Fare - March 25
 - FUNding Fridays - March 26
 - Restaurant Week @Brick and Fire Pizza
 - Book Fair
 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- Committee Reports
 - 5th Grade
 - Spiritwear Fundraiser
 - Trivia Night
 - Pre-order concessions from movie night
 - Yearbook Cover Contest
 - Owl-quarantine
 - 5th Grade Commencement Activities
 - Mr. Palmer says they are still waiting, but they did allow some high school events, so he is hopeful
 - Also mentioned the possible re-start of some after school clubs
 - Equity and Inclusion
 - Discussion on the [tool](#) for local PTAs to assess where our PTA is. (link included to membership in the chat)
 - WEstowne PTA somewhere between Beginning and Emerging
 - Thinking about ways to incorporate this work in our.



- Nominating committee is part of this work. Making sure it is as open as possible.

Treasurer's report

- Membership Update
 - @133
- Fundraisers
 - Spiritwear fundraiser
- Teacher Supplies
 - Funds available for teacher reimbursement of supplies.
- Return to school supplies
 - PTA bought supplies for return to school including bins for storage and whiteboards.

Westowne Administration Update and Q&A

- Appreciation
- Status of Hybrid School reopening
 - How's it going?
 - Things are going very well. Administration did a lot of thinking about the
 - Masks are being consistently worn. Some reminders to stay appropriate distances apart.
 - Teachers developing skills to manage both in-person and hybrid groups
 - Transportation
 - Going ok. Some issues with missed stops. Mr. Shultz did a few ride alongs on some routes.
 - Recent Technology interruptions
 - Past few days some issues with connectivity
 - Grades 3-5 coming in on April 6
 - 3-5 grade teachers back in the building
 - Admin feels like they are prepared and ready to return
 - Lessons learned?
 - Biggest concern and what they are working on is transportation
 - Especially the dismissal process
 - Substitute teachers lessons learned
 - Lack of teacher devices. Develop new strategies for subs.
 - Meal distribution (Breakfast and Lunch)
 - Grab and go lunches going well
 - Kindergarten eating lunches in the cafeteria
 - Possibility of switching another grade into the cafeteria instead of the classroom
 - Mr. Palmer encouraging staff to begin using outdoor space



- Staff uses What's App? For communication among administration and staff. Been an effective communication tool.
- Administration starting to staff for next.
- Last day of school for this year?
 - Possibly changes due to snow days and state emergencies
- Drills
 - 2 drills so far
 - Severe weather and fire drills with each cohort
 - Basic lockdown drill coming in April
- Saturday School program coming from the county
 - 3 Saturdays for each cohort (6 total)
 - Up to 60 students
 - Targeting students - more about engagement rather than skills
 - Invite to specific parents in grades 1-4
- Questions from membership and chat
 - Picture day -April 26 and 29
 - For both hybrid and virtual students
 - Can students bring in phones/tablets to use during recess if they leave it with the teacher during the day?
 - School is encouraging time away from screens during recess
 - Additional students coming into in-person hybrid?
 - This week an additional 17 students. Students continue to come in based on when they requested it and transportation.
 - Is there someone who is walking first graders to their room from the entrance?
 - Yes, there are staff throughout the building to guide students to the correct locations
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Resources for Families

- Curbside meal pickup continues at the school on Mondays and Wednesdays
 - Pick-up anytime between 11:00 AM and 11:45 PM
- BCPS Resources for Families: [Parent U](#)
- Baltimore County Supports: [COVID-19 Resource Guide](#)

BCPS School Calendar

- Mar. 26, Spring Break Begins at the End of the School Day
- Apr. 6, Schools Reopen
- Apr. 16, Third Marking Period Ends
- Apr. 29, Report Cards Distributed

Westowne Elementary School PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2021

Virtual Meeting - Google Meet



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- Apr, 30, Pre- K Conference Day – No Preschool-3 or Pre-K sessions