

## PSCO Meeting Minutes, March 26, 8:45 am

### **Lemonade Day—April 11 (contact Lis Moses for more info at [emoses@gwmail.gwu.edu](mailto:emoses@gwmail.gwu.edu) )**

This is a program that teaches small business and entrepreneurship skills to students in grades 3 through 8. This is the third year that West students have participated and they are scoping out locations they may use in the neighborhood. Liz, a student from GW, talked about the national program, sponsors, and mentoring programs that GW offers through Lemonade Day.

### **Budget Report**

Lisa Jackson, Treasurer, reported on recent outlays and fundraisers:

- PSCO has purchased 25 new laptops and will get a new cart. We will spend up to \$5800 on new technology.
- PSCO purchased snacks for students for PARCC testing.
- Also purchased tumbling mats and dodge ball supplies through a donation from the Ward 4 Constituent Services Fund.
- The Reading Across America Week activities were a big success. The book fair brought in \$1009 (in spite of two snow days). The change drive to raise money for books for classrooms and low-income students raised \$621. Food sales from Family Reading Night brought in \$178, for a total of \$1808, \$400 over our goal. Way to go!
- A second West family experienced a fire last month and a targeted fund drive has raised \$645 for the family.
- The budget currently holds \$17,188, including \$3752 in restricted scholarship funds.

### **Outreach Activities**

#### **Registration Fair and Open House on April 2**

Ms. Caruthers announced the exciting news that **we can expect to have two classes per grade for PK3, PK4, Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd**, which means we can enroll more students for 2015-2016. Our target is to enroll 300 students. We currently have 278 students—so this is an achievable goal. We still will need to work hard to enroll and have the following benchmarks:

- May 1: 200 students enrolled
- May 15: 250 students enrolled
- June 1: 275 students enrolled
- June 15: 300 students enrolled

We will hold an **open house on April 2 from 9:00 to 10:00 am** for admitted and waitlisted families (others are welcome as well.). (RSVP to Sara Markle-Elder at [sarame@mindspring.com](mailto:sarame@mindspring.com)) to assist.

Additionally, we will hold a **potluck dinner on April 8 at Lisa Jackson's house from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**(RSVP to Josh Hertzberg at [joshhertzberg@westschool.org](mailto:joshhertzberg@westschool.org)). Both of these events are to answer questions for parents considering enrolling their kids at West. Parents of current students who have questions are welcomed.

### **PARCC Updates**

Ms. Caruthers further reported that the Performance Based Assessments were completed in March. Targeted tutoring will happen between March 31 and May 7. End of the year exams will occur May 10 to May 20. A party to celebrate the end of exams is tentatively scheduled for May 22.

### **School Garden and Wellness—May 2 for the Work Day**

Nat Gillespie reported that West was awarded a \$10,000 grant from OSSE through City Blossoms. This will fund a garden and coordinator (Ms. Avis Mayfield), field trips, a wellness committee, interactive lesson plans and other interesting opportunities for kids to learn about gardening and healthy eating. Grantees are typically funded for three years. There is a match to the grant. Nat is pursuing fundraiser with Annie's Ace Hardware. A work day on May 2 will involve students and parents in starting the garden. Contact Nat for more information at [ngillespie16@gmail.com](mailto:ngillespie16@gmail.com)

### **Teacher Appreciation Week—May 4-8**

A committee is needed to take on this fun activity. Mossi Tull volunteered to work on this effort. Last year's gifts and appreciation to the faculty and staff included fancy cupcakes, a happy hour at Petworth Citizen, and massages. Doris Villegas offered massages for the teachers again. \$700 to \$800 is set aside in the budget for Teacher Appreciation Week. Contact Mossi Tull at [mtull@jnt.com](mailto:mtull@jnt.com) if you are interested in helping out.

### **Spring Dance—May 8**

Doris Villegas reported for the committee. A DJ and photographer are selected. The theme is "Hollywood Stars." Contact Michele Kuhn, the committee chair, to help out. [Mkuhn0624@gmail.com](mailto:Mkuhn0624@gmail.com)

### **PSCO Elections—May 28**

Please contact Lisa Jackson if you are interested in running for president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer, or if there is someone you would like to nominate. [Lisa.Jackson@westschool.org](mailto:Lisa.Jackson@westschool.org)

### **Screen on the Green—tentatively on June 12**

Marcus King volunteered to work on showing a family movie outdoors. Please contact him if you are interested in this opportunity. [mdking@gwu.edu](mailto:mdking@gwu.edu)