**Campbell PTA Meeting
April 9, 2019**

**6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Approximate # of Attendees: 22**

1. **Welcome: Barbara Martinez, President**
2. **PreK-12 Instructional Program Pathways: Barbara Martinez, President**
* APS has launched a process to determine the types and locations of option schools within APS (see <https://www.apsva.us/prek-12-instructional-programs-pathway-ipp/> for more information)
* In addition to consulting with APS staff, instructional experts, advisory groups, etc. APS is also soliciting input from parents and the community to help inform the process
	+ March 21: Parent representatives from APS schools and programs participated in a work meeting to provide input and bring information back to their schools’ families – Barbara attended this meeting on behalf of Campbell
		- Barbara noted that because of the way the meeting was set up, she was only able to explain what an option school is (and what Campbell is, specifically) to the three other people sitting at her table (parents from Jamestown, Glebe, and Hoffman-Boston) – there was no forum share this information with everyone
		- In small groups participants discussed: 1) what options APS should offer and at what grades, and 2) what is an option school
	+ Additional opportunities to provide input into the process
		- **April 26 – May 13: APS online community survey** – it will be important for Campbell community to respond to explain what our school is about
		- **April 30: Open house at Kenmore with APS staff** – Barbara plans to attend and suggests that other Campbell parents attend as well
* Staff will make their recommendations to the School Board in June – which will guide policies, new school budgets and boundary processes for future schools
* Barbara shared the presentation that was given at the APS meeting (visit link above to access) –
* APS defines options programs as “programs that are open to all APS students that:
	+ Include a unique philosophical focus;
	+ Implement an instructional model that differs from offerings at the same grade levels at other schools; *and may also:*
	+ Have specific requirements defined and recognized by an outside agency; and
	+ Include specialized training for staff.”

🡪 Note that Campbell fits all of these: we have a unique philosophical focus (e.g. less intensity/ no grades) and instructional model (EL) with specific requirements (we are currently being credentialed by EL Education) and specialized training for teachers (per EL)

* In terms of pathways – APS looking at PreK-12
	+ Current options:
		- Immersion (Claremont and Key for PreK-5; program at Gunston for Grades 6-8 and at Wakefield for Grades 9-12)
		- Montessori (programs at several elementary schools for PreK-5; program at Gunston for Grades 6-8)
		- IB (Randolph for PreK-5; program at TJ for Grades 6-8 and W-L for Grades 9-12)
		- Project based learning (Arlington Tech would be the pathway for Grades 9-12)
		- EL (Campbell for PreK-5)
		- Student choice (HB Woodlawn for Grades 6-12)
		- Traditional (ATS for PreK-5)
	+ Future possibilities: Fine and performing arts; Early college; Museum; Hybrid high school; International focus; others to be explored…
* Maureen clarified that Campbell’s position is not to push for an EL pathway within APS at the middle and high school levels – it would be impossible to retrofit a school to the EL model – the credentialing process Campbell is going through now is very well-timed
1. **Principal’s Updates: Maureen Nesselrode, Principal**
* Projected enrollment numbers for 2019-2020 school year:
	+ Total enrollment expected to increase by 10 students (from 440 this year to 450) – we will have 3 Kindergarten classes, 4 Grade 1 classes, and 3 of everything else
	+ Interlude program is growing (it is the only program of its kind within APS) – we are over the maximum number of students (20) and need to expand staff and space – next year we will have 3 rooms to better group Interlude students (K/1, 2/3, 4/5), the third class will move into Mr. Turner’s room and Mr. Turner’s PreK will move to a new trailer (this means we will have to give up the basketball court, but we keep our field space)
* We are looking into costs for composting food waste across the school
	+ Idea grew organically (haha) from 2nd Grade composting waste generated from snacks and asking why they can’t also compost lunch waste – but once they saw how much waste the school generates at lunch they realized it won’t all fit in the compost bin
	+ Ms. Johnson has been researching compost companies to see if the cost would be comparable/less than the cost of waste removal (or if the waste removal company we currently use could also do composting, in which case this could be covered by Facilities) – one company that picks up food waste for composting also provides data about how much you’re producing/composting, so there are many ways to link this to learning!
	+ Campbell would be a great place to pilot this across all of APS – there might be a forthcoming request to the PTA for funds to offset initial costs (likely approx. $500)
* EL Education credentialing process is well underway – the credentialing website/portfolio will launch May 1! Maureen and Kathy Gust will be working on it over spring break
	+ Website will be available on our APS Campbell website as a separate page
	+ EL will give us feedback and we can make one round of revisions before finalizing
1. **Slate of PTA Executive Board Candidates for 2019-2020: Nathan Zee, Ryan Reed, Kate Williamson**
* The process for electing the PTA Executive Board for the upcoming school year is as follows:
	+ March PTA meeting: announce that we are looking for a slate of officers
	+ April PTA meeting: slate is presented, attendees vote to confirm the slate
	+ May PTA meeting: vote to elect officers – and if others want to run we can accept nominations from the floor at the May meeting (which has never happened before!)
* Nathan announced next year’s proposed slate of Executive Board officers:
	+ President: Barbara Martinez
	+ Treasurer: Amanda Lowenberger
	+ Secretary: Shana Brown
	+ VP of Programs: Monica Flores
	+ VP of Fundraising: Erica Lorde and Julie Bohler
	+ VP of Communications: Kathy Evans
* Motion passes unanimously – slate is approved
* Nathan thanked Ryan and Kate, and Barbara for posting information to the PTA Facebook page
* Next year we’ll be looking for new members for several positions, so if you’re interested it would be good to shadow this year
1. **Teacher Appreciation Week: Elizabeth Fabrizio and Alison Acker**
* Teacher Appreciation Week is **May 6-10** (immediately after the Wetlands Festival!)
* We have at least 1 volunteer to take on each day – hoping to have at least 2 people for each day so will be looking for additional volunteers
* Requests for volunteers to take on the following:
	+ Donut day: placing order at Sugar Shack (which has traditionally also donated some as well), delivering and coordinating where to put in the school
	+ Flower day: send message via parent communications asking students to bring 2 flowers (one for students’ teachers and one for support staff) – volunteer needed to get donations from a store for flowers, and to coordinate donations of vases/jars
	+ Lunch day: place an order from TBD (no potluck), would need someone to make the order, pick it up (or coordinate delivery), set up for staff
	+ Muffin day: volunteer to coordinate donation of muffins (homemade or store bought; idea is to have a few people donate a dozen muffins) to be delivered to teachers by cart, could maybe also add coffee and cups
	+ Thank you notes and cookies: Ruby Tuesday is donating cookies – idea is to send home paper in Thursday folders after spring break prompting students and parents to write thank you notes for students’ teachers and another staff person – volunteer needed to collect and organize notes – Julia reminded us that she had made a box for this exact purpose a couple of years ago that should be in the PTA closet
* We confirmed there are a few staff who are gluten-free, but no one is vegan to our knowledge
* Elizabeth and Alison confirmed the budget ($1300 – lunch would be the highest cost)
* Barbara thanked Elizabeth and Alison for coordinating this effort to thank our teachers!
1. **Wetlands Festival Auction Update: Julia Ahumada, VP of Fundraising**
* Online auction open April 23–May 2; items that don’t sell online will be available at the festival
* It’s not too late to donate items to the auction! We will be accepting donations pretty much up until the last minute
* Range of donations: artwork, percussion experience, Lego basket, Barbara is doing a back to school cocktail party – think about what you can offer that would be fun
* Please email Julia with any questions about the auction
1. **Treasurer’s Report: Amanda Lowenberger, Treasurer**
* Amanda gave an overview of the budget – there were no questions
* No funding requests this month
1. **New Business and Closing: Barbara Martinez, President**
* Outside presenters coming for May and June meetings:
	+ Challenging Racism will present at May meeting – Maureen and a few other parents have attended their sessions in the past, it’s a very good presentation
	+ Virginia 529 will present at June meeting
* Thank you!