**Campbell PTA Meeting  
June 4, 2019**

**6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Approximate # of Attendees: 27**

1. **Welcome: Barbara Martinez, President**
2. **Virginia 529 Presentation: Judie Ahn**

* Virginia 529 is the largest program in the country offering tax-free savings plans for college and private K-12 schools
  + Low fees, low opening contributions ($25 to open), lots of flexibility
  + Money can be used for the Beneficiary’s Qualified Higher Education Expenses at Eligible Educational Institutions
* Invest 529 (direct sold option) – consistently gotten a gold rating from Morningstar
  + Age based investment portfolios – choose grad date, investment shifts
  + Static portfolios don’t change unless investor makes changes
  + Questions to consider:
    - Which portfolio option to choose (there are about 20 to choose from)
    - How much to contribute
    - How often to contribute
* College America (advisor sold option) – can only be obtained via an advisor licensed to sell American Funds (americanfunds.com/college)
* Beneficiary (the person who will be using the money) can have multiple accounts
* Can designate a new Beneficiary if the initial Beneficiary doesn’t end up going to school/being eligible to use the money
* Visit [www.virginia529.com](http://www.virginia529.com) for more information

1. **Principal’s Updates: Maureen Nesselrode, Principal**

* Wrapping up the current year and preparing for 2019-2020 school year:
  + Staffing updates – there are a few changes for next year, but we don’t usually have a lot of turnover and Campbell’s core staff largely stays intact
    - Ms. Sill isn’t returning next year because she has taken a position nearer to her home; we have hired an experienced teacher from Loudon County who is coming to meet the students next week
    - Ms. Bridges will return as our full-time music teacher
    - Ms. Peterson, our part-time music teacher this year, will be exploring a different degree in education next year so will be taking time off from teaching – we have hired a new part-time music teacher, Ms. Brewer, for next year
    - We are currently hiring for a full-time Spanish teacher since Ms. Cox will be taking time off from teaching next year
    - Erin Watson, reading coach, will be full-time at Campbell next year doing EL and literacy initiatives including staff development and parent training
    - Interlude will be growing – we are adding a third class and have hired an experienced teacher to join the team – the K/1, 2/3 and 4/5 Interlude classes will all be in the front hall (Mr. Turner’s Pre-K is moving to a trailer)
  + SLO process went smoothly – parents can expect to get reports with results over the summer – we think Campbell will be in a good place in terms of scores overall
  + EL Credentialing process is underway – we submitted the portfolio and expect to receive one more round of feedback in June, which will be our last opportunity to make revisions if needed before the presentation/defense this summer
  + Orchestra and band – 3rd Graders will have an instrument demo this week and can select which instrument they might want to play next year as 4th Graders (Orchestra is string instruments; Band is brass, woodwind, and percussion)
    - Music teachers work with students to help them figure out which instrument to choose – students get fitted for their instrument in the fall
    - It’s meant to be an introduction to the instrument – it’s not a requirement for 4th Graders to play an instrument, but most of them choose to
    - Orchestra and Band are typically done during specials time
    - There is usually a fall showcase and a spring performance
    - The PTA bought ukuleles for Project Discovery last year – the school now owns these so teachers could figure out whether/how to use them
    - It was suggested that we have a presentation from one of the music teachers next year to give parents more information – but the way it generally works is:
      * + 3rd Graders rank their top three choices of instrument – if there are too many students who want to play the same thing, there will be a try-out – decisions get finalized in the fall
        + Families with students who receive free and reduced meals get preference for using the school’s instruments; otherwise most families rent instruments
    - 4th Graders also do chorus (5th Graders can choose if they want to continue)
* Other APS happenings:
  + Opportunity to provide feedback on the Transgender & Gender Nonconforming Student Policy via survey
  + Possible changes at Career Center
  + Tara Nattrass, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, is resigning June 30
  + Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School & Community Relations, is retiring
  + APS boundary changes and new schools – these things won’t affect Campbell but may affect your home school, so keep them on your radar
* Next year’s school calendar is online – note that we return September 3, 2019 (after Labor Day) – next year APS could decide to return before Labor Day
* Paige Turner, Campbell’s library bunny, needs summer housing!
* Campbell Olympics are coming up on June 17 – we will need lots of parent volunteers, so please be on the lookout for the signup genius
* PARENT VUE – we need to be able to log into this for next year! Historically elementary school parents haven’t needed to do much with Parent Vue so you may not be aware of it – but next year we will only be able to access report cards, back to school forms, and other documents via the portal – Jackie and Dana can help parents who need assistance logging in

1. **End of Year Treasurer’s Summary and New Funding Requests: Amanda Lowenberger, Treasurer**

* Highlights:
  + Fundraising brought in over $12,000 from the Fun Run in the fall, nearly $15,000 from the Wetlands Festival in the spring; and approx. $6,000 from other fundraising avenues
  + PTA supported the Outdoor Classroom, expeditions, classroom libraries, field trips, teacher requests (e.g. STEM games, simple machines, alternative seating such as wobble chairs and lapdesks), teacher appreciation events, Time for Kids magazine subscription
  + Received grant from CCPTA to buy two white boards for Outdoor Classroom use
* Discussion:
  + We will look into replacing some of the playground benches, some of which appear to be old and may be unsafe; Facilities will likely not replace them, even if they originally came from APS (other benches were funded by PTA)
  + Teachers still have money in their budgets – please submit requests to PTA! Teachers didn’t use their budgets for field trips like last year (which wasn’t logistically easy)
  + Art doesn’t have its own line – all Specials are grouped together, so what ends up happening is that Music gets a lot of this budget because Art has a lot of APS funding
  + TEACHERS: Please don’t hesitate to ask for funds! We will figure out where to allocate!
* Funding requests:
  + Increase 1st Grade budget by $140 (to cover funds spent in excess of original amount) – motion to approve increase to this line passes unanimously
  + Motion passes unanimously to approve the following summer funding requests:
    - $1500 for Outdoor Classroom Coordinator
    - $800 for landscaping
    - $300 for back to school breakfast for teachers
    - $200 for insurance due at beginning of September
  + PTA is looking to replace the sheds on the side of the school that house tricycles used by Pre-K during recess – we have gotten some quotes and will continue to get more over the summer – we are requesting approval to spend up to $12,000 on this project, to include removal and hauling away of old shed and installing new shed – discussion:
    - APS does not build additional space – Facilities will not pay for this
    - Right now there are two sheds next to each other configured to be as one
    - There may be someone in our Campbell community who could do this, but pre-fab is cheaper than building, and there will still be some work involved in terms of the demolition of the old sheds and pouring the foundation for the new shed
    - We carry a high balance as a nonprofit – we talked with the school about what the PTA can do to help the school that APS won’t do and this came up – we will strive to be economical and total costs will likely come in under this ceiling
    - Motion to approve up to $12,000 for shed replacement passes unanimously
  + “Pizza and Packets” night over the summer – invite students to have dinner and work on their summer math packets at school one evening, would offer a chance to reconnect with school friends and hopefully increase the percentage of students who complete their math packets (currently less than 30% turn them in) – request to spend $300 on food for this event passes unanimously
    - Side discussion about ideas for keeping students engaged in learning over summer – great question to post to the Campbell Facebook page!
      * Ms. Olivera sends out a list of math activities
      * Arlington libraries have many events throughout the summer, including the library trolly and the Maker Space at the Central Library
      * There’s a website where you can map the nearby Little Free Libraries
      * It’s easier for Campbell to organize events at the school when we host summer school (this year it’s at Carlin Springs)

1. **Overview of 2019-2020 Volunteer Opportunities: Barbara Martinez, President**

* We need people to fill lots of positions!
* Specific requests for 1-2 people to serve as Project Discovery Coordinator – much less intensive position than in prior years, focus will be on keeping prices low and can help shape enrichment offerings for coming year
* Barbara will put a list of all the volunteer positions on the listserv and Facebook group
* Someone could also volunteer to represent Campbell on the APS-wide Advisory Committee on Instruction – good to have Title I representation

1. **Closing: Barbara Martinez, President**

* Reminder: Tuesday, June 11 is restaurant night at Dogfish Head – this is a super generous event since we get proceeds from throughout the entire day! Please go and spread the word!
* Thank you all for a great year!