

May 2019 Jamestown ("JES") PTA Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

May 7, 2019 7:02 PM (20 people present)

- Everyone introduced themselves
- The Agenda was approved
- The Minutes from April were approved

Principal's Report: Michelle McCarthy

- Michelle McCarthy reported that JES parent Jenna Dressel and JES teacher Danny Greene were each nominated for a SEPTA award.
- Michelle McCarthy reported that the SEPTA awards ceremony will be on May 14th at W & L High School.
- Michelle McCarthy reported that the JES 5K was a great success.
- Michelle McCarthy reported that the JES Bingo Night was a great success.
- Michelle McCarthy thanked parents for a wonderful Teacher Appreciation week.
- Michelle McCarthy reported on the status of the JES playground swings that are broken.
- Michelle McCarthy reported that JES has requested from the vendor a full refund for the swings.
- Michelle McCarthy reported that JES received a quick response from the vendor stating that they would send a refund check and that the swings would be removed next week.
- Michelle McCarthy reported that once the refund is received JES may decide not purchase new swings and that other options are being looked into.
- Michelle McCarthy thanked parents for getting the word out to parents with kindergarten age children, to register them for school next year.
- Michelle McCarthy reported that next year JES will have an additional 3rd grade class and will have a total of five 3rd grade classes.
- Michelle McCarthy reported that the Spring Concert is tomorrow at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM at JES.
- Michelle McCarthy introduced Monica Roache, JES Assistant Principal, who reported that Monday, May 13th kicks off SOL season at JES.

Guest: Sarah Putnam, APS Director of Curriculum and Instruction

- Michelle McCarthy introduced Sarah Putnam who spoke about Standards Based Report Cards.

- Sarah Putnam reported that she took on a new position in APS and was asked to upgrade APS's grading policy.
- Sarah Putnam reported that APS currently has a variety of formats.
- Sarah Putnam reported that 3 elementary schools are currently using Standards Based Grading ("SBG"); Ashlawn, Oakridge and Discovery.
- Sarah Putnam reported that in the fall 2019, 9 more schools are coming on board.
- Sarah Putnam reported that SBG provides precise and specific information about a child's progress towards standards.
- Sarah Putnam reported that SBG provides a meaningful, consistent and accurate picture of student proficiency on agreed upon standards.
- Sarah Putnam reported that SBG supports students in answering where am I going, where am I now and how will I get there.
- Sarah Putnam reported that the reason to implement SBG is for consistency, to focus on what students know and are able to do and to build student ownership.
- Sarah Putnam reported that SBG is being implemented at the elementary school level only, at this point in time.
- Sarah Putnam reported that SBG is a mind shift and that learning is a progression. Report cards do not give a letter grade, but rather use the following language:
 - Exceeds Standards
 - Meets Standards
 - Developing Mastery, and
 - Insufficient Evidence
- Sarah Putnam reported that SBG does not equate to a letter grade.
- Sarah Putnam reported that students take more ownership using SBG.
- Sarah Putnam reported that more information about SBG can be found on the APS website at www.apsva.us/standards-based-instruction/.
- Sarah Putnam answered questions asked by parents attending the meeting.

Internal Relations: Shannon Haynes

- Shannon Haynes reported on the Randolph Summer School initiative.
- Shannon Haynes reported that JES was able to sponsor 50 students at Randolph Elementary for Summer School.

External Relations: Angela Cocker

- Angela Cocker reported that there were 255 participants in the JES 5K.
- Angela Cocker reported that the 5K was a great community event.
- Angela Cocker reported on JES Bingo Night.

- Angela Cocker reported that there were 50 people in attendance at Bingo Night and that Dr. Roache was the Bingo caller.
- Angela Cocker reported that the CCPTA is still looking for a volunteer from JES to look at grants.
- Angela Cocker reported that kindergarten play dates have begun.
- Angela Cocker reported that Teacher Appreciation week is going great.
- Angela Cocker reported that she is meeting with JES teacher Kathleen Freeman, who is planning Nature Days the last week of school, which will include painting rocks, painting the water barrels and other fun outside activities.

Communications: Shelly Heinrich

- Shelly Heinrich reported that the Poetry Journal is at APS being bound and should be distributed to students soon.
- Shelly Heinrich reported that the JES Yearbook is done and is currently being printed.

Fundraising: Stacey O'Neill

- Stacey O'Neill reported that JES has no Auction chairs for next school year.
- Stacey O'Neill reported that the Auction brings in 76% of JES's revenue and she is hopeful that parents will step-up to chair the Auction.

Treasurer's Report: Jason Marino

- Jason Marino reported that the JES PTA financial highlights were reviewed as follows:
 - Total bank balance as of March 31, 2019 was \$141,752.
 - Total bank balance as of April 30, 2019 was \$151,834.
- Jason Marino reported that the playground swing is not fixable.
- Jason Marino reported that the vendor has agreed to take back the swing and will pay JES \$17,000, the cost of the swings.
- Jason Marino reported that the JES accountant fired us because the taxes were too complicated.
- Jason Marino reported that he has found another accountant to replace the old one.

President's Report: Angela Cocker on behalf of Maurine Fanguy

- Angela Cocker reported that the 2019-2020 Executive Board is as follows, according to the JES bi-laws:
 - President: Maurine Fanguy
 - VP External Relations: Angela Cocker
 - VP Internal Relations: Shannon Haynes
 - VP Fundraising: Stacey O'Neill
 - VP Communications: Shelly Heinrich
 - Recording Secretary: Suzanna Crowder
 - Treasurer: Jason Marino

Motion to Adjourn, Seconded, Adjourned at 8:15 PM

Prepared by Karen Duhamel, Recording Secretary