

DuFief PTA Executive Committee Meeting - January 4, 2017 Conference Call

In attendance: Yonat Lurie, Debora Brakarz, Rob Kemp, Danielle Carrick, Aashima Mehta, Malik Rao, Leilani Micalizzi, Jennifer Nakashima

The meeting was called to order by Yonat Lurie at 8:01pm.

1. President's Report (Yonat Lurie)
 - a. The Barnes and Noble bookfair was a huge success. We are anticipating getting over \$1500 from the Barnes and Noble bookfair, surpassing the anticipated income from the bookfair. Debora reported that the \$5 gift card was given to Runako Allsopp as a thank you for coordinating the volunteers at the table.

2. Treasurer's Report (Rob Kemp)
 - a. Letters for the direct donations will be sent to everyone for tax purposes before January 31, 2017. He will check on the possibility of sending emails with the tax donation letters instead of all by paper mailing; this will save money.

3. 1st VP Report, Educational Programs (Jennifer Nakashima)
 - a. Artist-in-Residence update – Melissa Tritto will come in early February to work with the 5th grade. She has done work with students at Stone Mill and Travilah as well. She is also the artist who is doing the painting classes at Dufief after school. She met with Mr. Mascott, Ms. Nass, and J. Nakashima to discuss ideas for the art project. The decision was for the 5th graders to create a tile mosaic of the Dufief dragon. The theme decided upon by the 5th graders is “#BeYourSelfie”. The cost for the entire project would be around \$1200. The Executive Committee requested that the PTA see the sketch prior to final approval of the “Dufief Dragon”.
 - b. Author-in-Residence update – J. Nakashima will email R. Kemp with the amount due to the author. This was a joint project between the media center staff, Mr. Mascott, and the PTA. Mark Nobelman is the author who will be coming in next week. We are splitting the cost of his visit with another school. The cost for this is coming from the cultural arts budget line item. Mr. Mascott will contribute additional money as necessary.
 - c. Spring assembly program is still TBD. There is a possibility of having the Metropolitan Ballet Theater (MBT) come and perform at the school. The cost would be around \$600. The problem is finding a date that works for the school and MBT.
 - d. Winter extracurricular activity update – Most of the winter activities have not begun yet. New programs include yoga and art. J. Nakashima

will work on creating an after school extracurricular activity schedule.

- e. Bylaws update – Would it make sense to change the bylaws language so that VPs can stay on for a third year? J. Nakashima and L. Micalizzi proposed allowing VPs to stay in their same positions for more than 2 years; they proposed that this should be allowed only after an extensive search for another person to fill the VP position is not successful. The logistical challenge is that we would have to get a quorum from the PTA to approve the proposed change. Another concern is that not having a 2-year term limit for the VPs would limit new people from stepping up for the positions and bringing in new enthusiasm to the PTA. Should this be brought up as a potential change to the bylaws? The group would like to discuss this further. J. Nakashima will contact the Montgomery County PTA to see if we can miss the deadline of Feb. 4, 2017 for submitting bylaw revisions without getting fined; if so, then we will discuss the proposed changes to term limits for VPs at the February PTA meeting. If we cannot miss the deadline, then Yonat will look for a supplemental meeting in January to discuss term limits for VPs.

4. 2nd VP Report, Community Resources (Leilani Micalizzi)

- a. Original Works – We brought in over \$700 from Original Works.
- b. The Science Fair is coming in March. Siva Venkatachalam and L. Micalizzi will be getting out the flyer and registration information soon. There was discussion about whether to give 1st, 2nd, 3rd place ribbons and participation ribbons to all. This idea was brought up last year too, but was not received well and thus, everyone who participated received medals. The Executive Committee recommends talking with Mr. Mascott about having ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places (and participation ribbons) for just 4th and 5th grade. We could also have separate awards for individual projects and awards for group projects. Leilani did some research last year and developed judging criteria for science fair projects. It would be broken out into experimental and non-experimental projects.

5. 3rd VP Report, Social Events (Aashima Mehta)

- a. International Night is coming up on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017. Volunteers for only 3 countries have been confirmed. Dancers confirmed to perform at International Night include Indian dancers and Irish dancers. Y. Lurie will contact the Israeli dance group. The issue of too much talking while the dance show is going on was discussed. A. Mehta will make an announcement at the beginning of the performance to make sure that the parents and students know this is a performance and to turn attention to the dancers. The Executive Committee recommended that the performance now be at the beginning of the International Night instead of midway through.

- b. Books & Bagels will be February 1st
- c. Talent Show – Suzanne Messing will help with the talent show for March 3, 2017.
- d. Silent Auction – Lauren Su is making good progress getting donations.

6. Old Business – No old business.

7. New Business – No new business.

Yonat motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:19pm. Danielle seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:19pm.

Next meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:00pm-8:00pm in the Media Center

Minutes taken by Danielle Carrick

Upcoming dates:

February

- 1** Books & Bagels 8:00-8:45 APR
- TBD** Sunshine Committee – Souperbowl (3rd grade hosts)
- 6** Dining for Dufief – Panera (Kentlands)
- TBD** Artist in Residence – 5th Grade Class
- 7** PTA Meeting 7:00 pm
- 14** Valentine’s Day Parties
- 16** Dufief Learning Night
- 20** *No School- Holiday- President’s Day*

