



Parents' Association
University of Chicago Laboratory Schools
Board Meeting
February 6, 2017

AGENDA

- I. Approval of minutes
We will not meet again as a business meeting again until April
Speaker Series flyers distributed to councils.
- II. Nominations process (Nancy Stern)
 - Schedule
 1. Updated Job Descriptions Due to Amanda Norton 2/9
 2. Call for Nominations Feb 16 Enews
 3. Nomination Committee Meets February or March
 4. Nominations Close March 30
 5. Voting Begins April 10
 6. Voting Ends April 30
 7. Results Announced May 1
 8. Transition Meeting May & June
 - Communication plan
 - PA State of the Union Address - Recap of the past academic year -
 - New Parent Introduction
- III. March 6 meeting (Kim and Amanda)
 - Format & Marketing
 9. PA State of the Union Address - Recap of the past academic year -
 10. New Parent Introduction
 11. Ongoing Community Building
 12. Parent Education and Advocacy
 13. Volunteer Outreach and Empowerment
 14. Strengthen Board
 - Next Business Meeting is April 3

I. Forecast from Councils

High School

- Parent to Parent:
 - o Recap of February 1 P2P - Student services including writer center, math tutoring, library services and Kevin Van Eron attended
 - o March 1 P2P - Joe Kallo will give tutorial on Schoology. Send questions to anyone in HSC.
- February 1 - MLK Project
- Restaurant Week - should be annual tradition!
- Fan Days for HS: Senior Night, February 16 @4:30
- May ?? Teacher Appreciation Day coinciding with LS and MS
- HS Graduation location
- o Working on location, proposal with Aramark, requesting volunteers

Our assigned reps:

Nominations - Anu

Mentoring - all of us, then Mariana to maintain

Rights of May - Nicole

Orientation - Ann

Middle School

Activities for January:

- Monthly Principal Meeting with Sandy Bixby
 - o Discussed: Parent to Parent, University Day of Service, MS Diversity Day Plans, Homework groups, LabArts reception, schedule of 8 period days
- Middle School Parent to Parent
 - o Themes that came up: after school Wednesdays, library hours
 - o Freedom Pay: There have been some instances where kids have not been able to buy lunch because their parents had not replenished their Freedom Pay account – is there a way to draw overdraft? What should kids do? And is there a way to see itemized lists of what the kids are buying
 - o Why MS students only ones wearing lanyards
 - o Followed up on these issues during the February parent-to-parent
- Advisory Parent Updates

- Advisory parents asked to promote Fan Day and other PA events coming up such as MLK Project, Diversity Committee Panel, Principal Chats, speaker series
- MS Fan Day – Tuesday, January 24th
 - Overall really well attended
 - First games were really well attended by students, fewer students in second girls' game
 - MS Council had tables in Sunny and in Upper Kovler with swag, water and snacks. All food was consumed. Feedback received that free food was great motivator
- Restaurant week lunches
 - 6th grade lunch – 20 people at Farmhouse. All who RSVP'd attended. Several parents whose kids are new to Lab
 - 7th/8th grade lunch – 8 people at Nico Osteria. 1 parent with kids new to Lab.
- 6th grade Lab Arts event planning
 - MS Council coordinating with LabArts committee to plan 6th grade reception
 - Will be Saturday, April 29 from 5pm to 7pm, before MS Musical starts at 7:30pm
- 7th Grade Skating Party Planning
 - Wufoo sign up link in E-News and in Advisory updates
 - So far, have RSVPs for 10 kids
- 8th Grade Graduation Planning
 - Meeting scheduled for Thursday, 2/9

Ongoing Concerns from parents

- Homework
- Security procedures and process
- More information on curriculum
- Schoology and how teachers use it

February Activities:

- 2/1 Principal Meeting
- MS parent to parent Thursday 2/2 (homework dominated) Homework Committee has next meeting mid-February. All Middle School parents, teachers and students will be surveyed.
- Later Start Time? Parent to Parent grassroots information

- MS Principal Chats – 2/15, on morning, one evening – discussion of rotations with an emphasis on computer science, will be open agenda time, too
- 7th Grade Roller Skating Planning – Friday 2/17
- More planning of 6th Grade Event (Arts Reception 4/29 5-7pm in conjunction with LabArts - it is right before the Middle School play.
- 8th graduation meeting
- Dinner before speaker at Promontory
- May 18 Teacher Appreciation Lunch for Middle School

Lower School

Past Activities:

- Jan. 27th Principal Chat
Principal Sylvie Anglin introduced Keren Faling, Department Chair Learning Coordinator for Lower School. She talked about the range of social and academic services provided to Lower School students. Afterwards, Principal Anglin talked about the ERBs and “how to make the most” of the upcoming parent teacher conferences.

It was agreed that having a featured administrator or faculty program that touches upon 3rd, 4th and 5th grade was being well received by the parent community. We advertise on E-News, School Calendar, PA website, Lab parent Facebook page and post flyers on the first floor. Turnout has been good, with different and new parents attending.

- Lobby Decorating: MLK Birthday
LS Council decorated Blaine Lobby for MLK’s birthday. Quotes of his “dream speech” were included. The question is asked “What’s Your Dream?” LS students wrote down a dream they have for themselves, their families, and their communities. Pictures were posted on the PA website and Facebook page.
- Box Tops Campaign
Box Tops campaign is currently underway. A box has been placed in U-High, Blaine and ESH. Flyers are up in Blaine and ESH. Notices are included in the MS bulletin, HS Schoology, LS and ESH e-news, PA website and Lab parent Facebook page. LS has set a goal of 3,000 and is one-third of the way there.

Current and Future Activities:

- Lobby Decorating: Valentine’s Day
On Thursday, the LS Council decorated Blaine Lobby with a Valentine’s Theme. A visual board asking, “What do you love about Lab?” invites students to answer on red and pink hearts paper cut outs. Pictures have been posted on

FB and PA website.

- Feb. 17th LS Ice Skating Party
Chaired by Tracey Quinn and Andee Jackson, LS is hosting an ice skating party after dismissal on Friday, February 17th. This event has been advertised on E-News, PA website, and FB; and flyers have been posted.
- Mar. 3rd Principal Chat
Principal Sylvie plans to introduce Kurt Linec from IT, to talk about online safety.

We're considering a spring Principal Chat to be geared towards second grade parents to discuss transition issues.

- Room Parent/Mentor Appreciation Coffee (morning of LabArts?)
Led by Audris Wong, Brittany Chang and Andee Stacy, we'll be offering bagels and coffee. Joanne Reott offered Blaine Theatre as the space. Sylvie and Joanne will plan to stop by to say "hi."
- Lost and Found for Winter Quarter
 - Sorting and organizing will be on Tuesday, March 7th after our Principal's meeting.
 - Bagging and boxing will on Monday, March 27th, after spring break.
- Grade Level Events
LS Council has identified several parents to lead grade level events. Jeff Schmidt, Anjoo Rai-Marchant and Richelle Stackert will lead the effort for 4th grade. Susan Farmer and Tara Marsh will lead the effort for 5th grade. Ann Groves (and possibly someone else?) will help out with 3rd grade.
- Teacher Appreciation Day (May 2nd?)
Host a buffet luncheon for possibly 60-65 LS faculty, staff, security and facilities members. Will also decorate the lobby inviting both students and parents to write appreciation messages.
- Parent-to-Parent Transition Tours for Rising Third Grade Parents (early May?)
About a week after Principal Sylvie's transition meeting, we plan to host parent tours for second grade parents. This will allow us to answer questions in a more intimate setting.

Other Items:

- Recruiting new parents to run for LS council. We have reached out to about a dozen parents. A third grade parent has decided to run. A second grade parent is likely to run; and a fourth grade (with a first grade sibling) parent is considering a run.

- Committee assignments are as follows:
Nominations – Vanessa Copans
Mentoring – Cathy Lee
Rites of May – Andee Stacy
Orientation – Sara Skelly
- 6 out of 9 LS grants have been expensed.

ESH

February

- Sport Gear Swap – Suggested by Jay

Jay and Molly Curley have been in contact - After input from ESH Principals, Jay has decided to postpone this event for next year.
- Election for ESH Representatives (2017-2018)
Sieglinde and Tiffany will be working on the nomination committee together

They will announce at Board meeting who will be on Orientation committee
- Primary School Conference Child Care in February continue

Will also announce no childcare in E-news

March

- Dewey Dance - March 4
\$60/person 80s theme
Beyond underwriting tasks, no other updates at this time

April

- Spring Mix and Mingle - Apr 6
Room Parents' Appreciation Breakfast potluck to take place in the Lobby
Tiffany and Shipra planning
Recruiting people for council at this event
Mentors will not be included in this event
- ESH all grade levels event: Earth Day – April 20
 - After school-work with extended day

- Extended day drop in day?
- Space? Kitchen + lobby

May

- Rites of May
ESH Committee member involved TBD
- Teacher appreciation Day - Tuesday May 2
Manali and Shipra
*Volunteers needed for Card making, teachers gifts
- All ESH level popsicle day

V. Update from Diversity Committee

- Changing date for parents panel - April 3 and April 10
- Invite principals to come to their March meeting?
- May - data meeting - possibly with Ken Garcia-Gonzales as a speaker?
- Asking for clarifications in Enews
- Future topics

VI. Update from Rites of May

- Planning meeting February 14, 8:45 ARD Conference Room
- Bringing back international aspect, little kid games in the morning - as day goes on - more appropriate for older kids
- Need someone to captain maker fair
- Bring back bike ride
- Bring back performances

VII. Update from Executive Council

- Communications
- Finance \$1,900 from book fair
- Presidents
 1. Security
 2. All School Volunteer Party May 24, 2017 5 pm

VIII. Mentoring Update

- Yield parties
- Potential Historic Campus Kickoff, April 28, 8:45 am GPAH

IX. Break Out Groups: Mentoring, Rites of May, Nominations

Attendance:

Krista Blazek Hogarth

Ann Grissom

Mariana Ingersoll

Audis Wong

Tina Louie

Colleen Sheehan

Claudia Roeder

Lena Jessen

Cathy Lee

Amanda Norton

Kim Stolze

Liz Anderson

Saima Sufi

Andee Stacy

Sieglinde Lim-Siewert

Tiffany Flowers

Manila Barua

Karen Slimmon

Vanessa Copans