

# **Kensington Parkwood PTA Meeting Minutes**

## **October 7, 2008**

### **Parent Fair of PTA Committees and Programs**

#### **Meet & Mingle**

Approximately 39 members were present.

#### **Introduction & Presentation**

Susan Anderson welcomed all in attendance and introduced Barbara Leiss. Ms. Leiss presented KPES test score results from last year and compared the data to our cluster schools and Montgomery County elementary schools. She explained that the overall purpose of this testing is to help students be more successful in life. She highlighted that a recent survey showed that 60% of MSPC graduates took six year to graduate college.

She announced that she was pleased with the results of our students' test scores. Not only is Kensington Parkwood outperforming county goals, but we have consistency across all demographics. She answered a number of questions in line with the test results.

#### **Business**

The September meeting minutes were approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Susan thanked Heather Tinsley for putting together the Parent Fair. Susan asked users to use the Eaglenet for elementary school-related announcements only. She also announced that we will host a guest speaker from MCPS at the November PTA meeting. There has been much discussion regarding enrollment numbers. Barbara Leiss has arranged for Bruce Crispell, Director of Long-Range Planning, to speak to KP parents. He will take questions, but would like them in advance. Please e-mail Heather Tinsley with your question(s) by October 22<sup>nd</sup> so that she can summarize them for Mr. Crispell. We are currently over-enrolled by forty-five students, thirty-six being in the kindergarten class.

#### **Committee Reports**

Dads and Donuts: Susannah Vesey reminded everyone that Dads and Donuts is this Monday, Columbus Day. Donuts, apples, cheese sticks, orange juice and coffee will be served. We still need a few volunteers to assist with serving. Open House is from 9am to noon.

Third Grade Opera: Susan Anderson announced that Vicki Leonardo is seeking volunteers for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Opera. There may be weekly meetings for some. Your child does not have to be in third grade to assist. It is a great opportunity for parents to share their talents and background. Please e-mail Vicky if interested.

Walk to School Day: Jen Cope reminded parents that Walk to School Day is Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Walker's Entrance: Heather Tinsley announced that we are improving the walker's entrance. We are building a concrete platform, adding benches and planters, along with some of the donated bricks. Shrubbery will also be added to the hill to dissuade children from climbing up the hill. Barbara Leiss said she will include a segment on the morning news to ask the students to stay off the hill.

Butterfly Garden: Heather also encouraged parents to check-out the new butterfly garden that has been planted in front of the second grade classrooms. Dunigan Landscaping has donated a year of maintenance which gives Jen Cope and the landscaping committee a chance to make arrangements for maintenance thereafter.

MCPTA: Beth Seabreeze explained Michelle Santy's and her role as MCPTA delegates. She explained that at the first meeting, it was asked for delegates to ask parents to prioritize what they would NOT want cut from the budget in light of our current economic situation. They distributed a survey and asked for feedback by October 21<sup>st</sup>. They will also try to send the survey out on the Eaglenet.

### **New Business**

Susannah Vesey expressed her concern on the issue of lice at KP. She doesn't think parents necessarily know how to find them. She suggested parents check their children's hair in the daylight. Maureen Lafferty advised the group that there are nit-pickers in Kensington that also do presentations. They charge \$250/presentation. There was following discussion as to other ways to get rid of lice once discovered, along with preventative measures.

Barbara Leiss explained that the lice policy has changed this year. If a child is believed to have lice at school, they will be sent to the Health Technician, and if confirmed, the child will be sent home. They child will not be allowed back to class until they are again examined by the Health Technician. Prior to this year, students had to be nit-free. Now, they will be allowed back as long as the nits are a half an inch from the scalp. There was a request that letters go home to Bar-T students as they go home for children whose classmates have been diagnosed with lice.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.