

Arlington Science Focus School

PTA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 3, 2018 7:00pm

I. Welcome *(PTA president, Adena Porter)*

- Dena Porter welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated the goal of the meeting was to approve the proposed bylaws. Information was provided on the upcoming Kindergarten playdates, a new student checklist and how to volunteer for the upcoming school year.
- There is a new school moto, which cycles every two years: “ ASFS PTA One TEAM - Together Everyone Achieves More”. Dena explained this was selected as it focuses on building community and supporting one another. There will be a new image and letterhead available soon.
- Lastly, Dena reminded everyone about the PTA web site - <https://www.asfspta.com/>. If anyone has thoughts or feedback, please reach out to Dena and Kristi. Kate Merrill has also put together a new page with relevant dates and links for the school board activities. Please check it out.

II. June PTA Meeting Minutes

- The June 2018 ASFS PTA Meeting minutes were presented to the PTA and passed unanimously.

III. Vote on updated ASFS PTA Bylaws *(PTA President, Adena Porter)*

- Dena explained that every 5 years, we are required to submit and update the PTA bylaws. Overall, there were some small adjustments that were made, notably adjustments to officer term limits and the creation of a new executive committee position, called VP APS Transition. This new role is to focus on assisting families affected by upcoming APS changes in the coming year. Interested candidates should reach out to the nominating committee quickly for consideration. We will vote on candidates in the September meeting.
- New bylaws have passed.

IV. 2017-18 PTA Budget Report *(Treasurer, Chris Brown)*

- Chris presented a high level summary of the 2017-18 school year budget and explained that the books had been balanced and closed leaving approximately \$37,000 in net income. On average, we are spending more in processing fees in order to do business online for fundraising; however we brought in more money than in years past. The largest income generators were the no frills and auction. Large expenses: capital (keyboards) and staff development.
- An idea was proposed for fundraising which would be more family oriented such as a ‘Fun Fair.’ The attendees agreed it was a good idea and Dena invited anyone who was interested in new initiatives please reach out to her to coordinate.

**** Approved at the August 7th, 2018 ASFS PTA Meeting**

V. VP APS Transition Update *(PTA President, Adena Porter)*

- Dena reminded everyone why this position was created and reviewed the handout with the description of the role. As mentioned in the welcome message, she invited any interested candidates to reach out to the nominating committee.

VI. APS and School Board Update *(PTA President, Adena Porter)*

- There is a [new link](#) on the PTA web site which links to APS and School Board updates, called 'APS updates.' In addition, there are links to the school board engage web site so families may stay up to date online.
- The APS School board is working over next few months on boundary changes and we'll hear more about the impact to our community.
- Following up on the Buck property letter that was sent last month - money would need to come through capital funds. Unfortunately this option will probably not pan out, but we'll keep everyone informed.

VII. Summer Volunteer Opportunities *(PTA President, Adena Porter)*

- Thank you to all who already volunteer! We've had great turnouts at events and we need to continue to lean on parents to help support these events
- There are a few volunteer options to get involved in now:
 - Grounds watering - We need assistance with watering our new plants during the summer months. Please sign up here or reach out to Lindsey or Julie for more information. This can be done any time.
 - Feeding the fish - Our fish need to be fed during the summer. Please reach out to Dena if you are interested. This work may be done during business hours when the school doors are open.
 - Back to school packets and boxes - This opportunity takes place the last week of August. One afternoon that week, volunteers will stuff folders and hand out all supplies. The exact date is TBD but we'll know more soon. The perk is you get to see your class list a little earlier. (Note: This is during day time hours). Interested candidates please reach out to Dena Porter.
 - Back to School picnic - Needs volunteers to assist with the event before and on the day of. Rabi and Julie are heading this, so please reach out to them for more information.
 - PTA Membership position is open. This role will be the point person to collect dues and send a member list to VA PTA. It's a great way to get involved and is low effort. Anyone interested should reach out to Dena.

VIII. Upcoming Events/Reminders

- Kindergarten Playdates (Hayes Park) - Please see PTA web site for dates
 - Next playdate: Saturday, July 14th 10am - 12pm
- Thursday, August 7th - August PTA Meeting, 7pm
- Thursday, August 30th - Open House, 3-4pm (Kindergarten play date is at 4pm!)
- Tuesday, September 4th - First Day of School!
 - PTA Parent Coffee, 8:45am (ASFS Parking Lot)
- Sunday, September 9th - Back to School Picnic, 4-6pm
- Wednesday, September 12th - Back to School Night, 7-8:30pm