Janney PTA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2023 – In person/zoom meeting

Attendees:

Bethany Hanna, Elizabeth McAdam	Co-Vice Presidents
Kat Davis, Deanna Lizas	Co-Presidents
Jane Simons, Deborah Samenow	Co-Secretaries
Elizabeth Mitchell, Audrey Cooling, Brooke Brown	Past Co-Presidents, LSAT representative
Joanna Tipton, Laura Bogomolny	Co-Treasurer
Danielle Singh	Janney Principal
Liz DiCrosta, Robin English	Faculty Representatives
Nicole Ugel	Assistant Principal

Minutes for March are approved.

PTA Board Meeting Agenda – for April 4, 2023

Principal's/AP's Report

1. DCPS Budget Updates (along with LSAT Update)
    - From last communication, our budget was approved (not necessarily final). Appreciate the support as we engage around budget cuts around all schools, worked through deficit, reduction in special education program – staff may be transitioning into other roles but want to keep existing team. LSAT has engaged in some advocacy for all schools. Wanted to support specials program – child focus. Extend world language offerings for next year and specials. All grades would have world language, art, music.
    - Any specific positions that got cut with this budget? Special education typically has staff that is double our allotment (~60 students with IEPs so 5 educators, but we have had 10). Reduce it by 1 staff member, don't anticipate having the same number of services needed.
    - Partner teacher/educational aide – reduce in that area, retired teachers working in those roles. One of the partner teachers left K – comp has been hardest to keep younger talent in place.
2. Security Assessment
    - Constantly thinking about school safety, this year more of a focus on safety
    - Provide more transparency but also have more of a public-facing safety plan
    - Questions around consulting around outside folks, holding senior DCPS leadership accountable for safety, strengthening arrival/dismissal, making sure entry/exit points are secure
    - Contact info for external security consultant, open to initial communication, need more info
    - More to share with community around safety, more transparency around reopen strong – could be similar w/r/t measures to keep our community safe, LSAT safety team possibly sharing safety plan
3. Janney Talks - Upcoming talk: Equity Formed Instruction (April 27)
    - Safety and security as a possible topic

- Would allow parents to raise questions and learn more about what the school is doing, will help have answers when kids ask questions, empowers parents to have the conversations at home.
- Someone from DCPS could come, even a facilitator
- Excited about next installment. DCPS – whole child/anti-racist office, working with equity coach, book clubs, to lift up equity work and the strides we have been able to make in Janney's journey around equity to create learning experiences.
- Encourage parents to attend, free child care

4. School Building/Facility Update
    - Weather is changing, every day has work orders
    - Ann retiring – prepare for post-Ann
    - Repairs to the garage gate, teachers have access cards
5. Staffing Updates
    - One of the K partner teachers moved to another position
    - Really great core of substitute teachers and we can bring a few new faces to Janney, keep things moving
    - Good student teachers in upper grades
6. Any parent issues of note
    - Security
7. Fifth Grade End-of-Year Trip/Plans
    - Promotion date, Echo Hill – getting excited about that. Tuesday, June 20, use funds from 2020 for this year

<u>Teachers' Report</u>

- Safety and security
- Janney newsletter – some teachers are not receiving it.
- Update on Janney Art Exhibition @ Hirschhorn – fantastic day. Entire Janney community is invited – every single school participates and brings 2 buildings. Whole district designs a city- they have hands on activities for kids, had construction, had t-shirts, author of Iggy the Architect. Outdoors at the sculpture park- small 4th grade group, but everyone is invited. April 29 – in the newsletter today.

<u>Presidents' Report</u>

1. Recap on past events – Read-A-thon (March 2-17), Movie Night (March 8), Bracket Challenge (March 12-17), Auction (March 25), Volunteer Interest Coffee/Happy Hour (March 28/29); Community Service Diaper Bag Drive (March 31)
    - Auction:
        - Better clean up for auction, next year maybe classrooms could be locked
        - Plan for next year, allocated classroom or two with intention, cleaning committee will know where to look
        - Auction was amazing, huge success, 203K (40K of expenses, still more expenses coming), did better than last year/target, at moment 23K in black, auctioneer was very good
    - Read-a-thon – have 25k of payments, modeled on 99 pledges (protect student privacy, how to pledge)

- Movie night was good, not sure if expenses have come in yet, some JAC families bought pizzas on way out, possible pizza night once a month
- Bracket challenge – successful event
- Volunteer interest coffee/happy hour – interested people came to both events, co-chairs of greens, fall level coffee
- Community service diaper bag drive – really nice event

2. Updates on current and upcoming events (through May):

   i) Open House (April 14)
   ii) Teacher Appreciation Week (May 1-5)
   iii) Community Service Book Drive (May 1-5)
   iv) Musical (May 5-6), could use parent volunteers, costume rentals, students in 4th and 5th grade art clubs could help out, older students could help out for volunteer hours
   v) Spring Picnic (May 12)
   vi) International Night (May 23)
   vii) Blood Drive (May 24), facilities request form but people can sign up
   viii) Open House (June 9)
   ix) Community Meeting - Awards Night and Recognize Ann (June - need to set date), approve slate of new officers, possible bench, honorary tea/brunch for parents/adults, PTA meeting is June 6/backyard committee

3. Promotion (June 20) - what support needed from PTA?
   - Send her budget number, this is all set
   - Facility use? Need a form for that.

4. Recruiting of committee chairs and board members

   i) Board member updates; Treasurer need
   ii) Committee chairs needed for next year: Lost & Found, Monthly Dinners; confirm interest for Greens/Lice co-chair

5. Orchestra interest

<u>Treasurers' Report</u>

1. SSF progress
2. General budget status update, budget is working out for the year, will review
3. Scheduling SY 23-24 budget meeting – second/third week of May
4. Audit status, still ongoing

<u>Vice Presidents' Report</u>

<u>Past Presidents/LSAT Update</u>

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 2, 2023