

**Louisa Boren STEM K-8**  
**PTA Meeting Agenda**  
**April 18, 2019, 6:30-8:00 PM**  
**In the school library**

Meeting called to order at 6:35, 13 adults and 2 students present  
Meeting Minutes from March approved and adopted

- Presentation from Student Council Representative Sampson Lee (7<sup>th</sup> grade), regarding the uniform policy
  - Desire is to change to standard SPS policy (middle school only)
    - SPS policy examples: skirts longer than fingertips, no violence on clothes
    - Currently problems outweigh benefits
    - Began with petition 2 months ago (1/3 of middle school has signed in support)- only allowed to collect signatures before and after school, went to BLT, now PTA for support (must have support of majority of the staff)
    - 3 main problems- when kids are “coded”- they end up missing class time to change; uniforms are not comfortable; and desire to express selves through uniforms/ need for practice choosing appropriate clothes before HS
    - Discussion of whether petition could be online to protect anonymity
    - Discussion of enforcement of SPS dress code policy (Madison MS sending home girls)
    - Is the proposal all or nothing? Or open to negotiation? Proposal is to switch entirely to SPS policy, second to that is consistent enforcement (especially hoodies and hats)
    - Discussion of inconsistencies in enforcement
  - Statement of support from parent Shawna Murphy
    - Uniforms created financial burden, felt parochial and drab. Policing of girls’ bodies via skirt length. Racist implicit biases are seen with enforcement (hoodies in particular).
  - Next step-- survey for students and parents
- Executive Committee Reports
  - Melinda Luke-White, President
    - Discussion of potential dates for Spring events.
    - Need slate for PTA Board 2019-20- will put sign-up sheets in the hall.
  - Co-Treasurer Julia cannot become Treasurer next year, or lead mid-year review this year
  - Margo Bergman, Treasurer
    - Report
      - Carryover support can go to Nature Bridge
      - Requesting receipts and closing out teacher requests
    - Mid-year financial review- since Julianna is unavailable, committee will meet and Margo will appoint a chair to lead it. All info is ready to go (reviewing July – Dec first, then will do Jan-June in July).
    - Budget for 2019-20- will put together a budget committee. Wants input from greater community about priorities before starting.

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- Committee and Coordinator Reports
  - Robin Timmerman- Graham, Fundraising update
    - Auction update- good feedback from surveys, wrap up was smooth, MLW will create group to consider what we want to do differently next year. R is meeting fundraisers from other schools next week. (tell R about Asha – HP- and escape room donations)
    - Budget meetings- needs fundraising goal for next year, especially considering desire to be able to share with other schools.
    - Teacher Appreciation- food, gift cards, personal thank you notes- no need to do 5 days of activity-
    - TSA Nationals update- STEM students won at the state level. There had been a push to involve kids/ families who may not have participated otherwise. TSA is not funding this year, as they did before. Some kids will still go because their families can pay for it, but approximately 12-15 will not go (kids and chaperones) due to cost. Most districts have a dedicated teacher/ funding stream for this. Next year we will consider helping with funding scholarships to state and nationals (\$12-20 K).
  - Alicia Every, Advocacy events
    - GGLOW Owls Dance Party, Friday 5/31 @5:30. T-shirts and sweatshirts available via PTA site and Café Press
    - Countering Whiteness, Tuesday 4/23 @6:30. Childcare provided. Invited Genesee Hill Elem
- Adjourned at 8 PM
- Minutes submitted by Secretary Clere