Janney PTA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2023 In-Person Meeting

Attendees:

Kat Davis, Deanna Lizas:	Co-Presidents
Bethany Hanna, Elizabeth McAdam:	Co-Vice Presidents
Jane Simons, Deborah Samenow*:	Co-Secretaries
Joanna Tipton*, Laura Bogomolny, Nikki Kenny:	Co-Treasurers
Brooke Brown, Audrey Cooling, Elizabeth Mitchell:	Past Co-Presidents, LSAT representatives
Danielle Singh:	Janney Principal
Nicole Ugel:	AP
Liz DiCrosta, Robin English:	Faculty Representative

Committee Chairs Providing Updates

Meagan Bellshaw	Auction Co-Chair
Nora Stein	Read-a-thon Co-Chair
Michael Weitzner	Musical Co-Chair

*Not in attendance at this meeting

1) January meeting minutes approved.

2) Principal's/AP's Report
   a) Janney Talks - Recap on Restorative Practices (Feb 2); Upcoming talks: Engaging in Your Child's Learning (March 2), Equity Formed Instruction (April 27)
      i) Excited about turnout and event, feedback has been positive.
      ii) Second session will provide resources and space to engage with families. Goal is to increase communication and involvement. Goal is to increase attendance and engagement even more. Content will be different but structures from last Janney Talks will be the same.
   b) School Building/Facility Update
      i) Gym was repaired this weekend
      ii) More recent work orders are technology driven
      iii) Ann is retiring at the end of this year
      iv) No info on next year's budget yet
      v) Question about inspecting underground garage for structural damage because of water drainage issues
   c) Staffing Updates
      i) A third grade partner teacher from JAC is being onboarded (Challenges continue in hiring partner teachers so this is a win).
      ii) New substitute (retired teacher) at Janney full time now.
      iii) Pre-k partner teacher coming back soon
   d) Health updates – 46 confirmed cases of lice to date. Continuing to communicate regularly to check on lice, classroom notifications are continuing. Discussion of soliciting a "lice rep" from each classroom
   e) Fifth Grade End-of-Year Trip/Plans: Echo Hill is back for 5th graders; there will still be a monetary contribution requested from families and 5th graders are fundraising. PTA is asked to help think about how to fundraise to offset additional cost. Everyone is excited.
   f) Any parent issues of note
      i) Public transportation safety discussed. DCPS continues to monitor.

ii) Safety patrol continuing to ensure that parking rules are being followed in the front of the school during drop off in the morning

3) Teachers' Report: Staff trying to increase parent engagement. Discussion of literacy engagement, potential for a "math night" and other opportunities for parents to come in to the classroom

4) Presidents' Report
   i) Recent meeting with Legislative Assistant/Education point-person for Councilmember Matt Frumin was productive
   b) Recap on past events – BINGO night (Jan 11), Talent Show (Jan 27) well attended
   c) Updates on upcoming events (through early May):
      i) Open House (this Friday, Feb. 10)
      ii) Community Service family food assembly with We Are Family (Feb 22)
      iii) Read-A-thon (March 2-17) (update from Nora and Brooke)
         (1) Readathon will last two weeks. Sponsors can pay by the minute or a flat rate.
         (2) Partnering with Ms. Shelley from DCPL to promote reading.
         (3) Ms. Epperson will have the library open early before school during the read-a-thon.
         (4) Last year the winning class got a pizza party.
         (5) Teachers can check their own pages for each class.
         (6) Desire to increase teacher engagement. Discussion of teacher-referred books for example, or a book swap
      iv) Bracket Challenge coming up in March
      v) Movie Night (tentative March 8)
      vi) Auction (March 25) Update from Meagan)
         (1) Ticket sales are strong, ahead of last year. Already sold 261 plus 20 teacher tickets. Sales go up with reminders.
         (2) Nicki will run a search to figure out which grades are ahead in ticket sales
         (3) three areas auction needs additional support:
            (a) sponsorships, significantly behind where we were last year. Request that if we know anyone personally to follow up. Discussion of other potential sponsors
            (b) larger getaway packages. There is a week at a house in Shenandoah. Looking for leads on vacation properties.
            (c) Parent parties. A few people who have historically hosted have graduated. Many volunteers are fifth grade families and they want to encourage more younger families to host. Discussion of using the room parents and local businesses that might serve as cites.
      vii) Open House (April 14)
      viii) Musical (May 5-6) (update from Michael) Aladdin
         (1) They have about 20 more than last year who are participating. Parents of cast members will help during rehearsals
         (2) Still working on bringing on a choreographer, but have some leads (Janney is offering a stipend this year).
         (3) Musical director starting tomorrow.
         (4) Discussion of ideas to ensure there is enough capacity so that everyone who wants to buy a ticket is able to
   d) Sound Equipment
      i) Moved forward with amplifiers for the gym
      ii) Additional equipment for the gym will be purchased if needed, but still assessing need
   e) Committee Chair needs:
      i) current need: Social Media
      ii) next year: Politics & Prose/Child's Play, Lost & Found, Greens Sale, monthly dinners

f) Looking ahead to next year's board: discussion of recruiting future board members (e.g., a flyer, people who were interested in LSAT)

5) Treasurers' Report
   a) SSF progress going well, still under goal but outperforming last year at this time.
   b) General budget status update – on track
   c) Audit status -no updates

6) Vice Presidents' Report
   a) Vast majority of room parents roles are filled
   b) Request for people to send blurbs if there are things that should go in the newsletter

7) Past Presidents/LSAT Update
   a) Budget discussions should be in full swing by the next meeting
   b) Michael W. will work with PTA on parent outreach on students with disabilities to share support systems.

Next Meeting, Tuesday, March 7, 2023