**PTA Elementary Council Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, December 5, 2019 8:45 AM**

**Deya Warren, Council Chair**

* Welcome
* November meeting minutes approved

**Dr. Roy Montesano, Superintendent**

* December 10 – Bond referendum vote. Tax neutral in terms of debt service. Please come out to vote in the multi-purpose room.
  + Replace curtain wall in back of elementary school
  + Change old boiler room into innovation room
  + Some air conditioning
* Other work is in progress
  + Cafeteria expansion
  + Re-pointing, roof work
  + Third floor learning commons
  + High school entrance and guidance sweet along Meadow
* Grant request to the Foundation to support the innovation center
* Gearing up for the holiday concerts

**Suzette Sands, President PTA**

* Thank you for volunteering! Congratulate yourself for adding value to the school.
* We are here to promote your children’s’ wellness and a sense of community
* New PTA newsletter – highlighted some of our work
  + Bronco Branding
* Big PTA fundraisers
  + Robust membership participation
  + Fall Socials
  + Memorial Day

**Trisha Murray, Principal**

* Holiday celebrations coming up
* High School special pop up shop – selling crafts for the holidays

**Social/Emotional Curriculum, Dr. Vastola**

* Book Club – UnSelfie.
  + Feb. 6 night time meeting and some day time meetings/book discussions
* Coping
  + Holidays don’t have to be perfect
  + You can have two feelings at once
  + How can you use your wise mind and focus. Take facts and emotions and use your thinking and reasoning to problem solve.
  + Distraction skills, coping ahead. What are the situations that you anticipate will be challenging. Especially challenging this time of year.
    - Self-soothing
    - Breathe
  + Take care of yourselves. Make time for quiet time at home.
* Social media is negatively effecting kids. Think long and hard about how much freedom you want to give your kids. Please monitor your child’s phone. You own the phone and recommend that you take it at night. Use apps that help you monitor and limit phone time. Digital citizenship is important.

**Technology, Brad Ashley**

* Common Sense Media – great resource to learn about media. Recommend using this to research media that your kids have shown interest in using.
* Technology comes in two forms.
  + Technology in the classroom: used for reading, math, design, film creation, opinion speeches, sheets
    - Google docs
    - Lexia, iXL, Raz Kids
  + Computer Science class
    - Children create technology:
      * Programming: Box island, cubetto, Lego WeDo 2.0, MakeyMakey, scratch, SNAP, Swift playgrounds, Arduino and processing

Parent questions: How much time on our children on technology? We work so hard to keep our kids off technology and interact with each other. We want them to engage and interact at school, not just be on technology.

**Committee Presentations, Deya Warren**

* Thank you to picture day committee, teachers appreciation day committee, character and community committee for organizing candy drive, apparel committee, 5th grade Philadelphia trip volunteers.
* Memorial Day Logo Contest, Bona Hong
  + Winner was selected
* Theatre Arts Committee, Lisa Rao and Anabella Davis
  + Emails have gone out with registration instructions. Registration begins next week using Membership Toolkit.
* Book Fair- Meghann Paisley
  + Week of November 18
* BOLD- Beata Gocyk-Farber
  + Meeting: Nov. 13 at 7pm in high school boardroom
  + How to transition after high school

Upcoming Events

* School Closed Superintendent’s Day- Nov 8th
* School Closed Veterans Day- Nov 11th
* BOLD Council Meeting- Nov 13 7pm
* ES Book Fair Nov 18th-22
* Nov. 27th, Emergency Dismissal Drill
* School Closed Thanksgiving – Nov 28th and 29th
* ES Council Meeting- December 5th 8:45am