**Peyton Forest Elementary**

**Date: March 17th, 2021**

**Time: 2:30-3:30pm**

**Location:** **Virtual Zoom Meeting**

**<https://atlantapublicschools-us.zoom.us/j/87173040306?pwd=SmVRSDZ4NFAwKzZxYm9ySE00Ymp3QT09#success>**

1. **Call to order.**
2. **Roll Call.**
3. **Determination if Quorum is Established.**
4. **Initial Action Items**
	1. **Approval of Previous Minutes: Reminder:** Minutes can be found on the Peyton Forest GO Team Website.
	2. **Approval of Agenda:** Reminder: Agenda can be found on the Peyton Forest GO Team Website
5. **Opening Items:**
	1. Thank you for joining us today, everyone’s participation and support are greatly appreciated.
	2. New Agenda format for easier flow. Please feel free to provide feedback for continuous improvement.
6. **Discussion Items**
	1. **Discussion Item 1**: Striving for 100% Completion of Governance Budget Assessment-
		1. Members who “need completion” will find a follow up reminder email sent out today from Mrs. Redfield with details, links, and supports. Please open the attachment sent before starting.
	2. **Discussion Item 2:** Reminder that Declarations for the 2021 GO Team elections are now open. Spread the Word!
		1. Parents/Guardians Declaring Candidacy can fill out the following form <https://form.jotform.com/electionbuddy/2021GOTeamDeclaration>
	3. **Discussion Item 3**: Today will be the final steps for the Budget Approval.
		1. The final Approved Budget AND the Budget Development Presentation must be submitted to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FY21BudgetApproval>
		2. Note: The Strategic Plan and the FY22 Strategic Plan Breakout MUST be included.
7. **Action Items:**
	1. **Approval of Action Item 1:**
	2. **Approval of Action Item 2:**
8. **Information Items** *(add items as needed)*
	1. **Informaiton Item 1: Principal’s Report** *(New/Updated Principal’s Report if available, not required)*
	2. **Information Item 2**: FYI please share with the Community that Atlanta Public Schools is offering free COVID 19 Surveillance Testing to all community members, not just students and staff. Any individual can be tested Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm at Dougless High School.
	3. **Information Item 3**: Please read up about the Private Schools Voucher Legislation in the Georgia General Assembly since it may be harmful to the funds available to Public School systems. You can find details on page 2 attached to today’s Meeting Agenda. If you have any questions, please email them to Mrs. Redfield and she will find the answer from our local representative.
	4. **Information Item 4**: Does any member have an information item to include in today’s meeting?
9. **Announcements**
	1. If you require guidance, documents, training or additional information, please feel free to contact Mrs. Redfield. The District Governance Team Website Members Only link with pertinent information is undergoing an update and still “In Progress” and unavailable.
	2. Does any member have an announcement that they would like to share at this time?
10. **Public Comment** *(as of 2:17pm Wed. March 17th, 2021, no public comment sign-ups are present on sign-up genius)*
11. **Adjournment**

**Voucher Legislation in the Georgia General Assembly has Harmful Implications for Public Schools and Public School Students**

SB 47, the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Act, expands eligibility for the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship voucher to include students with a Section 504 plan.

* This bill expands the list of qualifying health conditions for the voucher from 11 to 21.
* The process for identifying students for Section 504 plans lacks the structure of the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Making the Special Needs Scholarship voucher available to students with Section 504 plans significantly broadens eligibility for this voucher.
* The lack of structure for making Section 504 plans, combined with the confusing language of this legislation, would open up vouchers to any student and family who is able to take advantage of legislative uncertainty and secure a diagnosis that qualifies them for a voucher.
* Students in receipt of SB 47 vouchers would give up their rights to reasonable accommodation, provided under federal law, to attend private schools that are not held accountable for the meeting the special needs of students.
* Shifting public school funding to private schools that are not subject to financial audits by the state is an inappropriate use of limited public education resources.
* Parents who choose to take the voucher and their students to a private school give up access to the academic measures of student achievement that are provided by public schools.
* Parental school choice should not come at the expense of accountability for schools and protection for students.
* In SY19-20, Atlanta Public Schools had 2,380 students with Section 504 plans. Providing vouchers to this group of students would have a significant financial impact on APS and public schools across our state.

HB 60, the Georgia Educational Scholarship Act, provides educational scholarships/vouchers to a broad class of students, including: students with family incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level; adopted foster children; children of active duty military members; students with disabilities and an IEP; students with documented cases of bullying; and, students who spent the prior school year enrolled in a public school which is currently not offering an option for 100% in-person instruction.

* This is a broad, general voucher bill that would make costly private school vouchers available to nearly every K-12 student in Georgia.
* Shifting public school funding to private schools, especially in the midst of the COVID-1 pandemic, is an inappropriate use of limited public education resources.
* The Legislature should work in alignment with the FY22 budget proposal, which restores 60% of austerity cuts to QBE funding in support of public schools.
* Private schools have access to federal funding and loans as a result of the pandemic. They do not need extra funding in the form of general vouchers.
* Parents who choose to take the voucher and their students to a private school give up access to the academic measures of student achievement that are provided by public schools.
* Parental school choice should not come at the expense of accountability for schools and protections for students.