

**Cherry Run Elementary PTA
General Membership Meeting Minutes - February 18, 2021**

- Establish Quorum, Open Meeting
 - Posted the following links in the chat.
 - <https://cherryrunelementarypta.org/info/budget/>
 - <https://cherryrunelementarypta.org/january-2021/>

- Principal's Update by. Ms. Waters:
 - We are preparing to return to school. Preschoolers returned last week. Worked last week with Kim and the custodians to prepare. There is an uptick of people who are homeschooled trying to return.
 - Classrooms can only have 16 kids at a time. Childcare must be provided for faculty.
 - Top priority is returning and rebuilding community. We don't want separate communities for Tuesday / Wednesday and Thursday / Friday and are working on how to avoid that.
 - Fairfax Co is looking to do recovery services and possibly extending summer programs. Those would be for preschoolers and kindergarteners moving to first grade. These are things that are being worked on. We need ways to contact incoming kindergarteners. The CAREs Act provides federal funding to schools due to Covid. All schools received it.
 - How will you know your bus time and stop? That comes from transportation. Bus drivers are not checking temperatures, but they are distancing in busses, which might affect the timing. For rising kindergarteners, you can download the packets now.
 - New clinic aid and new nurse. Can work with them if your child needs medicine at school.
 - Which days students will go in – you'll hear from your teachers. Kindergarten has gone out. 1st and 2nd will go out next week. Other grades will follow.
 - What about SACC? They are a county organization and not part of the school. We've been told not to use their space. Parents with questions about SACC should reach out to them.
 - Kindergarten parents might be concerned with kids not wanting to detach. Teachers will not distance if kids are upset. Staff has had vaccines.
 - Care room is for kids who may have Covid symptoms. It will be Ms. Hurley's office. Kids will not be isolated in there. They will be taken care of as they always have been.
 - The staff would like to thank everyone for their patience with them having their vaccine appointments.

- Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - Motion: To accept the meeting minutes from our January 26th meeting.**
 - Catherine Brown**
 - Second: Ann Newman**

Minutes from last meeting were approved.

- Presentation: Cherry Run Preschool Program Leslie Lauth-Torres
 - Serves Cherry Run, Sangster, Orange Hunt, Hunt Valley and Saratoga.
 - Child Find program identifies children with special needs through local screening. Separate community outreach program for kids younger than Kindergarten.
 - Any parent with concerns can be given an appointment for screening through Child Find. If developmental delay (25% of age) is determined, there are 4 levels of service.
 - Teachers sometimes travel to where the kids are. So if you see them leaving in the middle of the day, they're still working.
 - Preschoolers participate in PTA events as appropriate. Some events are overwhelming. So we make adjustments as needed.
 - Ms. Waters: We have talked about growing preschool autism program to have another class. If you have a pre-k student that has specific needs, this preschool team is who to talk to.
 - If you meet a parent who is struggling and has concerns, refer them to Child Find.

- Yearbook please complete this survey <https://forms.gle/5jCWwoNHNMure9xE9>
 - Lifetouch is not doing yearbooks and will not provide pictures for a yearbook. Going through Lifetouch is how we would normally do yearbooks.
 - We would have to figure out how many to print and handle ordering.
 - An option we've discussed as an executive board includes doing a year in review style yearbook. We need input and help from the community. Submitting pictures would be voluntary.
 - We probably won't have pictures of individual kids with lists of names. It will be more collage style.
 - Is there a deadline? We're behind already but need to get something started by around the end of February if we're going to do this.
 - Do early survey results indicate much interest? 25 results so far, 80-90% interest.
 - Previously it's been done as a fundraiser. This year it would not be a fundraiser but would just be for the community. We could not print just 25 because that would be way too expensive.
 - A way to approach this could be with a lead for each grade to collect pictures.

- Budget Update
 - If you are a teacher who is a member of the PTA, please get receipts for classroom supply reimbursements to Kim Painter and let her know how you'd like to receive payment. Teacher members are eligible for up to \$100 in classroom supplies. Membership for staff is \$10 and you can still join. (If you have students at the school, it's still \$75). Check request form is here: <https://cherryrunelementarypta.org/info/pta-documents/check-request-form/>
 - We budgeted about 39K in income for the year. We've had about 11K. That's ok because expenses are down this year.
 - Terri Thomas has been doing great work to plan events.
 - When should families with rising Kindergarteners join the PTA? Probably wait until the fall so that the funds go towards that year. We could have them sign up for the weekly highlights so they are in the loop before their kids start kindergarten.

- Open Executive Board Positions:

- President
- 1st VP (Programs)
- Treasurer
- Nominating Committee presents slate at March PTA meeting
- Elections occur in May
- Also open: 2nd VP (Volunteers) will not need to be voted on.
- *We don't have a lot of nominees. If you or someone you know may be interested, please reach out to Katherine Seto. katherine.seto@gmail.com
- <https://cherryrunpta.memberhub.store/store>

- Updates and Looking Forward

- Terri Thomas thanked everyone for participating in Bingo night – All the teachers, Tosche Station. Kim for operating the prize room and the PTA Board.
- Spirit night at Spartans will be March 15 and 16 – all day event (Includes lunch and dinner AND you can participate by purchasing gift cards on one of those two days.) They have really good pizza.
- Fairfax County School Board is going on right now. There are a lot of children talking about emotional impact to kids. – In case anyone is interested in joining.