

MCDONOGH

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Middle School Parent Association Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2017

Welcome to MSPA September Meeting (Elise Kurlander)

24 in attendance

Middle School Update: Darren Ford

Love this day. Hang in office, visits w ppl.

Thank Courtney and Mindy who are shopping for Bay Trip starting Sunday morning. CBF funding restrictions so we had to split trip.

22nd trip he's taken with kids. This is signature trip. Wife's students in Upper School always mention Bay Trip as one of their favorites from MS.

Q: Split CBF trip because of big class?

DF: CBF (Chesapeake Bay Foundation) reduced their staff so it's a funding issue. Can't have all 5 sites going right now.

Q: list of cell phones - pls clarify

DF: suggest not bringing bc they'll get dropped in mud etc. They can use teacher's phones but encourage parents not to call to check on students.

Back at 4pm Tues; at 4pm Fri

Some students do get homesick, but we take care of them.

Captains always tell a ghost story.

Joan: do not pack anything of value bc you will throw away whatever comes back. Bought \$5 pair of Keds. Everything will be covered in mud.

DF: don't overpack. Tshirts, shorts, shoes, sweatshirt.

Elise Kurlander

Thanked Trish for treats and Meredith for coffee

Everyone introduced themselves

Ann Fleming - Parent Liaison

Lee Ward

Parent giving challenge. 75% parent participation by Winter Break. Support annual giving bc it makes us eligible for grants. On website use link.

Elise: our tuition doesn't cover enough. At least \$1800 more per child. All about participation. Not amount given. Helps when school applies for grants.

Teachers are at 90% giving participation - maintenance, housekeeping, teachers, etc across the board.

Sharon Ahn

MPA update

Survey of volunteering at end of month from MPA.

MPA needs ideas for the all school parents only event to take place in late Jan or early Feb. All ideas for a fun night are welcome.

NY trip deadline extended - **Wednesday, November 15 Buses depart from Woods Lot at 6:30 am sharp. Make sure to make out checks to McD and no cash.**

Charleston Wrap deadline extended

Joan Royals:

Tonight is parent-teacher conference

Great participation. People bringing in salads, desserts, and drinks. Santoni's catering

Teachers have about 45 minutes between conferences . Teachers here until 9pm tonight and back in morning at 7. Don't need anything else.

Elise: Joan does a beautiful job and seamlessly.

Joan: it's easy. And gets to spend extra time with teachers during set up.

Will need help in May for teacher appreciation luncheon.

Janet Braun, Sage Dining

Director of food services. In process of revamping menu. 1750 ppl fed every lunch. Lots of variety of foods to meet everyone's needs. Vegetarian and gluten free soup. Kids requested more chicken pattie days and more tacos this season.

Next season you may see more pizza.

Allergen filter on McD parent page. "Sage Dining". Put cursor on any item and ingredients and allergen filters will come up. Code is needed to get into link: S003

Took dessert away twice a week. Tues Wed and Thur are dessert days.

Only difference - upper school gets offered 2 entrees a day. Middle school only 1.

Different food concepts on Tuesdays and Thursday.

Use phone app.

Parents please walk through and give us some feedback.

Over next 4 weeks you'll see different items.

Q: sandwich bar options?

JB: always wheat and white bread. Sweet crunch, marble.

Always fresh baked turkey, tuna fish, ham on deli bar.

Q: rolls?

JB: trying to work on where to put so they don't get knocked over onto floor.

Q: kids complain that it gets messy and concerned about food crossover contamination

JB: we do try to keep clean and encourage to use tongs. Will switch out if needed. Students with allergies can come to them to ask for non cross contaminated items like ham.

Q: ask any staffs?

JB: Debbie is person who takes care of requests regarding allergens. She's the "rainman" of names.

Build your own salad bar

Q: Spicy Buffalo at another school where Sage does dining.

Q: Can we have wish list?

Ann Fleming: Janet works on menu with regional for suppliers etc.

JB: Common Market is supplier. Will look into Chicken Buffalo

Sun butter and Soy butter. A lot of cross contamination and several students who are allergic to peanut butter.

Suggestion: make Monday not Wednesday dessert day bc of advisory breakfast sweets.

Q: is there chicken salad?

JB: once or twice a month. With grapes and basic homemade kinds.

Elise Kurlander

(re class events) want to split grades due to age difference in 5th and 6th grades.

Chaperoning is crucial to success of these events for future events. Parents can't be there clumped in groups. Your chaperones have to have clear duty that kids are chaperoned for their safety.

Numbers will help but chaperones have to be on duty.

5th grade Judith Tortola and Candy

Cake War events: team work creativity Teachers judge.

Get sheet cakes. Kids decorate. Presentations and pizza.

6th grade trish seaman Nov 3

At roots farm. After school. DJ and activities. 2 hrs.

Pizza and drinks. Few parents will bring drinks. 12 parents

Students have to be escorted over and checked in.

Check in at Roots.

Parents pick up in front of RL

7th grade Amy Stanziale and Mary Snowden

Dance. Approved.

Suggestions: at events there's a chaperone issues. so at their old school, they paid to have 2 teachers there.

Other suggestion: bring in Dance teachers. No slow or explicit music. Activities other than dance?

Karima Carrington

TGIThursdays

Started this morning. New link will be coming after parent teacher conferences.

TGIThursdays: Karima Carrington

Kids enjoy breakfast and looking forward to it. Looking for volunteers. Last year, by end of September had all signed up to June. Emails w google doc will come out. First one will be next MPA meeting day - Oct 12, 2017.

Bring easy meals - baked goods, fruit, coffee, juice. Once a month. Bring enough for 45 staff members.

Karima is also MS Parent Ambassador for those who may need to speak with her.

Elise: sign up going around but also look at the online site to sign up. Link will go out through advisory emails and Parent News.

Kristin McCarthy

Only 6 people signed up for bake sale. Oct. 24 if volunteering to help 11:30-12:30

School wide events:

Parent Get-Togethers

6th: October 20th at Sarah and Anand Murthi's

8th: October 13th at Philippa and Russell Shiels'

Next Middle School MPA Meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2017 8:30am Mullan Board Room

Adjournment

Dates from Meeting Agenda not presented separately:

Professional Development (2 hr delay)

Wednesday, November 1

McDonogh/Gilman 102nd Game

Saturday, November 4th 5pm kick off @ home

MS 7/8 Grades Winter Athletic Sign-Ups

Monday, November 6

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