

## **Kensington Parkwood PTA Meeting Minutes March 3, 2009**

**DRAFT**

### **Meet & Mingle**

Approximately 25 members were present.

### **Introduction & Presentation**

Susan Anderson welcomed all in attendance and introduced Ross Santy, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Data and Information, and a KP parent, who discussed the No Child Left Behind Act. He offered a brief summary of the history of the Department of Education, the core of the No Child Left Behind Act and offered his insights as to where we are now. He explained the 2001 Reauthorization "No Child Left Behind" mandated a state driven accountability system based upon standards and assessments. Its goal was that 100% of students would reach grade level proficiency by 2014. States could elect to opt out and refuse federal funds. He explained we can now look at the data collected as a result of NCLB to study achievement gaps. He presented many of these data graphs using KP data to give a better perspective of how the Department of Education uses this data.

Barbara Liess reminded parents that children need to be on time for the MSA's. There is no need to study for the tests, it is simply a review of what the children have done in class. A Mock MSA will be help for parents and students. At that time, teachers will review hints that they received from a Kennedy Center program with suggestions as to how to approach the test.

Ms. Liess announced that there will be a meeting for parents of the Walter Johnson Cluster on April 20th to share the "7 Keys" which is the superintendent's new trajectory for student performance. Details to follow.

### **Business**

The February meeting minutes were approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Susan Anderson reviewed the nomination process. All nominations should be in by March 15<sup>th</sup>. She explained that according to the bylaws, you are elected for one year, and may remain in a position for two years. The slate will be presented at our next meeting, April 1<sup>st</sup>, and voted on at our May meeting.

**Pedestrian and Safety -** Debbie Attar noted that the PTA has contacted the PRA to work together to address traffic safety issues around the school. The two primary areas of concern are the cross walk at Saul and Oldfield, as well as the pick-up entrance at Woodfield and Franklin. She encouraged anyone who had any comments or suggestions, to please e-mail her directly so that she can voice the parent's concern to the PRA. The PRA is expected to vote on administering a traffic safety survey at their next monthly meeting.

MCCPTA: Michele Santy presented the MCPTA's resolution and modified resolution and explained that both drafts will be presented at the next MCCPTA meeting. She explained that all second graders will be evaluated to determine what services your child may need. There was concern that the motion may result in too large of an educational gap in the classroom for a teacher to be able to manage. Ms. Leiss explained that the resolution should not impact how KP makes class assignments.

The group agreed to recommend the Modified Resolution to the MCCPTA.

There are a number of upcoming meetings regarding Gifted and Talented.

### **Committee Reports**

Shamrock Skate: Susan announced that Shamrock Skate is Sunday from 6:30 – 8:00pm at the Wheaton Ice Rink.

### **New Business**

Susan Anderson announced that KP's Global Screening begins on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

We will be reseeding the field. There will be no additional restricted use during school hours. We will be posting signs noting that the field is closed until Fall 2009 for all non-school use.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.