

9/20/18 Meeting Minutes

**Minutes of
John Adams Elementary School
General PTA Membership Meeting
Attendees:**

Emily Godfrey Marietta Jemison Davon and Todd Ramsburg Kristy Phillips Donna Chandler Hong Liu Justin Rosario Annie and Andy Sharman Toni Holmes Robert Holmes Montserrat Carbonell Chrisandra Smith Annette Smith	Susan Jones Gwen Bridges Donna Brearley Ginja Canton Heather Thornton Olga Bolivar Kym Neck Betsy Neck Angela Araya Huayra Hassan Mary Holmes Meitia Bakri Bryan Powell
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Thursday, September 20th

Agenda

*** Welcome and introduce Officers and committee chairs.**

*** [Mrs. Bridges discuss and give presentation about TAG.](#) (Link to presentation)**

- [Talented and Gifted program](#)- John Adams designee Ms. Bridges
- Donna Brearley TAG contact for district
- A gifted student is one whose abilities and potential for accomplishment require special programs to meet their educational needs.
- Characteristics of gifted children: they ask many questions, are curiosity, mentally involved, test well, think more abstract, enjoy learning and are good at guessing.
- Differentiated curriculum that challenges these students
- Young Scholars Program- at John Adams Ms. Tianna
 - ID bright students with advanced academic potential
 - prepare them for the future
 - Critical and creative thinking lessons in classrooms, students are observed and work samples collected.
 - Students are selected based on multiple characteristics- but not assessment based.
 - Summer program- conceptually based curriculum builds thinking skills, enriching experiences and increases academic vocabulary. Also provides opportunities for parent involvement.
 - services are provided by the classroom teacher- enrichment experiences through school year as well
- GIA program- k-3 Identification and then continues through 12

- In regular classroom with a education plan that extends learning - communication plan for parents.
- 1st graders take non-verbal test Naglierie Non-Verbal ability test.
- 3rd graders take Cognitive Abilities test- which includes verbal, non-verbal and quantitative questions.
- At John Adams students work with TAG teacher 1 time a week.
- 4-5th pull out program
- In dual language students must choose to have TAG math in english or continue with regular dual language program with math in Spanish.
- Middle School- students are recommended to take honors, math placement is into 7th grade math, students continue with TAG and get individualized education plan for acceleration.
- Screening tools- tests above, reading inventory, imagine math, SOL scores
- Referral form accepted until January 28th
 - After referral- data is reviewed and student placed in program
 - If not approved- 10 days to appeal process- contact Donna Brearley
- Need 3 criteria for eligibility
 - ability or achievement tests
 - ability test
 - work products
 - teacher rating
 - classroom performance
 - interviews
- parent workshops, information sessions, school board advisory- need parent representative application on school board drop down menu

*** Discuss importance of joining and volunteering for PTA as members and committee members and chairs.**

- Toni Holmes shared information about website and committees available for volunteer opportunities.

*** Give overview of PTA events planned for the year and recruit volunteers.**

- Please join! We can provide more opportunities for students if we all work together! There are several PTA positions that need to be filled:
 - Membership committee
 - academic events
 - after school club- yearbook, stem, yoga for kids
- Next meeting 10/18/18- Special Guests
 - [Dr. Tillman American Super-Nanny](#)
 - [Dr. Hutchings ACPS Superintendent](#)
- William Ramsey 2-4 candidates running for office
- Hispanic heritage night end of october- pta sells food
- Trunk or treat at Ramsey- flyer coming soon for more information.

*** Introduce FACE who will be there to talk to us about FACE and the services it provides the community and the various events they have planned for the upcoming school year.**

- [Krishna Layva- Family and Community Engagement Center](#)
- 20/20 strategic plan makes this a priority- #2 goal
- Work with schools across the division to provide parents with resources and tools
- Surveys are used to provide principals with information about input from the community.
- Mr. Tesfaye- Amharic speaking families- liaison for all ACPS

- Ms. Menacho- at John Adams as the parent resource specialist
- Kimberly Hooper- parent liaison coordinator for all of ACPS

*** Principal's update.**

- Ms. Canton will usually share things that are happening with instructional programs and upcoming events for the community during this time.
- Ferdinand T. Day students and staff sometimes come between schools. This includes after school programs like Recreation and Campaign.
- Traffic is a concern and getting better each day- support from city in the morning to keep traffic moving.
- School entryway still incomplete- additional set of doors to be installed. You will be forced to go into the welcome center. Then buzzed into either John Adams ES or ECSC.
 - Parts are arriving each day and work is in progress.
 - Building will be more secure than ever.
- ID for picking up walkers this will ensure more safety for students at end of the school day.
- Cooling issues around the building are being addressed- temperature getting better with machines in classes. This solution is not best, but makes classrooms conducive to learning and comfortable.
 - Central office facilities still coming to fix. We will communicate information when issues arrive.
- Checked building because of several students sick- no viruses passing through the building, no concentration of symptoms
- Title 1 schools- receive grant funds from government to close achievement gaps and are required to document and share information with with stake-holders.
 - Plans once approved are public and can be accessed via ACPS website.

SOL	Pass rate 2017-2018	Pass rate 2018-2019
Science	72%	88%
Math	61%	87%
Reading	72%	88%

- All scores are available on Virginia Department of Education website.
- These plans provide access to curriculum for all students to learning opportunities.
- K,1,2 do not take an SOL so they take PALS - using data to create instructional plans- everyone needs to do better all the time.
- Calendar of educational programs from staff
 - science fair part of the instructional program- sol scores prove this was a great idea.
- Concerns- please reach out at school and also reach out to PTA
- Parent principal coffee day after PTA- navigating school system topic for next meeting.
- Excited about PTA partnering to create after school opportunities for students. partnering with pta to provide after school things for students.
 - School can provide transportation
- Questions for Ms. Canton:
 - Can Title 1 Funds be used to help offset the new orchestra and band rental fees?
Answer: No
 - Future of Title 1 for JA due to T. Day school?
 - Safe from losing Title 1 status- for several years

- allows for specialist positions- additional reading support, math support that elevates quality of teaching in whole building.

*** PTA Budget**

- Mariam presents budget and shared with parents
- Bryan Powell shares details of PTA budget categories
 - Spring to Action big fundraising drive
 - Grocery store programs
 - Restaurant nights- many committees took charge of these nights and therefore used those funds
 - Amazon Smile
 - Box tops
 - Food sales for PTA events
- Motion to approve to approve the 2018-2019 PTA Budget from Mariam
- Second from Bryan Powell
- Approved by majority- No objections.