**ARLINGTON COUNTY MONTESSORI PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Held Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at Clarendon United Methodist Church (Praise Room), 606 N. Irving St., Arlington, VA 22201**

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Evan Thomas, First Vice President, at 7:09pm.
2. Members present: Please see sign-in sheet. A quorum was established.
3. Call for vote to approve minutes of meeting held 9/9/18. Motion unanimously approved.
4. Updates by Susan Kerin on
   * Membership – current membership is at 28%. $2,740 net amount raised by the PTA to date from membership. We need a higher % of PTA membership in order for us to be better represented at CCPTA meetings.
   * Armchair Fundraiser – good response so far but we are very far from reaching our budgetary targets.
   * Maker’s Fair – will be held on Dec 15 from 11am-1pm Central Library. PTA will provide further details shortly.
5. Introduction to Reflections Competition and deadline presented by Mrinal Oberoi.
6. Assistant Principal, Yolanda Nashid, presented the principal’s report:
   * Gifted Information Night will be held October 29 from 6-7pm in the library
   * Naming Committee has shortlisted 5 names for the new school. Survey will be sent out for all in the community to rank their preferences. The committee will take these into account when deciding on one name to present to the Superintendent and the School Board, at their final meeting on October 30.
7. Speaker – Diane Reeser, Montessori Counselor made a presentation on bullying, followed by a brief Q&A, from 8:12pm to 8:36pm.
8. Guest Speaker – Kristin Haldeman, APS Director of Multimodal Transportation Planning, made a presentation on reconfiguration of bus routes. This was followed by a Q&A session with Kristin. Takeaways from the Q&A:
   * Timing – transport hopes to implement new bus routes end of October (week of 10/29);
   * Some bus stops have a significantly high pick-up/drop-off time differential compared to their current times. Kristin will go back and assess impact on each stop and share time differences at all stops;
   * PTA will organize a meeting for anyone who would like to meet with Kristin to discuss further, mid-week, next week.
   * Floor closed for questions at 8:53pm.
9. Guest Speaker – Monique O’Grady, School Board Member and Liaison for Montessori Program. Monique shared her excitement about the new school and what it means to have the only public Montessori in the state. She also highlighted that there will be a $43million budget deficit at APS for the coming year and school board is going to start looking at ways to make cuts. Montessori assistants will be at risk again. So we should be garnering as much support as possible from out parent community to advocate for our program.
10. Announcements: Next general membership meeting to be held on November 14 and will be a joint meeting with AMAC. It will be held at Patrick Henry ES at 7pm.
11. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm

Minutes compiled by Mrinal Oberoi, Secretary, ACMPTA

Minutes approved on: