

Marshall Road Elementary



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Marshall Road Elementary PTA Minutes
March 7, 2018 @ 7pm
MRES Cafeteria

Attendees: Andrea Kramer (Vice President), Amanda DuFrayne (Vice President), Laura Parker (Treasurer), Helen Lee (Secretary), Jennifer Heiges, Missy Walsh, Yesenia Argueta, Urvi Desai, Helga Tong, Beth Eachus

- I. Call Meeting to Order – Vice President, Andrea Kramer, called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.
- II. President's Report – Andrea Kramer, in Anna Moore's (President) stead, thanked everyone for attending, including two guest speakers from the Department of Public Works, Town of Vienna.
 - A. International Night: Andrea thanked chairs Yesenia Argueta and Mona Kamel for a very successful International Night last month. We had great attendance and diverse displays that helped us learn about other countries and cultures. And thanks to all of the help from our MRES community!
 - B. Read Across America Week: Thanks to everyone who also helped make this event a big hit last week. Thanks to Andrea Kramer, Debbie Frankiewicz, and Lisa Hoffman for chairing this program. We had a good turnout for the bookmark project, the poetry cafe, and Dr. Seuss Night.
 - C. Nominating Committee: Andrea reported that we have our three members for the nominating committee now and that we are seeking out interested candidates for the 2018-2019 board. The three members are Andrea Kramer, Lisa Hoffman, and Mona Kamel. Because we did not achieve quorum at this meeting, we are not able to approve the nominating committee, so approval will be sought at the next meeting in April. Please note that those on the committee cannot serve on the board next year (such as Andrea), so we are really looking for people to help serve on our board.
- III. January Meeting Minutes – Helen made a motion to approve the January 2018 meeting minutes and there were no objections.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Laura presented the latest budget and noted that the budget reflects the expenditure of funds to procure the Read Across America Week speaker. She also noted that we have a surplus in funds right now because registration fees have been collected for programs, such as the spring play, but funds have yet to be expended for payroll and other expenses of those programs.
- V. Program Reports
 - A. School Play (Urvi Desai): Urvi announced that the play *Lion King Jr.* will run at 7pm each night on Thursday, 3/22 and Friday, 3/23 in the school gym. Our cast

and crew of 63 fifth and sixth graders have been rehearsing very hard. Attendance is free – just show up to watch!

- B. Scholastic Book Fair (Olga Hernandez / Denise Gargano): Amanda DuFrayne shared the chairs' news in their absence. The Spring Book Fair is right around the corner and will be held from Wednesday, 4/18 through Friday, 4/20 (845am-445pm daily). Thanks to the success of our Fall Book Fair, we are able to offer a Buy One Get One Book Fair this spring. We will need volunteers to control crowd, help shoppers with book selections, organize, work the register, bag books, etc. A training session for volunteers will be held on Tuesday, 4/17 at 9am. Stay tuned for a Signup Genius.
 - C. Spring Family Fun Night (Amanda DuFrayne): Amanda shared that Spring Family Fun Night will be a dance party. There will be no slow dancing, only fast dancing! This will be a family event and an adult chaperone will be required for all kids. We are still looking for a DJ - please contact Amanda if you are interested or know someone who is. Some ideas for the dance are blowup dance toys and group dances headed by teachers. Volunteers are welcome!
 - D. Teacher Appreciation Week: Andrea Kramer noted that Teacher Appreciation Week will be the first full week of May, specifically 5/7 through 5/11. Room parents in particular will hear more as dates get closer. Please let us know if you are interested in helping with this week!
 - E. Enrichment: Spring Enrichment is underway. More information will be coming soon for summer camps.
- VI. Principal's Report – Mrs. Heiges gave a huge thank you for an exciting Read Across America Week. She noted two things to have on our radars. First, although Fairfax County property taxes are going up, on the bright side, FCPS may actually receive a full budget and be in a better position to offer pay raises to and retain its talented staff. Second, to ensure optimal safety and security after the Parkland, Florida shooting, as a precautionary measure, Fairfax County is reassessing everything we do in terms of safety and security. We have an amazing crisis management system in place but we are reevaluating it to see if there is any way to improve. If you have any questions, please come and let Mrs. Heiges know (email, in person, or phone - whatever is most comfortable for you). She is collecting questions/concerns and sending them to FCPS to make sure they have considered what you have considered. Finally, next week there is a nationwide walkout planned, but we do not expect much to happen at elementary schools, including MRES. If your kids have questions about whether they can walkout or want to talk about it, please send them to their teacher or Mrs. Heiges. MRES's position on the walkout is neutral, and we will allow students to go out if they ask to do so.
- VII. Guest Presentation (Luis Blandon, Project Engineer, Town of Vienna Department of Public Works (DPW); Emily Goodman, Construction Inspector, Town of Vienna DPW) – Mr. Blandon and Ms. Goodman came to speak to us about the sidewalk project slated for Marshall Road this spring. This project should have been completed last year, but some utilities issues caused this project to be delayed to this year. Workers will lower the grade from Rachel Ln to Trowbridge Pl, install a new curb on the south side of Marshall Rd (adjacent to MRES), improve signage around Marshall Rd and install rapid flash beacons for pedestrian crosswalks.

The actual project will start on 3/26/18 (beginning of MRES Spring Break) and end on 6/23/18, Monday through Friday (8am-4pm). DPW does not anticipate any disruptions to utility service. Marshall Rd will be closed to thru traffic from Trowbridge PI SW to Rachel Ln SW in both directions, so non-residents will need to follow a detour. Residents, Metro Access vans, emergency services, and VAC attendees will be allowed through closed zones. The south side sidewalk of Marshall Rd (MRES side) will be closed from Trowbridge PI to Delilah Dr; pedestrians can cross at Delilah Dr. and Ware St; and a flagger will be provided to help with crossing during school opening and closing hours.

Amanda DuFrayne asked why we decided to begin this project before the end of the school year. Mr. Blandon responded that they waited for school to end last year but delays pushed this project out to this year, and because this project is funded through a VDOT grant, there is pressure to get this project done as soon as possible before funding expires, which means they are not able to wait until after this school year ends before beginning this project.

Missy Walsh asked about the entrance to the Vienna Aquatic Center. Mr. Blandon responded that the entrance will be relocated, some trees will be taken down to accommodate the new entrance, and the white line will be recentered once the road is repaved.

Andrea Kramer relayed some parents' concerns about signage at the Nutley St and Marshall Rd intersection. Some parents have expressed concern that the "no right turn when pedestrians present" sign is not visible, which can be dangerous to pedestrians, such as MRES students. Mr. Blandon says his people will observe and make any changes as needed.

Mr. Blandon wants to keep in touch with everyone so he and Ms. Goodman sent around a contact sheet. They will send out email alerts to those who are interested in knowing about updates on the Marshall Rd sidewalk project. If you want to receive alerts, contact Ms. Goodman (emily.goodman@viennava.gov) or Mr. Blandon (lblandon@viennava.gov). Mr. Blandon will speak with Mrs. Heiges, Heather Hazard, and someone from FCPS transportation to discuss whether any bus detours are needed. Mr. Blandon and Ms. Goodman also provided maps of affected traffic and a newsletter.

- VIII. New Business – no new business discussed
- IX. Meeting Adjourned by Andrea at 8:05pm.
- X. Next PTA Meeting with Service Activity for Kids is on April 4, 2018 @ 7pm.

Parents and Teachers Please...

- JOIN the PTA! <http://marshallroadpta.org/join>
- DONATE to Friends of Marshall Road! <http://marshallroadpta.org/direct-donations>
- SIGN UP for ENews! <http://marshallroadpta.org/news/subscribe-to-enews/>
- LIKE us on Facebook: MRES PTA

PTA Board Contacts

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