

PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
School Reform Team 3 Offices
1631 La France Drive, Atlanta, GA
Wednesday, March 18, 2009
3:00 PM

Present: Yolonda Brown, Steve Fazenbaker, Elizabeth Lieberman, Clare Richie, Guido Sacchi

Invited Guest: Karlene Joseph, Communications Committee chair

The meeting was called to order by Clare Richie at 3:10 PM. The agenda was distributed and accepted. The minutes were distributed and approved.

Update from Principal

- Technology: Ms. Brown will receive technology standardization information at her next meeting with IT personnel.
- International Baccalaureate: If we decide to pursue IB at the new school, the first year will be exploratory (2009-2010) during which time there must be 80% buy-in from stakeholders to pursue further. If the decision is made to pursue becoming an IB school, the three year application would begin 2010-2011. The application includes a plan of action (putting essential elements in place, aligning Georgia Performance Standards with IB standards, hire an IB facilitator, helping teachers adapt current curriculum). Exploration will include visiting current IB schools, and discussing the advantages and disadvantages of becoming an IB school. Other comprehensive school reform models will also be considered during the exploration process. It is also important to note that during the application process the school will be putting in place the features of an IB school that could be enjoyed by students during the application process.
- Extended Day: Ms. Brown received word that an extended day at the new school is a possibility. Dr. Patterson will seek funding if we decide to offer an extended day. Offering an extended day needs 80% buy-in from stakeholders. Money for extended day comes from designated funding, and does not impact overall school funding. A stakeholder vote on extended day will be included with registration materials.
- Uniforms: Discussion as to whether to pursue uniforms, and whether we can have uniforms by the first day of school. The decision to have uniforms at the new school must have 80% buy-in from stakeholders. Consensus was that we should capitalize on the excitement of opening a new school and consider uniforms for the first day of school. If we decide to have uniforms, a Uniform committee will be formed. A stakeholder vote on uniforms will be included with registration materials.

Survey for Registration Packets

Karlene Joseph will help put together a survey to be included in the registration packets. The survey will include:

- Uniforms (Elizabeth Lieberman will work with Kelly Taylor on developing this part of the survey)
- Transportation / Bus Ridership (developed by Mary Stouffer)
- Extended Day (developed by Clare Richie)

After Care

The new school can offer on-site after-care. Ms. Brown distributed a list of APS-approved after-school care providers, and a list showing the providers used at each APS elementary school. Ms. Brown said that a vendor cannot operate on-site unless it has been approved by APS. Vendors must demonstrate how they align with the individual school's achievement plan. Ms. Brown would like the Enrichment / After-Care Committee to offer a list of priorities so she can select three vendors to interview. She would also like to have at least two parent representatives (at least one parent representing a primary grade, and at least one representing an upper grade) to participate in the interview process. She would like to conduct the interviews on Thursday, March 26. Note: after-school clubs (parent-run) do not have to go through APS approval to operate on school property.

Upcoming Meetings

- PTO Executive Board – Wednesday, March 25, 3:00 PM, at the SRT-3 Office
- PTO Board – Thursday, April 2, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, at the SRT-3 Office
- PTO Executive Board – Wednesday, April 15, 3:00 PM, at the SRT-3 Office
- PTO General Meeting – Thursday, April 30, 6:30 PM, at Mary Lin Elementary School (date and location tentative)

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Fazenbaker