

Key School General PTA Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2012

1. Fillmore introduction & update: Tilman Wuerschmidt, Katherine Latterner, Kelly Richmond
 - a. First grade zydeco dance performance

2. Landeryou Report
 - a. Thanks/acknowledgement of Fillmore
 - b. Discussed budget process for 2012-2013
 - i. 411 students projected for 2012-2013, up from 389 (20 kids growth) –close to adding a class, but he doesn't anticipate having to add a new class
 - ii. Haven't yet received per-student funding
 - iii. Approximating that all students can fit in existing classes
 - iv. Intent to return forms to be distributed soon
 - v. Wildcard is KG enrollment; encourage neighbors in Palisades to register early
 - vi. Estimating 60 kids in kindergarten based on current pre-K population
 - c. Three things that make things great; Teachers, Programs, Parents, Students

3. Treasurer report (Tobey Collins)
 - a. Highlights
 - i. Received all funds for ASEP
 - ii. All bulk supplies paid – high 80% of students paid
 - iii. Ahead of projections for dues/contributions
 - iv. Harvest fest, Secret shop, Tree sale came in above budget
 - v. Retail rebate is growing

4. Auction report
 - a. New auction chair- Kalina Bay w/ help from Ece Gimer and Michelle Mundt
 - b. Theme is 'green'
 - c. Playground project is the 'fund an item'
 - d. Auction website is up where you can register, sponsor, and other items
 - e. Monday night, January 30, first big meeting @ Kalina's house
 - f. Sign-up sheet distributed
 - g. Stressed importance of auction on various items the funds support

5. Playground report
 - a. Jen Felten, Julie Scott
 - b. Contracted with landscape design firm who is looking at outdoor design to include many facets (evacuation route, shading, etc). \$7500 contract for phase 1 site plan which will come in February
 - c. Already have bids for equipment but waiting to finalize site plan
 - d. Initial goal is \$150,000; need more focus on fundraising
 - e. Looking at 'fund an item' at auction, direct mail, and grant applications
 - f. Looking to hit mark by summer
 - g. Will then go to city to get remaining funds once they hit goal and have site plan

- h. Helping to encourage the city to make this a priority
 - i. Anything with \$250 and above gets some sort of recognition on the playground
6. Science fair report
- a. Ms. Johnson, Mr. Riley, Ms. Maldari
 - b. Benefits of science fair overview
 - c. Needs for March 2 to highlight
 - i. Looking for judges (someone in the science community/profession)
 - ii. Lots of hands-on projects/demonstrations. Want to make it interactive
 - iii. Could use some experts i.e. entomologist need, bird watchers, etc
 - iv. Logistical issues: space concerns, heat, loud, etc.; as a solution they are using a tent on the blacktop for food and demonstrations
 - v. Typically we have students get nominated for city-wide competition. DC is not going to have city-wide competition it will rather be an interactive showcase.
 - vi. Still may have a 'Key only' competition/award ceremony
7. Healthy foods committee
- a. Ingrid Bush, Christy Ross
 - b. Every school that participates in federal healthy schools act has to have healthy options for students
 - c. Guidelines for wellness which are posted on website- these extend into school related activities/events outside of the classroom
 - d. Sugar – can no longer offer soda at any PTA sponsored activity. Provided statistics on how much sugar we add and the overall effects of too much sugar.
 - e. Look at labels especially foods that are brought in for snacks
 - f. Listed sweetener alternatives
8. Life After Key committee
- a. Mark Blumenthal/Patti Sulser
 - b. Good news from Hardy; is one of two schools in DC that was selected to participate in gifted program pilot. Will be in place by the next school year.
9. Mary Riner Sidall, Head of School, Basis Charter School
- a. Parent who brought Basis to DC
 - b. Very math and science focused curriculum
 - c. Nationally recognized
 - d. Building in old staples building in Chinatown
 - e. Will have busses
 - f. 5-8 (to open next year) with growing to 12th grade, 400 students
 - g. Already has 200 students