

# Douglas MacArthur PTA Meeting



**October 20, 2021**

**6:30 – 7:00 PM; Book Fair Program @ 7:00 PM**

**Zoom: [Link](#); Passcode: 164020**



## Meeting Agenda

### Welcome and Opening Remarks – Jamie Pfister, PTA President

- We've had a successful bookfair thanks to the Mr. & Ms. Chong and Ms. Coussens
- All for Books have enabled students who couldn't otherwise purchase books, almost 200 certificates distributed at DMES for students identified by teachers

### **Onsite COVID Testing**

FAQ – We've created a [FAQ PowerPoint](#) with where and how, how often to go to register to have your child(ren) COVID tested at MacArthur.

- Fill out from child's perspective: Not employed, No Symptoms
- There is no need to send the QR Code with your child

### Approval of September Meeting Minutes – Charissa Slack, Secretary

Motion to Approve: Alyssa Kovach, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Maryann Chong

Approved by no show of digital hands

### Principal's Update – Penny Hairston

- Thank you to Mr. & Ms. Chong and Ms. Coussens for such a successful bookfair. Let's try to do it again in the winter!

### Weekly DMES Community COVID Testing

- Started last week and soft roll out of COVID testing on Staff
- Happy to report 100% vaccination of MacArthur staff
- 12:30-3:00pm Testing tomorrow (10/21) Every Thursday – looking to have 30% of the DMES population
- We have a substitute nurse, and we absolutely intend on have Ms. Desmond back next year.

### Literacy Program at DMES -- Ms. Angelo – Academic Interventionist, 2<sup>nd</sup> year in the roll

- Phonics K-2: **Really Great Reading** brought on from Literacy Task force.
  - Recognized a need for phonics across the district,
  - They went through 21 curricula, and chose the best for our system,
  - Advantage is they provide a lot of professional development and support for the teachers throughout the year
- Sept 30 was [Family Literacy Night](#) last month in case you want to watch the webinar ([flyer](#))
- Grades 3-5: **Words Their Way** developed through UVA explicitly how to spell/decode words, beginning/ending sounds, and as it gets more intense

- Family Literacy Night: January 13 – mark your calendars
- Ms. Hairston: Every child has Lexia for all students. Works on phonics, comprehension, and literacy
- We've done a lot of testing to get a better picture of the students and finding the interventions that are appropriate and are better informed when identifying who needs support and who is the best fit to support them.
- Ms. Hairston increased the number of interventionists from 2 to 3;
  - push your kids to use Lexia on their tablets
  - K-2 have Lexia, 3-5 have Lexia and IXL (for Math) so they can do work from home (if they haven't brought them home, families can pick them up from the school).
  - Other helpful resources:
    - [Parent Literacy Resources](#)

### ***How to get the most from Parent-Teacher Conferences***

- DMES will have 100% conferences
  - Ask your child's teacher how are they adjusting to school now that it's 100% in person: Social/Emotionally. Are they talking to friends? Who are their friends? Who are they eating lunch with? And are you seeing any changes at home? Tell the teachers.
  - If there is a resource/specific questions you would like the teacher to bring to/answer at the conference, let them know a couple of days before so they can be prepared to share those materials with you at the conference
  - Question: What kinds of conversations with our kids should we be having about all this testing?
    - Hairston, Pittman, Interventionist team, and your child's teacher have all the data on the reading level, and what tier they are in, etc to get a better picture of the children and how they compare nationally against other students.

### **Nov 16 – next PTA Community Meeting**

- Stay tuned for the programming on the Autism Program Information

### **Treasurer's Report, Michele Dixey, Treasurer**

- Thank you for SpiritWear purchases – and will update budget as we get
- Amazon Wishlist's are being used by the teachers
- More information/numbers will come at next month's meeting

### **Fall Appeal, Alyssa Kovach, VP of Fundraising**

- Chipotle Night raised over \$500
- Lena's Pizza – November 9 (Tues) will be sending info that goes home and SM
- **Fall Appeal:** Big Fundraising Push Effort, enables us to do the programming for the entire year.
  - People have asked how can I donate to help those in our community? For example, All For Books, given 200 certificates for those books, and other events on the horizon. Literacy is our big push: RIF and All for books.

- Donate via Member Hub and Paypal.
- More info around the 1<sup>st</sup> of November will be sent home QR codes to make things easier for you all

Other events of note:

**Reading is Fundamental: Oct 29 with Book Character Day**

**Red Ribbon Week next week:**

Monday – Rock the Red

Tuesday – Team up Day

Wednesday – Wake Up Wednesday

Thursday – Twin Day

Friday – RIF and Storybook Character Day

Meeting Adjourned

**Upcoming Events – See PTA e-Newsletter for More Information**

- Oct. 29: Book Character Parade & PTA Sponsored “Reading is Fundamental” Day: Sign up to help during your child’s class and help them pick out a book!
- Nov. 2: NO SCHOOL – Teacher Work Day
- Nov. 9: School Picture Day
- Nov. 11: No School – Parent – Teacher Conferences – have you signed up?
- Nov 16: PTA Community Meeting @ 7 PM\*

QR codes below can be scanned on iOS and Android devices using built-in camera app to easily open the websites

**PTA Membership**  
Join or Renew for 2021-2022



**Book Fair**  
Online Shopping



**PTA Email Sign-up**  
Sign-up for PTA emails

