PTA Meeting Minutes, April 5, 2016

Meeting called at 7:10pm

Presentation by School Counselor: Gender Transition in Schools (Ms. Kanter):

* Elementary schools need to be prepared for this evolving topic
* Terminology
* MCPS Updates
  + - Creation of Task force in 2014 (5 goals)
    - Principal or designee works with student and family to create a plan that ensures equal access and equal opportunities in all school programs
    - Importance of keeping information confidential
    - Things to consider…
    - Bullying and Harassment
    - Safe Spaces at School
    - Video clip: Exploring the challenges of an elementary aged transgender student
      * <http://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2015/03/17/digital-shorts-parenting-transgender-child-orig.cnn/video/playlists/playlists/digital-short-films-t1-for-specials-page/>
    - Mental Health Comorbidities
    - What can we do in schools?
      * MCPS Guidance (Student plans of action)
      * Schools in Transition Guide: Published August 2015
        + <http://www.nclrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Schools-in-Transition-2015.pdf>
      * Welcoming Schools
        + Outread Available
        + Handouts
      * Helpful Resources
        + Welcoming Schools: <http://www.welcomingschools.org>
        + Gender spectrum: <https://www.genderspectrum.org>
        + GLSEN: <http://www.glsen.org>
        + PFLAG
        + Gender and Sexuality Dev. Program at Children’s National Health System (Children 4 yrs and up)

Dr. David Call, Director

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Treasurer Report (Jocelyn Ulrich & Stella):

* Budget on track
* 3 Cultural Art Assemblies
* Will support the patrol picnic
* Science Fair

Delegate (Jamie Becker/Juli Nix):

* Always looking for more parental involvement
* Please give 2 suggestions to how we can more effectively message/encourage membership

Enrichment Update (Kellie Zuba):

* Spring Enrichment begins following Monday. Please sign up right away.
* Met with a program [Flex Academies] that will provide all afterschool activities (Under one umbrella)

Upcoming events:

* K Orientation (Juli Nix) – April 11th and 12th
  + Needs volunteers
* Science fair – April 15th
* Churchill Cluster Basketball Team (Harlem Wizards) - Sunday April 17th
* Restaurant Night Upcoming
* Tuesday April 26th No School – Primary Election Day
* May PTA Meeting Voting for Board for 2016/2017 School Year
  + If interesting in being on board, please email Geena Goodhand
  + Voting in the budget (15 people minimum must be in attendance)

Principal Oglesby:

* County Council Meetings 7pm – April 5th, 6th, 7th
  + Need to raise property taxes to fund education
* K Orientation – Monday and Tuesday
  + BarT is offering daycare whether or not your children are members of BarT to travel to the BarT Ranch ($40 a day)
* PARC Assessments coming up (3 weeks to finish it)
  + Computerized
  + Parents will receive results early fall next year
  + May 9th until Friday before Memorial Day
* Please return forms regarding if your child will be here next year
  + Currently we are projected at 626 students
  + 4 teachers per grade

Upcoming Events:

* Choice Study
  + 3 Meetings
  + MCPS Center School Website

Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm