

April 17, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Swanson PTA Meeting – Swanson Library

April meeting –

- The PTA Officers needed for the 2018-19 school year include Vice President and a Fundraising Chair. Also, the Welcome Committee and the Community Service positions need to be filled.
- Meeting ideas for next school year were floated:
 - Substance abuse
 - High school night (W-LHS, YHS, WHS, and HBW students come to talk to mainly 8th-grade families about their experiences)
 - School Board member
 - Updates on teacher grants
 - Service projects – a meeting could be devoted to the volunteers for certain school-wide projects, such as Handmade Arlington, etc.
 - Possibly combining meetings with other middle schools for common discussions (e.g., substance abuse)
- Some discussion about revamping the teachers' lounge

Principal Update:

- Handmade Arlington was a great success – thank you to everyone who volunteered and participated. It's a truly great community project.
- April 24 was picture day – unlike the fall pictures, the proofs will be sent home and parents can buy if they want
- April 25th is the 5th-grade visit day – currently, 484 are projected to be in the 6th grade this fall
- 4/28-29 is the Swanson presentation of "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe." Tickets are available online and at the school.
- APS Education Center is moving to the Syphax Center located on Washington Boulevard (near Fort Myer) and all of APS administrative offices will now be in one building
- 8th-grade promotion activities are coming up –
 - 6/14 is the dance from 6:30-8:30
 - 6/15 they go to Kings Dominion
 - 6/18 is the promotion ceremony in the large gym and the auditorium. It was looked into about moving to a larger venue, but there would be only a gain of one ticket per family
- The bell schedule for next school year has been adjusted:
 - Mod 1 starts at 7:50 and will be 47 minutes
 - The other mods will be 43 minutes
 - Lunch will be 35 minutes (6th grade – 10:41-11:16) (7th grade – 12:15-12:50) (8th grade – 11:28-12:03)
 - Star Admirals will be from 9:28-9:54
 - Class placements for next year – 6th graders will largely be back on the 1st floor, 7th graders will remain in the Seven Seas, and 8th graders largely will be on the 2nd floor
- School supplies will be moved to a common list, so if you don't yet know where your student will be placed, it won't matter. This list should be posted by 6/30/2018. The plan is to remove

the bulky 3-ring binders and to move to a sturdy book bag because of increasing space limitations. School funding will be used where possible.

Treasurer report:

- Around \$4,100 was given in grant money to teachers for the spring

Discussion:

The 2018-24 Strategic Plan was discussed (many thanks to Mary Ann McKown for presenting this)

The meeting ended at 8:00; the next meeting will be on May 8, 2018 at 7:00 in the Swanson Library.