

## Mosby Woods PTA

### Meeting Minutes

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Introduction:** Meeting started promptly at 6:30. Those present introduced themselves to the group.

**Principal's Notes:** Dr. Aste provided an overview of the Mosby woods community.

1. About Mosby Woods:

- Enrolment is at 1,086 students. We are the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest elementary school in VA.
- Mosby woods is very diverse with 32% ESL students. We also have 25% students on Free and reduced lunch, and a large group of students in our Advanced Academic Placement program.
- Project Based Learning, (PBL) promotes critical thinking. There will be opportunities to view children's project during the year.
- We offer strings starting in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, and band starting in 4<sup>th</sup>.
- We will have 5 Intern teachers from George Mason helping out for the entire school year.
- Mosby Woods motto is "Learn, Give, Thrive". In that spirit, we do a walk for the homeless, pennies for patients, write letters to our men and women in service, and other community service throughout the year.

2. Special Events:

- International Night is a great way for our students to celebrate our diversity with food, and fun activities.
- Music Performances from the Strings, Band and Chorus are a highlight with concerts for the holidays and in the spring.
- Einstein Night is a great way for our students to show their talent. They present, and display their projects during this popular event.
- The Career Fair gives the student's ideas for their future, while they here from many different professionals from our community.

3. Awards and Honors:

- Mosby Woods has won the Title One Distinguished school.
- We have earned the VA Board of Educational Excellence award.
- Mosby Woods has been rated the #3 Public school in VA in 2018, and 2019.

4. Student Performance:

- Our students scored 90 or above based on their SOL scores from last spring. Math was even higher with 97 or above.

5. Exciting News:

- We are happy to announce a change in recess times. Grades K-2 will have 2, 15 minutes recess times. Grades 3-6 will now have a 30-minute recess.
- Our playground plans have been approved and we expect them to break ground this fall. This will include an eco-friendly, pervious concrete basketball court!

**Co-Presidents' Notes:** Our new co-presidents, Jessica Streeter and Lan Van-Buendia, were nominated and voted in at the spring concert in May 2018.

- Their goal is to build a welcoming community in the PTA. Come get involved, we want to hear your voice!

1. Fundraising:

- The Direct Donation will be our main fundraiser this year. Our goal is 15,000. We have already raised 4,985, so we hope to achieve our goal!
- The money we raise will go to purchasing laptops for our students. We are shooting for a one to one ratio, and we have a way to go to reach that.
- We would also like to purchase new balls for the basketball court and four square so the students can utilize their new playground!

2. New this year:

- The PTA will be doing the Crayola recycle program this year. We can send in our used markers at no cost to Mosby Woods. We hope this will be a good "Green" activity for the students to support.
- Please sign up to get the PTA newsletters. Go to Fairfax County Website to select Mosby Woods PTA.
- Check out the PTA Facebook page.

**Treasurer Notes:**

- The PTA donated 12,000 to the school last year for laptops and new water fountains.
- The 2018 PTA budget was balanced. More information to come on committee budgets.

**Committee Information:** The committee chairs gave an overview of what their year goals are and volunteer opportunities. More information on all the PTA committees can be found on the PTA website.

1. **After School Enrichment:**

- Fall semester is open for registration with a lot of great choices this year. Go to the pay4schoolstuff link to sign up.
- More information on all the programs can be found on the PTA website.

2. **Running Club:** The Running club needs a new committee head. If interested, please contact Holly Dubbeling.

3. **Assemblies:** We will have the Fairfax Academy of Arts perform this winter. Please contact Meryem Tangoren-Masood if you would like to help out with this enriching event.
4. **Blessings in a Backpack:** We can always use a few extra hands to help out! We meet on Wednesdays at 4pm in the cafeteria to pack bags of food for about 100 students. Please contact Sue Heard if you would like to help.
5. **Movie Nights:** Movie nights are a great community builder, and a fun way to spend an evening with friends. We will have a few throughout the year on Friday nights. Snacks will be for sale. Come out for this fun event. If you would like to lend a hand, please contact Alison Vaden.
6. **School Supplies:** Our school supply committee does its best to deliver everything you need at a very good price. We need help in the beginning of the school year getting the kits to the students. Please keep us in mind next fall to lend a helping hand if you can.
7. **Arts to Remember:** This a great fundraiser! Last year The PTA raised 1,000. The students are already working on their projects, and orders will be taken in March. Help the PTA, and get your child's wonderful art all the same time!
8. **Restaurant Night:** Our first restaurant night will be California Tortilla October 23<sup>rd</sup>. More information to follow in Wednesday folders.
  - What a great way to support the PTA and have a night off from cooking.
  - Last year restaurant night raised 2,200.
9. **Staff Appreciation:**
  - The welcome back breakfast was a success.
  - Volunteers will be needed in the spring for teacher appreciation week.

#### **New Business:**

- Immediate volunteer need for picture day. Sign up and receive a free photo package for your child.
- The PTA will hold a bake sale on election day.
- **Dr. Aste will hold a New Parent coffee October 1st at 9am**
- Future PTA meetings to have guest speakers. Our new librarian will discuss online resources and homework help. Hope to see you there!

**Meeting adjourned: 7:42**

**Next PTA meeting is October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Mosby Woods Library**

